

Operation Stovewood - Summary of Terms of Reference

Operation Stovewood is an independent National Crime Agency led investigation examining criminal allegations of non-familial child sexual exploitation (CSE) and abuse. It is being conducted at the request of South Yorkshire Police following publication of the Alexis Jay Report. It has two stages:

Stage One includes:

- The **oversight and review of all existing ongoing South Yorkshire Police investigations** being conducted into non-familial CSE in Rotherham between 1997- 2013 (the period covered by the Jay Report). This will include consideration as to the linking of investigations and their future leadership and management arrangements.
- **Intelligence gathering to identify and examine all relevant material held by South Yorkshire Police and other bodies** to establish the nature, scale, and requirements of an NCA investigation.
- **Establishing a close working relationship with other bodies appointed to investigate related matters** within Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire and South Yorkshire Police to ensure that any allegations of criminal activity are referred to the NCA for consideration of investigation. (Stovewood is *not* responsible for investigating allegations of misconduct,)
- **To identify any current risk of harm** to members of the public and take any immediate additional actions to reduce such risk in conjunction with South Yorkshire Police and others.
- **To identify and secure any further potential evidence** to assist with any current or future investigation.

Stage Two includes:

Subject to any additional needs identified during stage one, Operation Stovewood will conduct a criminal investigation into on-familial child sexual exploitation (CSE) in Rotherham between 1997 and 2013. This will focus on:

- The investigation of outstanding offenders with the aim of bringing them to justice or subjecting them to other interventions.
- The needs of victims and witnesses, in conjunction with other public services and charities, to ensure that they have confidence to come forward with information or to report crimes and are appropriately supported at all times.
- Any other criminal matters not identified in the Jay report but that fall within the report's timeframe and geographic span and which have come to light via other sources or investigations, for example from the Home Affairs Select Committee,

in circumstances where there has not already been an appropriate investigation, prosecution or effective disruption.