



Kent Safeguarding Children
multi-agency partnership

KSCMP Child Exploitation Oversight Group Terms of Reference

March 2025

DRAFT

1. Purpose

The KSCMP has a clear ambition to have dedicated strategic oversight of child exploitation in Kent. The Child Exploitation Oversight Group (CEOG) will provide assurance to the Partnership about the response to child exploitation in Kent and identify strategic risks and issues.

2. Responsibilities

- a) Oversight of child exploitation across Kent, including child criminal exploitation; child sexual exploitation; modern slavery; and missing children where there is a direct link to exploitation.
- b) Develop and considering relevant exploitation related data sets and reporting.
- c) Monitoring the efficacy of strategies, tools, and activities to respond to child exploitation in Kent.
- d) Oversight and response to inspection findings relevant to child exploitation.
- e) Link with other relevant forums, i.e. Joint Exploitation Group; Serious Organised Crime Panels; and District Contextual Safeguarding Meetings.

3. Accountability

- a) Individual agencies retain responsibility for meeting their own particular statutory duties and responsibilities.
- b) The Chair of the Group will be provide an update via their agency representative to the KSCMP Scrutiny, Assurance and Audit Sub-group.
- c) The Chair to provide a written report/update as required if there is a particular item that needs raising at the KSCMP Executive Board meetings or at other times as agreed by the KSCMP Executive Board.
- d) The Police Child Exploitation and Missing Board will report into this meeting with salient updates, to bridge operational and strategic matters/decision making and two-way information flow.

4. Membership

The Chair of the Group will be Det. Chief Superintendent Emma Banks. The deputy chair will be Stephen Fitzgerald.

The Group will have a core membership drawn from the following:

- KCC Integrated Children's Services – AD ICS, East Kent and Adolescent Safeguarding Manager
- Kent Police
- A safeguarding specialist from Kent and Medway NHS ICB
- Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit
- KCC Prevent & Serious Organised Crime Team

- Home Office Funded regional Child Exploitation Co-ordinator

Other members may be co-opted as required.

5. Frequency of meetings

The Group will meet every two months for the first 9 months (or 5 meetings). Meeting frequency will then be reviewed to ascertain if it is appropriate to reduce the frequency to quarterly meetings. Extra-ordinary meetings may be convened in response to local need or key emerging issues.

6. Administration Arrangements

The KSCMP Business Team will:

- a) Agree the agenda with the Chair at least two weeks before the meeting.
- b) Send out the agenda and supporting papers at least one week in advance of the meeting.
- c) Produce and send out an action log to members no later than one week after the meeting.
- d) Maintain an up-to-date list of members and their contact details.
- e) Organise and provide administrative support for any task and finish groups commissioned.

7. Review

The Chair will facilitate an annual review of these terms of reference, amending as necessary.