



Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Newsletter

Newsletter 20 - June 2011

What worries young people?

Peterborough City Council wanted to commission a project that not only addressed the current issues that young people face, but that also engaged them in a fun activity and gave them a means of expressing themselves and developing skills. As a professional actor/director Rosie Jones from Blumint Media was asked to work with the young people, discover what concerned them, and then devise a piece of theatre relating to those issues.

They developed a short piece called "Sexting: Privates in Public". It deals with young people sending images of themselves via text message and the possible harmful outcomes. It was very well-received by the Council and Safeguarding Board, and Rosie is currently arranging to take the show to various schools and colleges in the area. The show is best suited for Year 10 (but would also be fine for years 9 and 11) and is approximately 15 minutes in length.

TRI.X

TRI.X is the organisation responsible for developing our web site and interagency procedures which include the **knowledge quiz**.

They have now published a Policy Briefing regarding the final **Munro Review** 'A Child Centred System'.

To download/read the briefing and find links to the full report, please go to the website: http://www.trixonline.co.uk/website/news/policy_31.html

In addition they have now provided us with **Google Analytics** which is a new feature which enables us to monitor and track activity on our manual and web site

Missing Children & Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre

A team of experts from the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre is to lead a national response to the issue of missing children, the government has announced.

From 1 July a dedicated team from the centre will be tasked with working with police, child protection bodies and non-governmental organisations to ensure suitable arrangements are in place to protect vulnerable children.

Around 230,000 missing children reports are made in the UK every year. The risks children are exposed to are severe and the harm they suffer can be very serious so it is crucial CEOP acts quickly. CEOP's new responsibility for national missing children's services means they can bring their significant child protection expertise to tackle this important issue.

CEOP will provide support to the police through resources such as the Child Rescue Alert system and the MissingKids website. It will also aim to ensure arrangements are in place to co-ordinate the collective response to complex cases of missing and abducted children.

Welcome to this Summer edition of our newsletter.

I will start with some goodbyes and a welcome. We have said goodbye to Jo Bramwell who has been our Training & Development Manager for 10 years. Jo has not gone far as she is now based in Children's Services as Quality Assurance Manager. We all wish her the best.



We have also said goodbye to Faye Williams who has been our Business Support Officer since October 2010. Faye has moved house so will be working closer to her home in Lincs. Again we wish her all the best.

We will be welcoming Helen Herron on 11 July as our new Training & Development Manager. Many of you will know her from some of the training she has been delivering for us. See page 4 for a pen picture of Helen.

If you have any comments about our newsletter please email me:

Judy.jones@peterborough.gov.uk

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Peterborough City Council launch integrated front office for children's social care

The first stage of the above project (Referral & Assessment) went live on Tuesday 17 May.

What will change?

The existing duty lines within referral and assessment (864180 and 864170) will be transferred to the Peterborough Direct call centre. The service will have dedicated children's social care customer services officers who will log referrals, contacts and complete signposting where agreed. The team will be managed by a dedicated children's services team leader.

The number for fax referrals will also remain the same (0870 238 4083), and any e-mail referrals should be sent to cscrecords@peterborough.gov.uk.

Why is the service changing?

- Social workers will have more time to concentrate on direct work and case management
- Any mis-dialled calls will be re-directed to the correct person/service
- Customers will have one contact number for all children's social care services
- There will be documented processes and procedures
- Call recording facilities will be in place

What do you need to do?

We would encourage all professionals to support this by using this service when you need to make a referral, log a contact or request general guidance and advice. The team will also be working closely with the common assessment framework team to further support you.

For existing cases where there is an allocated social worker you should contact the named social worker direct and the provision of the 'What if?' line: 01733 864177 remains the same.

Please circulate this communication to all staff within your organisation who are involved in making referrals to Children's Social Care

If you have any questions please contact:

- Urfan Sadiq, Referral & Assessment Service, Tel: 864193
- Tracy Morton, Referral & Assessment Service, Tel: 864430
- Angela Nottingham, Customer Services, Tel: 317921

Angela Nottingham
Business Transformation Project Manager
Peterborough City Council
Tel: 01733 317921
Mobile: 07950 368826

Get ready for Child Safety Week 2011

Monday 20 to Sunday 26 June



Child Safety Week is the Child Accident Prevention Trust's flagship community education campaign. Our aim is to secure a safer environment for children and young people, free from accidental death, disability and serious injury without wrapping children in cotton wool.

Our Child Safety Week resources are designed to help support your work with local families by offering practical and fun ways to engage them about accident prevention.

This year due to funding constraints we are publishing our Child Safety Week toolkit online. When you visit the Child Safety Week website, www.childsafetyweek.org.uk, you will find:

Ideas booklet - packed full of help in planning your activity, information on the accidents most likely to seriously harm children, practical safety reminders, plus quizzes and competitions for you to copy and use, to make learning fun for both adults and children. You will find two versions, an interactive PDF that can be saved to your desktop and a simple printable version.

Poster - you will find a downloadable poster that you can tailor to include your own event details.

Evaluation form - tell us about the impact of your Child Safety Week activity and you could win a £50 shopping voucher plus £50 of CAPT resources.

Don't forget to keep revisiting www.childsafetyweek.org.uk as we will be adding extra quizzes and competitions over the coming weeks.

If you want to purchase printed copies of the Child Safety Week toolkit for yourself or your colleagues, you will find full details at www.childsafetyweek.org.uk.

New Report

The Trust for London and the Centre for Social Work research have produced the following report which can be downloaded.

"Safeguarding Children's Rights; exploring issues of witchcraft and spirit possession in London's African Communities"

<http://www.trustforlondon.org.uk>

Heath News

We have said goodbye and thank you to **Dr Venkat Reddy** who for many years has been the Designated Doctor Safeguarding Children. We now welcome **Dr Emilia Wawrzkowicz** into the role. In addition we welcome **Ann Marie Aslett** into the role of Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children

My life for young people

The link below is for the materials for use in PSHE sessions in schools and youth clubs for Key Stage 2 children/young people that were developed by the Children's Society.

<http://www.mylife4schools.org.uk/MyLife/>

Workforce Development Brochure

The new Workforce Development Brochure has been circulated widely and will be placed on the web site. You will notice that we are working more closely with our colleagues from Cambridgeshire Safeguarding Board.

Please note there are some changes to the training programme:

It has been agreed that the PSCB training programme would move to a financial year as oppose to an academic one. For this reason we have compiled an interim 6 month programme that runs until the end of March 2012. An annual programme running from 1 April 2012- 31 March 2013 will then come into force.

During the interim programme 3 news courses are being run;

- The impact on children of parental mental health problems
- Recognising and responding to signs and symptoms of abuse
- Train the trainer (run in conjunction with Cambridgeshire LSCB)

Basic safeguarding courses should be delivered on a single agency basis. The PSCB is holding train the trainer courses to assist single agencies in delivering their own basic safeguarding training. This will be further supported by the introduction of a standard basic safeguarding training pack in the future

Whilst these support processes are being put in place the PSCB will continue to run 2 courses "An Introduction to Safeguarding Children" between September 2011- March 2012.

Can I just remind people that it is important to ensure that application forms for courses are completed and sent to pscb.training@peterborough.gov.uk. In addition Charlotte Lucas, Training Coordinator can advise if there is any advice needed about appropriate courses for you.

In the last 6 months we have had to cancel some courses but experience is showing us there have been several instances when colleagues appear to have noted the date of courses in their diaries but did not submit application forms.

Munro's 15 Recommendations

1. Initial and core assessments should be scrapped and replaced with a single, ongoing assessment listing decisions to be made.
2. Unannounced inspections should examine the safeguarding performance of other agencies as well as children's services.
3. Inspections should also look at outcomes and how children's wishes and experiences shape services provided.
4. A combination of nationally collected and locally published performance data should be used.
5. Each Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) should submit annual reports to council leaders and heads of police and health and wellbeing boards.
6. LSCBs should also access local outcomes including the effectiveness and value for money of early intervention services and multi-agency training.
7. The role of the Director of Children's Services and the Lead Member for Children's Services should be protected from departmental mergers.
8. Research is needed on the impact of health reforms on partnership working in child protection.
9. LSCBs should use a systems approach to serious case reviews (SCRs) and Ofsted's evaluation of SCRs should end.
10. Councils should have a legal duty to provide sufficient early intervention services.
11. The Social Work Reform Board's Professional Capabilities Framework should specify those qualities needed for child and family social work.
12. Employers and higher education institutions should work together on student placements.
13. Local authorities should review and redesign the ways in which child and family social work is delivered.
14. Local authorities should designate a Principal Child and Family Social Worker.
15. A Chief Social Worker should be created in government.

Congratulations

Congratulations go to Kay Mayor (our previous administrator) who is now the Mayor in Whittlesey.

CEOPS

The UK's ability to protect children from harm will be further strengthened when the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) becomes part of the National Crime Agency (NCA) the government announced on 9 May 2011, emphasising its commitment to safeguarding children.

As part of the NCA, CEOP will operate across the UK and internationally in the powerful new crime fighting agency to tackle child sexual exploitation, and develop its vital work educating children and their carers on how to protect themselves online.

The government will build on CEOP's successes by ensuring it retains its name and unique brand as the national centre for child protection; its operational control; a separate budget; a governance structure which allows it to create and sustain innovative partnerships with the private sector and charities; and a multi-disciplinary workforce.

In the press release the Minister for crime prevention James Brokenshire said: 'Child protection is an absolute priority for this government. As a core part of the new National Crime Agency, CEOP will not only be in the best possible position to continue its vital work but will also benefit from being able to draw on the resources and support available across the whole agency.'

'CEOP has been an amazing success and this government will always back its vital work.'

Peter Davies chief executive of CEOP said: 'the announcement sends one clear message. CEOP will continue with its own brand, its own approach and its own dedication to putting the safety and well being of children first.'

'Only recently we have announced three major successes. Our programme to protect children through education – ThinkuKnow – won an unprecedented 12 awards at the International Visual Communication Award, while over the past few weeks we have announced the outcome of two major operational successes. Those operations – Rescue and Alpine – collectively saw 192 children safeguarded and 332 suspects arrested within the UK alone.'

Round up of Safeguarding Board Activities

E Safety

The joint Peterborough and Cambridgeshire E Safety Group has developed the following to assist organisations in evaluating the extent to which they are meeting requirements to reduce the risk of e - safety incidents.

A check list and a self audit tool are now available on our web sites as is a **model acceptable use policy**.

Protocols/Practice Guidance

The **pre birth assessment and risk factors** guidance has been revised and will be included in the June procedures update

The **Missing from Home and Care Protocol** is now completed and will be on the web site at the next update

Safeguarding Strategy

The safeguarding strategy for the PSCB and Children's Trust has been finalised and can be found on the web site at the next update.

Performance Management

Peterborough City Council's learning platform contract ended on 31 May. Log in and passwords will no longer work. Children's Services are negotiating a new contract and hope to be up and running by 1 September 2011.

Communications Strategy

Our joint PSCB and Children's Trust Communications strategy is nearing completion and will be placed on the web site shortly

Single Delivery Plan

In addition we are working with our safeguarding adult's partners and the Greater Peterborough Partnership in respect to Programme 3 of the single delivery plan which focuses on safeguarding adults and children .It is early days in the planning process.

S11

Following on from the S11 exercise undertaken recently the Quality Assurance Group is beginning a deeper analysis of standard 4 (where service development is influenced by the views of children, young people and their families) and has requested that the Strategic Learning and Development Group consider reviewing standard 5 (with respect to the evidence offered with regards to staff training). In addition the Safer Employment Operations Group will look at standard 6 (procedures for safe recruitment)

I am really looking forward to "returning" to Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board. I was for many years the chair of the Training Sub Committee when I was the Designated Nurse for Safeguarding here in Peterborough prior to my retirement in 2009. Since my retirement I have provided training for PSCB on a sessional basis, as well as the Workforce Development Team in Children's Services. In addition I have provided training for GP's in Norfolk.

These are challenging times for us all. One of my first priorities will be to work with partners in developing a Strategic Learning and Development Programme for 2012-2013.



Stop it Now!

Stop it Now! UK & Ireland is a public education campaign supported by an alliance of voluntary and statutory sector organizations and the governments of England, Scotland and Wales. It operates a free phone, confidential Helpline for adults with concerns around child sexual abuse and is led by the Lucy Faithfull Foundation, a charity specializing in preventing and working with child sexual abuse.

Stop it Now! sees child sexual abuse as a preventable public health problem. Telephone help lines for children and young people are a recognised and valued part of our child protection services. However, it is ultimately the responsibility of adults to protect children from sexual abuse. Whilst Stop it Now! campaign materials look to give all adults the information they need to identify and respond to concerns, the Stop it Now! Helpline key target groups are:

- **Adult abusers and those at risk of abusing:** to encourage them to recognise their behaviour as abusive or potentially abusive and to seek help to change.
- **Family and friends concerned about an adult displaying worrying sexual thoughts or behaviour towards a child:** to encourage them to recognise the signs of abusive behaviour in those close to them and to seek advice about what action to take.
- **Parents and carers concerned about a child or young person with worrying sexual behaviour:** to encourage them to recognise the signs of concerning or abusive behaviour and to seek advice about what positive action they can take.

Our Helpline Report provides an array of statistical data on all calls and callers over the 4 ½ year period covered; with case studies to illustrate the nature of challenges our callers are facing and our operators respond to. As you will read, we dealt with 16,240 calls. Over 50% were from adults concerned about their own sexual thoughts about or behaviour towards children; 25% were from adults concerned about another adult's behaviour towards children; 4% were from parents or carers concerned about the sexual behaviour of a child or young person.

Since its launch in 2002, the Helpline has taken 20,504 calls and provided information, support and advice to 9,666 adults looking to protect a child from sexual abuse.

The Helpline Report and Executive Summary make interesting reading. These documents are available to download from our website at www.stopitnow.org.uk

Young Lives and Jubilee People's millions

Young Lives has been named by The Big Lottery Fund, as one of only six finalists in the Anglia region's Jubilee People's Millions contest.

If successful they will receive £60,000 in Lottery funding for the project '**Get Creative, Get Afloat**' to purchase a steel barge and undertake a conversion project to change it into a state of the art multimedia facility for young people. Members of the local community will be involved with selecting the barge, undertaking the conversion project and completing the fit out. Young people will be involved to develop and design this facility. Volunteers will be trained in boat handling and maintenance

The really exciting aspect to all this, aside from the actual project, is that it is a televised competition to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012, run by the Big Lottery Fund in partnership with ITV and with the approval of Buckingham Palace. Of the six finalists that have made it this far, there will be just four winners voted for by the public.

Young Lives are appealing for your support!- on **29th June from 9am until midnight**, you will be able to vote, via telephone for our project- 'Get Creative, Get Afloat'. It will be featured on the 6pm ITV Anglia news but we are kindly appealing to all our members, partners and colleagues to support us and make the call at any point during that day, to benefit the young people of Cambridgeshire.

The voting telephone number will be released on 29th June so I will email you that number once I have it. In the meantime, if you would like to know more or to keep in touch with us on this project please watch our trailer by visiting www.young-lives.org.uk

Thank you for your support

Lynn Hogarth
Chief Executive Officer



The Children's Minister, Tim Loughton, has announced the launch of an action plan to tackle **child sexual exploitation**, due for publication this autumn. The plan will involve a wide range of agencies, including: local safeguarding children boards, Barnardo's, the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre and local authority children's services.

It has been confirmed that the Youth Justice Board will fund 22 **social worker posts in 11 young offender institutions** in England and Wales. These posts were created in 2005, but many have remained vacant due to funding disputes.

Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board has published the executive summary of a **serious case review** into the death of Jamie, a female child aged 14 months who died after ingesting methadone. Issues include: domestic violence and parental substance misuse. Recommendations include: agencies to ensure processes are pro-active and child centred; 'Hidden Harm' protocols should be implemented to ensure adults are made aware of the risks posed to children who might have access to drugs; and a lead professional should be responsible for co-ordinating information sharing between agencies.

Source: [Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board](#)

Merthyr Tydfil Safeguarding Children Board has published the executive summary of a **serious case review** into Child 1, who suffered serious head injuries at 38 days old, leaving him permanently disabled. The family had had no prior involvement with child protection services. Recommendations include: LSCB to raise awareness of the importance of educating parents to protect babies from head injuries; and better engagement with fathers by midwives and health visitors.

Source: [Merthyr Tydfil Local Safeguarding Children Board](#)

Trust for London has published a summary of an independent evaluation into the work of the Safeguarding Children's Rights Special Initiative, which was set up in response to concerns about **faith-based child abuse**, including belief in spirit possession and witchcraft, in African community groups in London. Recommendations include: faith-based abuse should be addressed in mainstream child protection practice.

Source: [Trust for London](#)

Further information:

[Safeguarding children's rights: exploring issues of witchcraft and spirit possession in London's African communities](#)

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Source: [Trust for London](#)

Further information: [Safeguarding children's rights: exploring issues of witchcraft and spirit possession in London's African communities](#)

NSPCC has launched a **Helpline text service** to report child abuse. Anyone worried about a child can now text 88858 to report their concerns quickly and discreetly. The text services adds to the existing ways people can get in touch, by 24-hour freephone (0808 800 5000), emailing help@nspcc.org.uk, or online at www.nspcc.org.uk/helpline.

The Home Affairs Committee has published a report on **forced marriage**. Findings include: many schools are failing to engage in preventive activity with children at risk of forced marriage, and spending cuts are putting specialist services for victims of forced marriage at risk. Recommendations include the criminalisation of forced marriage

Source: [Home Affairs Committee - Eighth Report Forced marriage](#)

Young People, Sexual Health and Risk 2011 -2012

Being distributed with this newsletter is a free training pathway for everyone working with young people to reduce teenage pregnancy and increase access to contraception. It is aimed at all practitioners and front line staff and volunteers working with young people.

The leaflet also details training courses available through Children's Workforce Development Team for more information please contact: cs.training@peterborough.gov.uk or 01733 863610

The following is an extract from the Safeguarding Strategy developed by Safeguarding Board and the Children's Trust **SAFEGUARDING - KNOW YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES**

In order to ensure children stay safe, it is important that everybody knows their responsibilities around safeguarding. This guide is here to help:

1. Members of public

If you have any concerns about the safety of a child or young person, or that they may be subject to abuse or harm:

- **Don't ignore your concerns** - contact the Police or the Children's Services Referral and Assessment Team (contact details below) who will make appropriate and sensitive enquiries. Your confidentiality will be maintained at all times.
- It is better that a nagging doubt is reported, and turns out to be nothing than for nobody to help a child who is suffering harm.

2. Practitioners

All those who come into contact with children and families in their everyday work have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This duty extends to your private life as well as your professional one.

We would expect you to:

- Be familiar with and follow your organisation's policy and procedures for safeguarding the welfare of children.
- Know who to contact to express concerns about a child's welfare.
- Attend training that raises awareness of safeguarding issues and equips you with the knowledge and skills you need.
- Never ignore a 'nagging doubt' and to report any concerns you have.

3. Organisations

All organisations that work with children and young people need to be aware of how the issues of safeguarding apply to the organisation, staff, volunteers and trustees.

Your organisation needs to make appropriate plans for:

- A member of your staff team reporting concerns about the safety of a child they are working with.
- Your organisation being asked by Children's Social Care or the police to provide information about a child or a family.
- An allegation being made against a member of your staff.
- To help your organisation deal with these issues you should have a safeguarding policy and a set of procedures that all staff, volunteers and trustees must follow. These should be based on the Safeguarding Board's multi agency procedures (see PSCB website www.peterboroughscb.org.uk).
- Your organisation should provide appropriate training for staff, to ensure they have the knowledge and skills they need to keep children safe (see PSCB Workforce Development Brochure on the web site).
- You should ensure that you are recruiting safely, so that checks are made for any staff who may have access to vulnerable people during their work.
- Two key pillars of a safeguarding culture are rigorous risk assessments and a code of conduct. It is essential that everyone involved in your organisation knows what behaviour is acceptable and what is not. Creating a safeguarding culture within an organisation is much easier if everyone is fully aware of the behaviour and conduct that is expected from all.

Useful Contacts:

- Referral & Assessment 01733 864180 (out of hours 01733 561370)
- Cambridgeshire Constabulary 0345 456 4564
- NSPCC 0808 800 5000
- Parentline Plus 0808 800 2222
- Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board 01733 863745
- Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board web site www.peterboroughscb.org.uk
- Peterborough Children's Trust website www.peterborough.gov.uk/childrenstrust

New Programme for Dads from NSPCC

Caring dads: safer children is a group work programme for men, which address the impact of their violent or abusive behaviour within a parenting context.

The group is suitable for:

- men who use overly controlling, physically or emotionally abusive and/or neglectful parenting strategies
- men who acknowledge that they have perpetrated domestic abuse
- men who wish to improve their fathering and family relationships.

The group is not suitable for:

- men who have perpetrated (or are at risk of perpetrating) sexual abuse/sexual violence
- men who do not have children or any contact with children
- men who have been convicted of a domestic abuse related offence and have not attended a Domestic Abuse Perpetrators Programme.

To ensure the safety of the women and children while men are attending the programme, the NSPCC will contact the participant's partners/ex-partners and children to gather their views on the impact of the intervention. It is therefore a condition of their attendance that men provide the NSPCC with contact details for their current or ex-partners.

Caring dads: safer children runs weekly for a period of 17 weeks. The programme has five goals:

1. to develop men's trust and motivation to engage in the process of examining fathering
2. to increase men's awareness of child-centred, non-abusive fathering through the recognition of children's needs and developmental stages
3. to increase men's awareness and responsibility for abusive behaviour within the family and its impact on women and children
4. to begin to apply child-centred parenting skills and develop a positive model of an equitable adult relationship
5. to consider what is needed to rebuild trusting family relationships and plan for the future.

A written report regarding the suitability of the person you have referred will be available upon completion of an initial assessment. At the end of the programme, another report will detail his progress in meeting the programme goals.

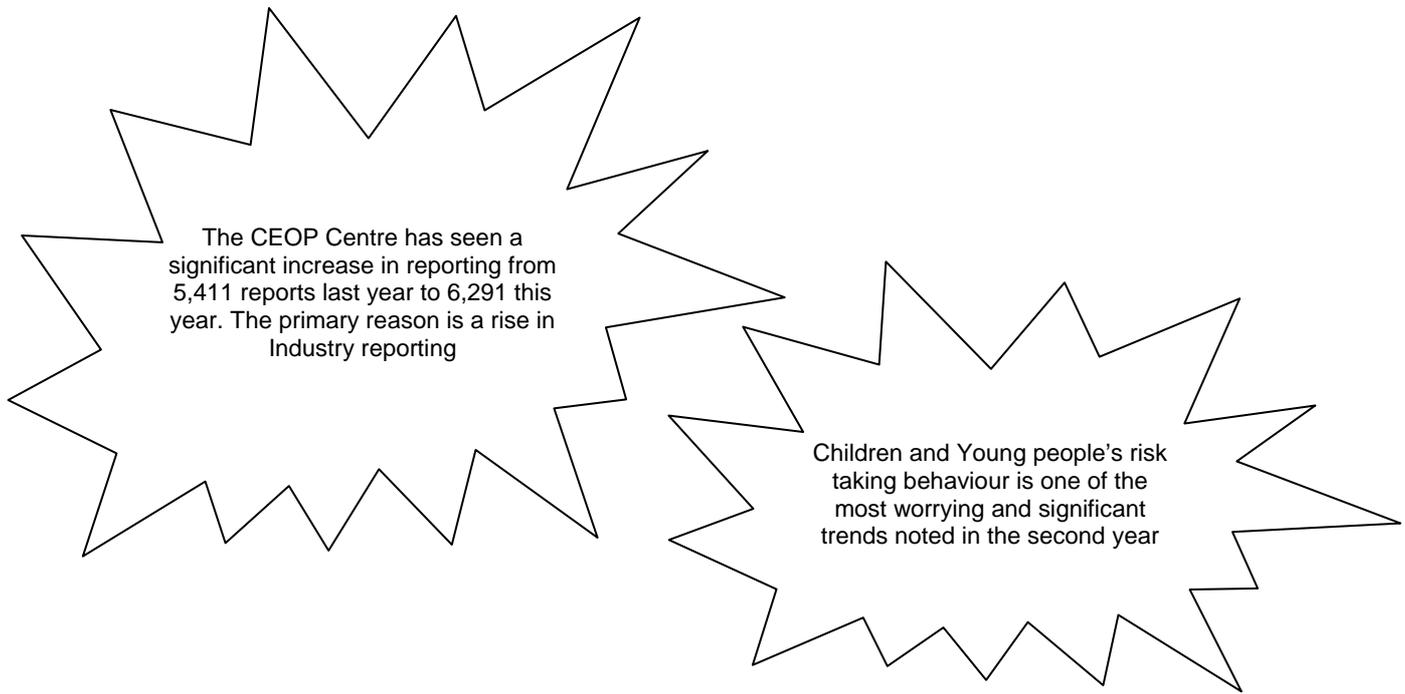
It is important to note that neither of these reports would constitute a "risk assessment". However, as a child protection agency, safeguarding will remain the focus of the work and the NSPCC will address/refer out any issues of concern to the appropriate agency.

For more information and a referral form please contact:

Tel: 01733 207620

Fax: 01733 207645

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) Strategic Overview



The CEOP Centre has seen a significant increase in reporting from 5,411 reports last year to 6,291 this year. The primary reason is a rise in Industry reporting

Children and Young people's risk taking behaviour is one of the most worrying and significant trends noted in the second year