

Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day – March 18th 2018

Partnership Briefing

What is it?

CSE Awareness Day (CSEDay) is celebrated nationally on 18th March each year to raise awareness of and deter the sexual exploitation of children and young people under the age of 18.

Coordinated by the National Working Group for Exploitation (NWG), the day sees hundreds of organisations unite to fight against Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE); running events and activities across the country.

As a result of the collective action last year, the NWG's CSEDay17 **Thunderclap** had a total social reach (how many people saw the Stop-CSE message) of **3.9 Million**. #CSEDay17 was trending in the UK all morning with the highest trend at number 5 on the list.

#CSEDay18

The national theme to CSEDay18 is *working together to inform, educate and prevent child sexual exploitation within the UK*. This fits with our local commitment to community safeguarding through prevention, disruption and intervention.

Linking this to WSCC corporate priorities; community safeguarding helps children to have the best start in life by protecting them from potential risks. Likewise, healthy and resilient children grow into thriving adults, who can work and boost the local economy; thus making West Sussex a prosperous and sustainable place to live and work.

West Sussex county Council is a council that works for every community. Supporting awareness raising and prevention activity such as CSEDay18 is pivotal to help our residents and businesses recognise and respond to [child sexual] exploitation.

What are we doing to support CSEDay18?

There will be social media posts going out in the run up and over the weekend to raise awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation, how to spot some of the warning signs and report concerns.

In the lead up to CSEDay18, and following on from the success of Safeguarding Week 2017, West Sussex Community Safety & Wellbeing Team and Barnardo's will be delivering another free 2-hour introductory awareness raising session open to anyone working with, or around young people. Details below:

An Introduction to Child Sexual Exploitation, Radicalisation and Extremism

Thursday 15th March 2018

Description

An introductory training session aimed at raising awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Radicalisation and Extremism. To include:

- Explanations of CSE and the Prevent Agenda (including ways in which young people may be exploited)
- Understanding vulnerability and risk
- Myths and stereotypes
- Online safety and technology
- Dealing with disclosures & the reporting process
- Spotting possible signs of grooming and radicalisation – push and pull factors
- Links to absconding and young people going missing
- Trafficking
- CSE and boys
- Understanding consent (including The Law)
- The work Barnardo's does

This session is aimed at anybody working with children and young people and would be particularly useful for:

- Youth & Community groups
- Midwives & Health Visitors
- Volunteers & Sessional Workers
- Social Workers - Trainee/newly qualified
- Non Specialist Counselling Staff
- Foster Carers
- Teachers & Teaching Assistants
- Staff from children centres/residential units

We will be promoting the CSE campaign page www.westsussex.gov.uk/cse, [Guide to Keeping Your Child Safe Online](#) & launching the new Local Authority Community Safeguarding toolkit and CSE guide for Elected Members

Other ways we are supporting and promoting CSEDay18 include:

- Corporate Facebook/Twitter Social Media posts scheduled before and on CSEDay18;
- CSPs & JAGs briefed and sent information;
- Local members sent information and encouraged to help promote;
- Information sent to Schools.
- Join the CSEDay18 Thunderclap <https://www.thunderclap.it/projects/66880-cse-awareness-day-2018>

Other ways to get involved:

1. Show your support by writing a personal pledge on your hand and posting a picture of it on your social media with the hashtags #HelpingHands and our local CSE handle #StandAgainstCSE. This will help raise awareness of CSE nationwide, reaching a network of friends, family and social groups
2. Raise awareness of reporting channels: Sussex Police (quoting *Operation Kite*) and the *free* Missing People text/phone line **116000** or 116000@missingpeople.org.uk
3. Join the conversation on social media using the hashtag #CSEDay18
4. Tweet and post your support on social media throughout the day using the suggested tweets below.

Suggested Tweets:

- I'm supporting #CSEDay18 in West Sussex #StandAgainstCSE
- West Sussex Stands Up against #CSE #StandAgainstCSE
- I'm standing up against #CSE #CSEDay18 #StandAgainstCSE
- Together let's raise our hands to stop #CSE #HelpingHands #CSEDay18 #StandAgainstCSE
- Unite against the rape and sexual abuse of children within West Sussex #CSEDay18 #StandAgainstCSE
- All hands together can prevent #CSE #CSEDay18 #StandAgainstCSE
- What are you doing on #CSEDay18 to say 'NO' to #CSE?
- Educate your children on how to spot the signs of #CSE
- Stop #CSE and trafficking in our country #CSEDay18
- We *all* have to take #CSE and trafficking seriously and protect our children #CSEDay18 #StandAgainstCSE
- Speak out against inappropriate relationships when they involve children #CSE

Point of Contact

E mail: claire.clilverd@westsussex.gov.uk

Tel: 0330 222 3874

IM via Lync (WSSCC only)