Sexual Exploitation Strategy 2020-2025

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1. The r	risk that children, young people and vulne	rable adults	are sexual	ly exploited	is reduced	through a focus on prevention and early intervention.
Action		Assigned To	Due Date	Status	Progress	Latest Note
SES 1.01	Education and awareness raising programmes aimed at reducing the risk of exploitation and abuse will be delivered to children and young people in early years settings, primary schools and secondary schools.	Gillian Carroll	31-Mar-2025	~	100%	22-Apr-2021 Education and awareness raising programmes aimed at reducing the risk of exploitation and abuse continue to be delivered to children and young people in early years settings, primary schools and secondary schools, this programme is ongoing and will continue at all levels NSPCC input continuing remotely
SES 1.02	Education and awareness raising programmes aimed at reducing the risk of exploitation and abuse will be delivered to children and young people in residential care.		31-Mar-2025	✓	100%	14-Jul-2023 Update from Jackie Hamilton, Senior Manager Rolling programme has commenced and will continue to be delivered.
SES 1.03	Carry out a self-evaluation of current sexual exploitation processes and practices.	Sheila Tyeson	31-Dec-2021	•	15%	14-Jul-2023 There is a need to review this action as part of the mid-point review process.
SES 1.04	The CPC and APC have mechanisms to engage and consult with children, young people and vulnerable adults about sexual exploitation interventions and services.	Mark Taylor	31-Dec-2021	>	100%	30-Jun-2023 23 - 05 - 23 Update from Mark Taylor Both APC and CPC have taken steps to engage with and take feedback from service-users/families. Action should not be specific to sexual exploitation.
SES 1.05	Multi-agency core Adult Support and Protection training to be reviewed for inputs to raise awareness across the whole workforce of the risks of sexual exploitation of vulnerable adults.	Mark Taylor	31-Dec-2021	>	100%	30-Jun-2023 23-05-23 Action now completed
SES 1.06	The Child Protection Committee and Adult Protection Committee will support Ayrshire College to raise awareness of sexual exploitation among students and staff.	Beth MacLean	31-Mar-2025	>	100%	30-Jun-2023 23-05-23 Ayrshire College has confirmed that this is in place.

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SES 1.07	Continue to promote the Scottish Government CSE Information awareness raising website http://csethesigns.scot/	Liz Paterson	31-Mar-2025	•	5%	14-Jul-2023 There is a need to review this action as part of the mid-point review process.
SES 1.08	Continue to raise awareness of CSE as part of national campaigns including 16 Days of Action, Safer Internet Day, National CSE Day.	Mark Conway	31-Mar-2025	>	100%	30-Jun-2023 This will progress once CP sub-group in place.
SES 1.09	Continue to raise awareness of CSE using partner communication social media outlets.	Liz Paterson	31-Mar-2025	>	100%	30-Jun-2023 This will progress once CP sub-group in place.
SES 1.10	The CPC and APC receive regular management information on relation to the number of and profile of CSE victims, and the number of CSE victims being considered under CP procedures.		31-Dec-2021	>	100%	30-Jun-2023 24-Nov-22 This continues to be considered by CELCIS. CSE is not yet included in the minimum dataset. 23-05-23 Reports of CSE would be routinely reported to both APC and CPC.
SES 1.11	Develop and include CSE indicator(s) into the new Minimum Dataset for Child Protection Committees to improve understanding of the scale and nature of CSE and missing episodes.	Beth MacLean	31-Dec-2021	•	100%	30-Jun-2023 24-Nov-22 This continues to be considered by CELCIS. CSE is not yet included in the minimum dataset. 23-05-23 Cannot be added to national minimum dataset but can be reported locally if issue identified.
SES 1.12	Identify improvement activity in relation to sexual exploitation in the Child Protection Improvement Plan being taken forward by Children and Families Social Work Services.	Beth MacLean	30-Sep- 2021	•	5%	14-Jul-2023 There is a need to review this action as part of the midpoint review process.
SES 1.13	Deliver the Mentors in Violence Programme in South Ayrshire schools to support young people to identify abusive and violent behaviours.	Gillian Carroll	30-Jun-2022	~	100%	16-Jun-2022 All Secondary schools in South Ayrshire have now received MVP training
SES 1.14	Ensure that the new RSHP education online resource is being used to support teachers with resources and information to improve the education for every child and young person to	Gillian Carroll	30-Jun-2022	✓	100%	22-Apr-2021 Ensure that the new RSHP resources are being used to support teachers with resources and information to improve the education for every child and young person have confidence in building positive relationships and making well informed choices as

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	have confidence in building positive relationships.					they move into adulthood.
						This programme is well used in all settings- excellent resource. Updates sent to schools regularly. This is now part of the curriculum
SES 1.15	Raise awareness and understanding of sexual exploitation with sports clubs, youth groups, churches and faith organisations, LGBT communities and organisations supporting children with disabilities.	Dawn Parker	31-Mar-2025	•	10%	04-May-2021 Update provided by Liz Paterson 04.05.2021 Meeting with Task and Finish group of Communications and Engagement sub-group to form plan to engage community and internal stakeholders. Engagement with Children and Adults with Disabilities Teams. Engagement with Core Group of Disabled Children Child Protection Network.
SES 1.16	Raise awareness and understanding of sexual exploitation with the public.	Dawn Parker; Sandra Rae	31-Mar-2025		5%	30-Jun-2023 24-Nov-22 This will lie with the chair of the respective C&E sub-groups for APC and CPC.
SES 1.17	Provide improved protection for children, young people and adults with learning disabilities and support them to develop an understanding of relationships and risk.	Gillian Carroll	31-Mar-2025	✓	100%	22-Apr-2021 Provide improved protection for children, young people and adults with learning disabilities and support them to develop an understanding of relationships and risk. Used new resource from NSPCC which was devised for special schools /units this year. This is now part of the curriculum.
SES 1.18	Ensure that all practitioners and agencies use the same definition of sexual exploitation to facilitate joint risk assessments and effective multi-agency responses.	Beth MacLean	30-Sep- 2021	•	100%	30-Jun-2023 24-Nov-22 CSE training remains on the training calendar with the next session expected to take place in May 2023.
SES 1.19	The Child Protection Committee will implement the Core Components Checklist.	Beth MacLean	30-Sep- 2021	✓	100%	18-Feb-2022 The Core Components were presented to the CPC on 17th May 2021 to ensure all CPC members understand the need to consider the core components to provide an effective response to managing the risk of sexual exploitation within our communities.
SES 1.20	Community Justice Ayrshire will use `A Guide to Self-Evaluation for Community Justice in Scotland (2016)' to support Community Planning Partnerships to evaluate the effectiveness of their response.	Jackie Hamilton	31-Mar-2022	✓	100%	11-Jul-2022 Community Justice Ayrshire has a new plan and actions on that have superseded this action
SES 1.21	Develop multi-agency guidance to support staff in Getting it right for vulnerable children and young people in South Ayrshire.	Gary Hoey	31-Mar-2022	~	100%	14-Jul-2023 GIRFEC embedded in current practice and guidance available.
SES 1.22	Develop accessible guidance on adult sexual exploitation.	Mark Taylor	31-Mar-2022	✓	100%	30-Nov-2022 Accessible materials in place and being used across Learning Disability Services.

SES 1.23	Ensure guidance on adult sexual exploitation is widely circulate across partner agencies.	Mark Taylor	30-Jun-2022	0	75%	14-Jul-2023 Check wider dissemination across partner agencies.
SES 1.24	Promote awareness of provisions of Human Trafficking legislation.	Liz Paterson	31-Mar-2025	✓	100%	14-Jul-2023 There are a number of dedicated human trafficking resources available on the HSCP website (for Public) and these have been disseminated to relevant staff groups.
SES 1.25	Promote awareness of provisions of Forced Marriage legislation.	Dawn Parker; Sandra Rae	31-Mar-2025	>	5%	24-Feb-2022 The APC and CPC Communication & Engagement Subgroup now has a new chair and two vice-chairs. The group will consider all communications and awareness raising that needs to be taken forward with support from the HSCP Communications Officer.
SES 1.26	Chief Officers and Elected Members receive clear written statements and information with regard to sexual exploitation (at least every six months) and are regularly briefed on other local strategic partnerships work in relation to sexual exploitation.	Beth MacLean	31-Mar-2025	>	30%	14-Jul-2023 Update via Beth MacLean Link with previous reporting to APC/CPC – reporting to COG – reconsider "elected members".
SES 1.27	Deliver Sexual Exploitation awareness raising and training to Senior Managers and Elected Members.	Beth MacLean	30-Jun-2022	~	100%	14-Jul-2023 A rolling programme of Sexual Exploitation awareness and training is in place. This is available to all relevant staff members and elected members.
SES 1.28	Consider the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown on increasing the risk of sexual exploitation to our most vulnerable.	Beth MacLean	30-Sep- 2021	✓	100%	18-Feb-2022 This is considered in the context of the CPC Quarterly Report and in the IRD Audit Group and the Referral Audit Evaluation Group. CPC have continued to be assured that the most vulnerable children in our communities continue to be seen.

2. Children, young people and vulnerable adults at risk of or experiencing sexual exploitation and their families receive appropriate and high quality support.

Action		Assigned To	Due Date	Status	Progress	Latest Note
SES 2.01	Ensure children, young people and vulnerable adults can access abuse recovery services when they need them.	Beth MacLean	31-Mar-2025		100%	14-Jul-2023 National campaigns are ongoing and always considered via the CPC sub-groups.
SES 2.02	The CPC/APC Learning and Development sub- group will include delivery of inter-agency inputs of sexual exploitation for staff and volunteers in the general, specific and intensive workforces in the training calendar.	Gary Hoey	31-Mar-2022	✓	100%	14-Jul-2023 A rolling programme of training is in place and available.
SES 2.03	Sexual exploitation education and awareness	Gary Hoey;	31-Mar-2025	•	10%	14-Jul-2023 There is a need to review this action as part of the mid-

	raising programmes will be delivered to parents and carers, local community groups and other business economies.	Beth MacLean				point review process.
SES 2.04	Engage with 'night-time economy' to ensure workers have relevant information to provide awareness regarding sexual exploitation and abuse.	Mark Conway	31-Mar-2022	✓	100%	19-Apr-2022 Prior to lockdown, training was delivered to the night time economy staff via Women's Aid. With the night-time economy fully reopened, we have reintroduced taxi marshals, first aiders and the street pastors have returned to the streets. We continue to engage with these staff to ensure they have a greater awareness of potential signs which could lead to sexual exploitation and abuse and give them the skills and information they need to respond appropriately. Our taxi marshal contract is currently being renewed and we will embed this training as a mandatory feature for any potential bidders.
SES 2.05	Staff have access to child protection guidelines for underage sexual activity which includes information on CSE.	Beth MacLean	30-Sep- 2021	•	60%	17-Jul-2023 There is separate guidance available on underage sexual activity and CSE – there is a need to check if the guidance on underage sexual activity covers CSE.
SES 2.06	Ensure a Child Protection Sexual Health meeting with a Child Protection Advisor takes place to discuss any concerns about potential CSE/CSA clients, alongside other concerning child presentations.	Beth MacLean	31-Mar-2025	•	15%	17-Jul-2023 There is a need to review this action as part of the mid-point review process.
SES 2.07	Develop a robust recording process of return interviews where a child, young person or vulnerable adult has been missing to help identify abuse.		31-Mar-2022	✓	100%	24-Jan-2022 Return Interviews are now tracked and recorded as part of the significant event protocol. The data obtained form return interviews and significant event forms is used to inform caring4u meetings which are multi agency and chaired by House Managers, Caring4u meetings ensure that young people are receiving the right support at the right time to progress their plans.
SES 2.08	Develop 'significant event' screening groups to analyse trends and plan to reduce risk to vulnerable groups.		31-Mar-2022	✓	100%	24-Jan-2022 The data obtained from significant event forms is used to inform caring4u meetings which are multi agency and chaired by House Managers, Caring4u meetings ensure that young people are receiving the right support at the right time to progress their plans. This information contributes to safeguarding young people and helps manage and reduce the risk of harm.
SES 2.09	Ensure that young people's views are used for relevant training for practitioners which highlights the links between going missing and vulnerability to abuse.	Gary Hoey	31-Mar-2022	•	40%	17-Jul-2023 There is a need to review this action as part of the mid-point review process.

SES 2.10	Market the Runaway and Say Something helpline services directly to people in South Ayrshire to ensure that children, young people and vulnerable adults are supported when they are thinking of going missing or need help to stay safe.	Liz Paterson	31-Mar-2025	•	5%	17-Jul-2023 There is a need to review this action as part of the mid-point review process.				
SES 2.11	Pilot a national protocol locally for looked after children who go missing from residential and foster care.		31-Mar-2025	✓	100%	24-Jan-2022 The proposed pilot project did not receive agreement from police Scotland, however, the new National Guidance has now been fully implemented across Scotland. Residential and Foster Carers in South Ayrshire are now following the new national guidance including implementing the category of "not at home" (where it is safe to do so).				
SES 2.12	Develop an integrated approach to Trauma Informed Practice in partnership with Community Planning partners.	Kevin Anderson	31-Mar-2023	✓	100%	30-Jun-2023 23-05-23 The South Ayrshire: LEADS trauma lead officer has continued to support the implementation of trauma informed and responsive systems and service across South Ayrshire. The Community Planning Partnership Board have signed up to the leadership trauma pledge which not only demonstrates that leadership commitment from South Ayrshire Council, but partners also. The South Ayrshire: Through a New Lens trauma network continues to meet and is currently working on a multi-agency, lived experience led, 5 year strategic plan and working towards securing further funding to secure the sustainability of the project. There is now a comprehensive training plan that is being delivered by the 8 in house trainers, that is in line with the NES NTTP framework, relevant to role and remit, which is available for all staff to access across South Ayrshire. There is also increased focus on staff wellbeing with the aims of developing a wellbeing strategy for staff to ensure the 5 national principles can be felt within the staff experience also.				
SES 2.13	Identify learning from joint inspections in relation to sexual exploitation to support continuous improvement.	Gary Hoey	31-Dec-2021	•	60%	17-Jul-2023 Learning from inspections is ongoing. There is a need to review this action as part of the mid-point review process.				
SES 2.14	Work with partners to develop clear pathways for accessing support services for those who have been sexually exploited.	Beth MacLean	31-Mar-2022	✓	100%	17-Jul-2023 Work is ongoing with partners to ensure clear pathways for accessing support services for those who have been sexually exploited.				
	3. Perpetrators are stopped, brought to justice and less likely to re-offend.									
Action		Assigned To	Due Date	Status	Progress	Latest Note				

SES 3.01	Identify local improvements to the quality of Joint Investigative Interviews (JIIs) while the national programme of change is taking place.	Jackie Hamilton	31-Mar-2022	✓	100%	17-Jul-2023 The Scottish Child Interview Model is now embedded across pan-Ayrshire.
SES 3.02	Identify and implement learning from the pilot of the Stop to Listen approach.	Jackie Hamilton	31-Mar-2024		0%	17-Jul-2023 There is a need to review this action as part of the mid-point review process.
SES 3.03	Develop guidance to inform partners of support available via, for example, Appropriate Adult scheme, Victim Support, Witness Support, to facilitate perpetrators being brought to justice.	Jackie Hamilton	31-Mar-2022	•	D%	17-Jul-2023 There is a need to review this action as part of the midpoint review process.
SES 3.04	Robust multi-agency information sharing systems and processes among Public Protection partners to support the identification and management of perpetrators will be developed.	Jackie Hamilton	31-Mar-2022	✓		07-May-2021 MAPPA provides a robust multi-agency information sharing system and process among public protection partners.
SES 3.05	Identify a mechanism on gathering and providing intelligence where there are concerns in the community.	Beth MacLean	31-Dec-2022	>	60%	30-Jun-2023 23-05-23 Update from Beth MacLean Existing multi-agency forums for sharing information/concerns exist for both C&YP and adults and networks enable timeous response.

4. Cultural and social barriers to preventing and tackling sexual exploitation are reduced.

Action		Assigned To	Due Date	Status	Progress	Latest Note
SES 4.01	Ensure strategy documents relating to children, young people and vulnerable adults consider the prevention and impact of sexual exploitation.	Beth MacLean; Sheila Tyeson	31-Mar-2025	>		17-Jul-2023 As update below. This work is embedded – the Policy Team are continuing to work alongside the Council re Integrated Impact Assessment.
SES 4.02	Taking a whole school approach to gender equality by using the Gender 10 toolkit.	Gillian Carroll	30-Jun-2022	✓	100%	17-Jul-2023 This action has been progressed – presentation has been delivered to staff who attend Equalities Steering Group. With involvement from one school in each cluster.
SES 4.03	Ensure that wider public protection concerns are incorporated into the response to sexual exploitation e.g. Alcohol and Drug Partnership and Violence Against Women Partnership.	Gary Hoey	31-Mar-2025	>	75%	04-May-2021 The lead officers for CP, ASP and ADP all now sit on the respective committee and partnership meetings to allow for shared learning and understanding. The next step is to offer visibility to each of these areas within the others workplans.
SES 4.04	Undertake a local study to explore the links between sexual exploitation, race and migrant status in South Ayrshire.	Beth MacLean	30-Jun-2022		20%	17-Jul-2023 There has been no progress on this action. There is a need to review this action as part of the mid-point review process.

	Ensure responses to Sexual Exploitation consider and incorporate protected characteristics e.g. gender, sexual orientation, race and disability.	Beth MacLean	30-Jun-2022	•	50%	17-Jul-2023 There is a need to review this action as part of the mid- point review process.
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