



Southend, Essex and Thurrock (SET) Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Champions 2017

As part of Southend, Essex and Thurrock's approach to tackling CSE, it introduced the role of CSE Champions in 2013. Since 2013, there has been over 1000 CSE Champions trained across Southend, Essex and Thurrock within a range of statutory, private, voluntary and charitable agencies.

A 2017 SET review of the CSE Champions role and the Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB) training and support function, as well as an acknowledgment of significant progress and changes made across SET in relation to strategies for tackling CSE over the past 4 years, has outlined a need to refresh the role purpose and function.

The review identified the need to have a clear set of requirements and expectations of the role to ensure that the role is given the appropriate support from within organisations and to be clear about the support that can be expected from SET LSCBs

SET LSCBs expect each organisation (service area within larger organisations) to have a CSE Champion. The purpose of the CSE Champion role is to:

- Be a key contact for staff within an organisation/department to go to for support and advice in relation to CSE.
- Be a key contact for SET LSCBs to share updates, resources and examples of good practice.
- To raise awareness of CSE within their organisation

It is for each organisation to decide who is best placed within their organisation to be the CSE Champion, and to decide if the role rests with one person or a number of people. Larger organisations may wish to ensure a Champion is identified within each team or department. Staff wishing to act as a CSE Champion for their organisation or department should firstly seek approval from their line manager.

SET LSCBs recommendations:

As a minimum (but not exclusive too), the SET LSCBs recommend that CSE Champions are provided in the following organisations:

- School / educational establishment / academies / colleges
- All health providers
- All licensing departments
- District Councils / Local Authority
- Local Policing Teams

- Youth Offending Teams
- Residential Care Home Providers or Supported Lodging Providers
- National Probation Service
- Community Rehabilitation Company
- Foster Care Agencies / Local Authority Foster Care Team
- Children's Social Care

The role of the CSE Champion is to:-

1. Keep up to date with local CSE arrangements, such as how and who to share concerns about CSE with and referral processes
2. Disseminate relevant information, campaigns, updates and resources internally within their organisation/department
3. Keep up to date with local policy and procedures in relation to CSE
4. To act as a single point of contact (SPOC) regarding CSE within their organisation/department
5. To provide advice and signposting in relation to individual cases
6. To provide advice and signposting in relation to the SET CSE Toolbox including the CSE Risk and Vulnerability Assessment

The SET LSCBs will maintain the contact details for all Champions and will ensure that information, training and awareness is provided to enable them to fulfil their role as a Champion. Champions should also ensure they keep the SET LSCBs updated should they leave the organisation/department, or should they resume the CSE Champions role within a different organisation/department.

How does this affect Essex CSE Champions?

There will no longer be specific CSE Champions Training. In order to qualify for a CSE Champion role within Southend, Essex and Thurrock the following standards must be achieved and request made to the LSCB:

1. Have a good working knowledge of safeguarding children and have completed safeguarding children level 2 course, or equivalent as a minimum.
2. Completed a minimum of a basic awareness CSE course (online or face to face).
3. SOUTHEND / ESSEX ONLY be a National Working Group (NWG) member.
4. Completed the SET CSE Toolbox On Line Training Module
5. Have support from line manager to be the CSE Champion in their team/organisation

Current CSE Champions will have until January 2018 to ensure the standards above are completed; use the CSE Champion Request Form on the ESCB website to apply.

These standards ensure that all CSE Champions across SET have achieved a specific level of training/development and knowledge to ensure they are able to fulfil the role expectations.