

**From:** Redacted

**Sent:** 11 February 2025 16:19

**To:** Safeguarding and Advocacy [safeguardingandadvocacy@gov.wales](mailto:safeguardingandadvocacy@gov.wales)

**Subject:** Announcement of the UK Review / CSE

Dear Safeguarding and Advocacy Team,

We asked our safeguarding teams to provide us with the numbers of children (quarterly) who have been subject to CSE strategy discussions over the last two years so that we can understand whether the numbers appear to increase. The data did not suggest an increase in trends. Although, as we explained below, the query about whether the child has been the victim of gang-based or organised network-based abuse is not readily identifiable from this data, as we understand it. However, Gwent Police tell us anecdotally that the numbers have not increased recently.

In answer to your other question below, our multi-agency partners have the following approaches, processes or tools available to them in order to support the identification of and response to CSE within the Gwent region:

- Routine Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) meetings (quarterly reported into Gwent Safeguarding Board)
- Application of the Child Exploitation Measurement Toolkit (CEMT)
- Safer Schools Engagement processes
- Weekly multi-agency Missing Children meetings
- Multi-agency safeguarding hubs – including Safeguarding Hub Delivery Groups (which report into Gwent Safeguarding Board).
- Missing Children's Steering Group (reported into Gwent Safeguarding Board)
- Exploitation team (formerly Operation Quartz) for higher risk children.
- National Referral Mechanism (NRM) – across all 5 L.A.s to promote local decision-making about children who are victims of modern slavery in a way which complements existing safeguarding structures.

We hope this is helpful.

Thanks,

**From:** [safeguardingandadvocacy@gov.wales](mailto:safeguardingandadvocacy@gov.wales)

**Sent:** 06 February 2025 12:43

**To:** Redacted

**Subject:** RE: Announcement of the UK Review / CSE

Hi,

has confirmed an extension until 12<sup>th</sup> Feb.

Hope that's ok.

**From:** Redacted

**Sent:** 04 February 2025 09:38

**To:** Safeguarding and Advocacy <[safeguardingandadvocacy@gov.wales](mailto:safeguardingandadvocacy@gov.wales)>

**Subject:** RE: Announcement of the UK Review / CSE

Hi,

We wanted to ask if we can clarify the request below, please?

We have asked our safeguarding teams to provide us with the numbers of children (quarterly) who have been subject to CSE strategy discussions over the last two years so that we can understand whether the numbers have increased. However, the query about whether the child has been the victim of gang-based or organised network-based abuse is not readily identifiable from this data, as I understand it.

Using the numbers of children who have been subject to CSE strategy discussions over the last two years, we hope to be able to provide you with an indication as to whether these numbers have increased. We can also provide as part of our response, how our multi-agency partners approach any increases in CSE within the Gwent region.

After checking with our Safeguarding Board chairs, we wanted to ask if there is a possibility of an extension to the deadline of this Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February, to make it possible for us to collate responses and get back to you, please?

Thanks,

**From:** [safeguardingandadvocacy@gov.wales](mailto:safeguardingandadvocacy@gov.wales)

**Sent:** 31 January 2025 16:22

**Subject:** Announcement of the UK Review / CSE

Dear Regional Safeguarding Board Chair,

The UK Government has recently announced a rapid audit of the current scale and nature of organized networks and gang-based exploitation of children across the UK led by Baroness Louise Casey. We welcome the announcement, and Welsh Government will be engaged fully with the review.

In light of the recent attention on child sexual exploitation and the announcement of the UK review, we are reaching out to ask if safeguarding teams within your region have experienced an increase in contact from individuals raising concerns. If there has been an increase, we would appreciate it if you could share details about your engagement

with multiagency safeguarding partners and how you are managing this increased demand.

Your insights will be invaluable. Please can you respond to this email by 7th February.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Yours sincerely,

Tîm Diogelu ac Eiriolaeth / Safeguarding and Advocacy Team

Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government