

Appendix A

Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee

The document sets out the draft response of the Cabinet Member to recommendations made by the Scrutiny Committee on 04 July 2023 concerning the Oxford City Council Safeguarding Report 2022/23 and Safeguarding Policy 2023-26. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

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Recommendation	Agree?	Comment																		
1) That the Council adds context to the section on adult exploitation to give a flavour of the situations and responses; and uses available local, regional and national data to frame the figures so that they tell a story.	Yes	<p>Reporting Period Jan 2022 – Mar 2023</p> <p>Source of Data</p> <p>Local and county data – recorded by Anti-Slavery Coordinator Oxfordshire Regional data – quarterly infographics reported by Modern Slavery coordinator, Thames Valley Police National data – annual report published by Single Competent Authority (Home Office) of NRM and Duty to Notify referrals.</p> <p>Please note: TVP regional data and NRM national data is only up until end of 2022 – have not received TVP Q4 infographics and NRM data only published annually.</p> <p>Total number of adult cases:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Oxford City (Local)</u></th> <th><u>Oxfordshire (County)</u></th> <th><u>Thames Valley (Regional)</u></th> <th><u>NRM Data (National)</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>78</td> <td>134</td> <td>356</td> <td>8854</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Total each quarter:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Quarter</u></th> <th><u>Oxford City</u></th> <th><u>Oxfordshire</u></th> <th><u>Thames Valley</u></th> <th><u>National</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Q4 Jan 22 – Mar</td> <td>17</td> <td>34</td> <td>111</td> <td>2052</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Oxford City (Local)</u>	<u>Oxfordshire (County)</u>	<u>Thames Valley (Regional)</u>	<u>NRM Data (National)</u>	78	134	356	8854	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Oxford City</u>	<u>Oxfordshire</u>	<u>Thames Valley</u>	<u>National</u>	Q4 Jan 22 – Mar	17	34	111	2052
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22					
Q1 Apr 22 – June 22	9	20	84	2264	
Q2 Jul 22 – Sept 22	12	20	75	2302	
Q3 Oct 22 – Dec 22	22	28	86	2236	
Q4 Jan 23 – Mar 23	18	32	-	-	

Types of Exploitation:

<u>Exploitation Type</u>	<u>Oxford City</u>	<u>Oxfordshire</u>	<u>National</u>
Criminal Exploitation	23	50	1384
Domestic Servitude	3	8	137
Financial Exploitation	1	1	0
Labour Exploitation	18	37	4570
Sexual Exploitation	32	36	1128
Unknown	1	2	708
Organ Harvesting	0	0	2

Please note: Thames Valley data not included as exploitation type provided is total number (both adults and children)

- Out of the 78 cases reported 60 were individual, 7 were businesses and 11 premises.
- 56 are no longer being exploited - 29 who were already receiving support through NRM and 31 following multi-agency partnership working to safeguard victims and disrupt exploiter activity.
- Disruption outcomes have included closure orders on premises (brothels), financial penalties incurred through other partners such as immigration, HMRC and council teams, police investigations and action and Gangmasters Labour Abuse Authority taking action where labour exploitation is occurring.

2) That the Council undertakes a longitudinal study of victims and survivors of adult exploitation to gain an understanding of the impact that support has in positively changing the course of lives, which is grounded in data.	Yes	The Council will monitor case outcomes over time to assess the impact of support to victims of modern slavery reported to the Council. This will form part of the Anti-Slavery Coordinator's work plan.
3) That the Council actively works with the voluntary sector and community groups to ensure they have adequate safeguarding policies in place and have access to suitable safeguarding training and support.	No	<p><u>Organisations receiving funding from the Council will be required to have a safeguarding policy that aligns to the Oxfordshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements.</u></p> <p><u>Responsibility for the production, implementation and adherence to the policy is the responsibility of the organisation itself.</u></p> <p>Safeguarding Policy has been updated to state:</p> <p><i>12.2 The Council will review the safeguarding policies of commissioned and grant funded services on application to the Council to check they comply with the standards set by Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board and Oxfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board. The Safeguarding Coordinator obtains annual Commissioned Services Safeguarding Self Assessments from each service.</i></p>
4) That the Council clarifies its procedure for reporting back to staff on changes to safeguarding procedures to ensure organisational awareness.	Yes	<p>The safeguarding awareness briefing is updated quarterly in line with local and national procedures. Upon amending internal policy and procedures, changes are communicated to staff using the following methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly safeguarding newsletter (next due at the end of July) • Weekly Connected Council newsletter • Intranet news story release • Safeguarding awareness briefing update • Communication with HR colleagues to update induction packs with updated policy and procedures • Replacement of existing policy and procedures on external and internal web pages • Dissemination to teams via Safeguarding Champion network <p>Training section of the Safeguarding Policy has been updated to state:</p> <p><i>8.7 Procedural changes will be communicated to staff through updates to the</i></p>

		<i>internal safeguarding awareness briefing and internal communications platforms.</i>
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