



<u>Committee and Date</u>
Young People's Scrutiny
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<u>Item</u>
8
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## **PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING PERSONAL SOCIAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION (PSHE) WHICH ADDRESSES ISSUES OF CHILD EXPLOITATION**

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### **1. Summary**

- 1.1 This paper provides details of Shropshire Council's approach to challenging and supporting primary and secondary schools to ensure effective provision for Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE), including resources to reduce pupil's vulnerability to child exploitation. It provides a broad overview of national policy and details of how it has been implemented locally.
- 1.2 The report endorses the recommendation of the Education Select Committee and the support of Ofsted and the Children's Commissioner for PSHE, including Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) to become a statutory element within schools' curriculum.
- 1.3 The report also confirms that Shropshire continues to be recognised as an area of good practice and that this the result of effective partnerships with the DfE Expert Group for Personal and Social Education (PSE) and the PSHE Association
- 1.4 The report provides details of the resources developed for schools and the importance of sustaining the collaborative work between education, public health, the police and other agencies to ensure a co-ordinated and coherent approach to reducing the risk of child exploitation.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the details given in this paper and provide comment in respect of the Council's approach to fulfilling

its responsibilities to address issues of child exploitation, and how the identified risks to children and young people are addressed.

## REPORT

### **3.0 Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) including Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)**

#### **3.1 National Context**

3.1.1 Personal, social and health education (PSHE including relationship and sex education - RSE) is not currently a statutory requirement for schools. The Education Select Committee established to consider the need for statutory provision in November 2014 published its report 'Life Lessons' in February 2015. The report recommends that PSHE, including RSE becomes a statutory requirement within schools' curriculum. The Government has not yet responded to the Committee's recommendations.

3.1.2 Reports from Ofsted, the Children's Commissioner for England, the children's charity Barnardo's and the NSPCC recognise that PSHE is an important means of raising awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation and keeping pupils safe.

3.1.3 The Ofsted report, "The sexual exploitation of children, it couldn't happen here could it?",<sup>1</sup> confirms the impact of a co-ordinated PSHE curriculum delivered by trained staff in reducing children and young people's risk of sexual exploitation (CSE) and relationship abuse. The revised report (March 2015) includes a focus on the degree to which schools are proactive in addressing the risk of CSE through PSHE. A recent Freedom of Information request to UK police forces revealed 5,500 sex crimes occurred in UK schools over a three year period, 20% of these were reported as peer to peer abuse.<sup>2</sup>

3.1.4 The effectiveness of RSE has been robustly evidenced<sup>3</sup> and widely accepted<sup>4</sup>. The importance of RSE is highlighted in the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy: Beyond 2010<sup>5</sup>. The Local Government Association's (LGA) report, 'Tackling Teenage Pregnancy - Local

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<sup>1</sup> [Ofsted Nov.'14 'The Sexual Exploitation of Children: it couldn't happen here, could it?' ref. 140175. A thematic inspection commissioned to evaluate the effectiveness of Local Authority's current response to Child Sexual exploitation.](#)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/11841330/Lessons-to-prevent-sexual-abuse-should-be-mandatory-experts-demand.html>

<sup>3</sup> [Does sex and relationship education work? Sex Education Forum briefing 2013](#)

<sup>4</sup> The most recent September 2014 YouGov poll which reported the majority of parents believe Sex and Relationship Education should be taught in all schools.

<sup>5</sup> [Department of Health in February 2012](#)

Government's new public health role'<sup>6</sup> confirms that 'the areas that have most success have made sure all young people have good sex and relationship education'.

## **3.2 Local Context**

- 3.2.1 Shropshire is recognised nationally as an area of good practice for the development and implementation of RSE curriculum resources in mainstream schools. This work is fully funded by Public Health as part of the entitlement for all children and young people which is linked to safeguarding.
- 3.2.2 The LA contributes to the DfE expert group for PSE and the national children's Sex Education Forum advisory group.
- 3.2.3 A curriculum resource focusing on mental and emotional health issues has been developed and piloted in partnership with the PSHE Association. There is a range of well-established and specific initiatives and training which address CSE.
- 3.2.4 The "Respect Yourself" RSE curriculum programme has been developed in Shropshire to provide schools with high quality, age appropriate sex and relationship education. It addresses recommendations in the Ofsted reports 'Time for change?'(2007) and 'Not Yet Good Enough' (2013).<sup>7</sup>
- 3.2.5 The programme is part of the Public Health, Healthy Child programme 5-19. It contributes to the Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health strategy. It has links to, and works in partnership with the Domestic Abuse, Targeted Mental Health in Schools (TaMHS), and the Parenting strategy. The programme is also co-ordinated with other school and community based services including pastoral provision, school nurses, Targeted Youth Support, the new CSE support worker, the Condom Distribution Scheme, the Police, Young People Health Champions and Members of the Youth Parliament.<sup>8</sup>
- 3.2.6 The year 6-11 curriculum materials won the Pamela Sheridan Sexual Health award for innovation in 2012 and the primary resource Respect Yourself: Eat Better, Move More, RSE was a finalist for the award in

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<sup>6</sup> [Local Government Association report on Tackling Teenage Pregnancy Local government's new public health role](#)

<sup>7</sup> [Ofsted May'13 'Not Yet Good Enough: Personal, Social ,Health and Economic Education in schools' Ref: 130065](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Between 2007-2010 RSE was voted one of the top three priorities by Shropshire young people. A Shropshire young people charter for RSE was produced. This provides the guide for the programme.](#)

2015, both resources have received the quality kite-mark of quality from the PSHE Association.

- 3.2.7 The programme supports wider safeguarding provision through a progressive, age appropriate approach and resources to help pupils develop the skills, knowledge and understanding to enable them to have non exploitative relationships. It also provides pupils with clear guidelines for safe, healthy, happy relationships. The resource focuses on building pupils' confidence and understanding about the importance of asking for help, support and advice.
- 3.2.8 All Shropshire schools have received the resource together with advice on updating their sex education policies. This approach supports schools to ensure a consistent and coherent approach through their safeguarding policy, training for (teaching and non- teaching), staff, including Child Protection Leads and Governors. It also supports schools to strengthen home-school partnerships with parents.
- 3.2.9 The support of Council Members, including through attendance at celebration and 'thank you' events, has been central in ensuring the programme has a high profile across the local authority. It confirms and reinforces the commitment of the LA in ensuring that Shropshire schools receive support and help to ensure children and young people have happy, healthy, safe relationships. It also confirms that the LA takes its responsibility to safeguard Shropshire children seriously and that RSE is vital to ensure they are protected.

#### **4.0 Targeted work.**

- 4.1 Support for the Tuition Medical and Behaviour Support Service (TBMSS) during this autumn term has focused on the development of a whole service policy and delivery of RSE programme. Professional development for staff has centred on the development of resources and pedagogy that is differentiated according to the wide range of pupils' needs and vulnerabilities.
- 4.2 Targeted Youth support have used the Respect Yourself Resources as part of their one to one work.
- 4.3 The recently appointed Child CSE worker has supported staff training and liaison with schools with high CSE referral rates.
- 4.4 The Police Youth Engagement Liaison officer supports a co-ordinated and consistent approach to addressing CSE through the review of resources, including the recent materials on consent produced by the PSHE Association.

## **5.0 Outcomes in Shropshire.**

- 5.1 Shropshire's under 16 teenage pregnancy rate has continued to fall following the introduction of the programme.
- 5.2 Shropshire is the first Local Authority to include questions on RSE as part of schools Section 11 safeguarding audit (statutory requirement under Children Act 2004).
- 5.3 Approximately 75% of primary schools are either delivering or planning to deliver the programme from summer 2015. 90% of secondary schools are engaged in planning or are implementing the programme. Only two secondary schools are not yet committed to delivering the programme.

## **6.0 Wider Emotional and Mental Health Curriculum Issues.**

- 6.1 National Data on Adolescence<sup>9</sup> confirms a shift in patterns and types of risk-taking behaviour. It identifies multiple risk factors and interrelated risky behaviours. The PSHE curriculum is central in increasing pupils' self-esteem and emotional resilience in order to reduce their vulnerability, risk of exploitation and the use of sexual behaviour (often in combination with substance use) to self-harm or self-abuse.
- 6.2 Public Health England's publication 'the link between pupil health and wellbeing, and attainment'<sup>10</sup> confirms the positive correlation between health, wellbeing and educational achievement.
- 6.3 Shropshire's Targeted Mental Health in Schools (TaMHS) programme provides a targeted approach and training for staff.
- 6.4 A curriculum resource for primary schools to assist staff to support pupils' mental health and emotional well-being has been developed in partnership with the PSHE Association. Over 35 primary schools and 2,000 pupils were involved in piloting the resources.
- 6.5 PSHE leads from 10 Shropshire secondary schools, including TMBSS, have met with the PSHE Association to review resources for secondary phase pupils.
- 6.6 The PSHE Association has published the national resources piloted with Shropshire. All Shropshire schools have received one year

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<sup>9</sup> <http://www.youngpeopleshealth.org.uk/key-data-on-adolescence>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-link-between-pupil-health-and-wellbeing-and-attainment>

membership of the Association which ensures that they have access to free resources and updates.

## **7.0 Priorities for Development:**

- 7.1 The provision of new policy guidelines to support school Headteachers and Governors to address pupils' mental health and emotional well-being through the review of their provision for PSHE.
- 7.2 Addressing homophobic, bi-phobic and transphobic (HBT) bullying through the curriculum (Shropshire is one of fourteen LAs selected to work with the Sex Education Forum to host this training on this government initiative which is funded from the Equalities Unit and the DfE).
- 7.3 Three single day professional development sessions for primary and secondary school teachers have been organised for later in November. The training will enable staff to increase their skills, confidence and to ensure bullying related to sexuality and gender identity is addressed in the curriculum. It complements and supports the Respect Yourself programme and the focus on mental and emotional health and wellbeing.
- 7.4 "Chelsea's Choice" is a theatre production that addresses issues of child sexual exploitation. All secondary schools have been invited to host this production which is part of Shropshire CSE strategy. It is funded by the Police Commissioner and commissioned by the Shropshire Safeguarding Children Board. The production is additional to, not a substitute for ongoing RSE/PSHE curriculum delivery.
- 7.5 The development and strengthening of the existing and well-established links between education and public health services to ensure a co-ordinated, coherent and effective approach to supporting and challenging schools to provide a broad and balanced PSHE curriculum that reduces the risk of CSE.

**List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)**

- 1 [Ofsted Nov.'14 'The Sexual Exploitation of Children: it couldn't happen here, could it?' ref. 140175. A thematic inspection commissioned to evaluate the effectiveness of Local Authority's current response to Child Sexual exploitation.](#)
- 2 ['Basically Porn is everywhere and 'Sex without consent': I suppose that is rape: How young people in England understand sexual consent. Children's Commissioner November 2013](#)
- 3 <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/11841330/Lessons-to-prevent-sexual-abuse-should-be-mandatory-experts-demand.html>
- 4 [Does sex and relationship education work? Sex Education Forum briefing 2013](#)
- 5 The most recent September 2014 YouGov poll which reported the majority of parents believe Sex and Relationship Education should be taught in all schools.
- 6 [Department of Health in February 2012](#)
- 7 [Local Government Association report on Tackling Teenage Pregnancy Local government's new public health role](#)
- 8 [Ofsted May'13 'Not Yet Good Enough: Personal, Social ,Health and Economic Education in schools' Ref: 130065](#)
- 9 [Between 2007-2010 RSE was voted one of the top three priorities by Shropshire young people. A Shropshire young people charter for RSE was produced. This provides the guide for the programme.](#)
- 10 <http://www.youngpeopleshealth.org.uk/key-data-on-adolescence>
- 11 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-link-between-pupil-health-and-wellbeing-and-attainment>

**Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)**

Ann Hartley

**Local Member**

All Members

**Appendices**