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**Coventry City Council**

**Child Sexual Exploitation**

**Practitioners Tool Kit**



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# Introduction

Dealing with child sexual exploitation is a multi-agency activity. Sexual exploitation of children and young people has been identified throughout the UK, in both rural and urban areas, and in all parts of the world.

It affects boys and young men as well as girls and young women. It is a form of sexual abuse and can have a serious impact on every aspect of the lives of the children involved. Whilst it is not known how prevalent sexual exploitation is, it has become increasingly recognisable as practitioners gain more understanding of grooming and other methods of sexual exploitation and begin to take a proactive and coordinated approach to deal with it.

This tool kit provides guidance and resources to professionals to support their work in supporting young people, who are at risk of being exploited and their parents / carers

This document is for all professionals in Coventry working with children, young people or families to enable them to:

* Be aware of the risk indicators of child exploitation;
* Be able to consistently assess a child or young person’s level of risk of child sexual exploitation;
* Ensure a shared understanding of the CSE model in the West Midlands; and
* Ensure that each a child, young person or family can accesses the right service at the right time.

# Definition

This tool kit uses the following description of child sexual exploitation

*Sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of performing, and/or others performing on them, sexual activities. Child sexual exploitation can occur through use of technology without the child's immediate recognition, for example the persuasion to post sexual images on the internet/mobile phones with no immediate payment or gain. In all cases those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources. Violence, coercion and intimidation are common, involvement in exploitative relationship being characterised in the main by the child or young person's limited availability of choice resulting from their social/economic and/or emotional vulnerability."*

The National Working Group for Sexually Exploited Children and Young People 2008

# Who is this toolkit for?

This toolkit is for **all professionals** who work with children and young people who are at risk of, or who are being sexually exploited and should be used alongside the West Midlands Safeguarding Children and Young People from Child Sexual Exploitation: [West Midlands Metropolitan Area Child Sexual Exploitation Procedures](http://www.local.gov.uk/documents/10180/6894592/West+Midlands+CSE+Regional+Framework_with+appendices+for+case+study+page.pdf/7159e5e7-d5ae-4148-865c-e56316347476)

Important points to remember when assessing CSE;

* Both girls and boys can be victims of child sexual exploitation and can be equally vulnerable.
* The coercers and perpetrators are usually an adult, but can be children and young people in a position of power of either gender.
* Young people may exchange or sell sex as a result of constrained choices such as poverty, isolation and historic abuse.
* Parents/carers may be involved in the sexual exploitation of their children, or fail to prevent/protect from it.
* Groups of children and young people and multiple perpetrators may be involved (organised abuse).
* No child under 13 years can be assessed as Low Risk if behaviours indicate involvement in CSE.
* Children and young people with additional needs require special consideration up to the age of 21 years.
* No child with a learning disability will be assessed as Low Risk if behaviours indicate involvement in or risk of CSE.

Professionals need to be mindful that disclosure of information by the young person may take time and evident risks may only emerge during on-going assessment, support and interventions with the young person and/or their family.

Whilst this tool kit covers young people up until the age of 18 it is important to note that any young person who has been subject to a complex pattern of life experiences including sophisticated grooming processes that have brought them to a point where they are at risk of, or are abused through CSE does not stop needing support and protection when they reach the age of 18, they remain a vulnerable young person with on-going needs.

A person's vulnerability will depend on their circumstances and environment, and each case must be judged on its own merits and support offered as appropriate by the relevant agencies.

# Young people aged 18 years and over

Where a young person has a learning disability and is entitled to receive support via adult services, transition arrangements should take account of any risk to, history of or current abuse through CSE.

To come within adult safeguarding, young people aged 18 onwards would have to be classed as a ‘vulnerable adult’ or ‘adult at risk’.

The definition in the new Care Act from 1st April 2015 is an adult who:

(a) Has needs for care and support (whether or not the authority is meeting any of those needs),

(b) Is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect, and

(c) As a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

Whilst CSE is not specifically mentioned as a category of abuse, the guidance does recognise ‘serial abuse’ in which the perpetrator seeks out and ‘grooms’ individuals and sees this as a type of sexual abuse.

Children’s services should ensure that they draw any specific needs in relation to the young person’s on-going safety and protection to the attention of colleagues in adult services to enable on-going care plans to reflect these specific needs. Adult safeguarding services should **always** be notified of concerns.

# Young people aged 18 years and over entitled to After-Care Services

In addition to the provisions for vulnerable adults, where a young person is entitled to receive services under the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 the pathway planning process should specifically identify any vulnerability to CSE.

The plan should also address the factors known to impede successful recovery from CSE e.g. homelessness, poverty, lack of educational and employment opportunities and lack of supportive social contacts.

# The role of the Child Sexual Exploitation Team in Coventry

In Coventry we aim to tackle child exploitation by focusing on prevention, making sure that we educate children, parents and others to enable early intervention and prevention and disruption of activity.

The team will work to the Coventry Safeguarding Children’s Board strategy and action plan for children and young people who are missing, at risk of or experiencing sexual exploitation and to do this by

* Reducing young people’s vulnerability
* Improving their resilience
* Disrupting and preventing the activities of perpetrators
* Reducing tolerance of exploitative behaviour and
* Prosecuting abusers

(Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation – Government Guidance 2009)

The CSE team will assist in safeguarding children and young people by supporting the gathering of evidence to increase the chance of successful criminal prosecutions; they will develop knowledge and intellectual understanding of this area of work and disseminate this to partner agencies

They will research and develop areas of work in the City for example how we build relationships and support and educate families from ethnic minority communities around child sexual exploitation and ensure that young people from groups are equally protected and will the appropriate to pursue the action required

The team will work alongside social workers supporting them in the work they do, building and developing specialist skills with the aim of becoming a centre of excellence and achieving a reduction in the number of children being exploited in the city.

A worker within the team will work on a one to one basis with the young person identified as being at medium or high risk of sexual exploitation. The team will build trust with young people to enable disclosures, supporting the police in prosecutions and preventing others from being sexually exploited

The team will not just focus on child sexual exploitation but will support other areas that link into this agenda for example online abuse, guns and gangs, and trafficking.

# The Child Sexual Exploitation Team

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Roles and responsibilities** | Full Time Equivalent Staff |
| **Service Manager Child Sexual Exploitation and MASH**  Management oversight of Social Care practices and young people’s welfare and strategic involvement in the development of the service | 0.5 |
| **Team Manager CSE** | 1 |
| **Police**  In addition there is a CSE Investigation Team compromising of 4 officers | 1 |
| **Senior Practitioner** | 1 |
| **Social Workers**  Supporting interventions with young people and their families identified as being at risk of or who are sexually exploited | 2 |
| **Children and Families Worker**  Assessment and support of children and young people who are at risk of or being exploited who require outreach support | 2 |
| **Youth Worker**  (With the team having the additional support from the Vulnerable Young People’s team which includes two teams of Detached Youth Workers.) | 2 |
| **Health Worker (to be appointed)** | 1 |
| **Data Analyst**  Collating, sharing and mapping data to improve the knowledge of the prevalence of running away and CSE and gain a more accurate understanding of what is going on in the city. | 0.5 |
| **CSE co-ordinator** | 1 |

The CSE Team will:

Provide support when risk or concerns arise in relation to children in need, child protection or children looked after, giving specialist advice to the neighbourhood social worker and co-working a case to undertake a specific piece of interventions work. All cases that the team are involved with must be open to a social work team. At all times the workers will be allocated as co-workers. Key working responsibilities will always remain within the operational social work team.

If social care thresholds are not met and support is offered via Children and Families First; the team will provide consultation, advice and guidance around methods of intervention to work towards ensuring that risks do not escalate.

Work closely alongside teams/ projects concerned with children and young people who go missing from home, education or care and those at risk of or affected by Child Sexual Exploitation

Be trained in **and** conduct Achieving Best Evidence Interviews.

Work closely alongside other statutory and voluntary agencies that are supporting the runaway / child sexual exploitation agenda including Police/YOS / Health / Education /Probation

Look at direct work strategies, group work strategies, volunteers/ buddies to support young people who are deemed vulnerable to provide alternative support systems, how social media may be able to support the agenda, putting in place bespoke packages of support and deliver these in accordance to the assessed needs to improve the outcomes for a young person.

Attend complex strategy meetings /MASE meetings. Initial MASE meetings will be chaired by the Team Manager of the CSE team.

Contribute to training modules and prevention of Child Sexual Exploitation in Coventry

Ensure that they work with agencies that support hard to reach communities where international trafficking may be more prevalent

Support parents of young people at risk by offering advice through support groups etc.

Help raise awareness of child sexual exploitation in the city by developing and disseminating resources and consult with children and young people around the development of child sexual exploitation resources

Use of social media, community events, working alongside other agencies to “get the message out “

# Identification of Concerns

The Assessment Framework Triangle shown below will assist professionals in identifying areas of need or welfare concerns. Strengths as well as the needs or risk need to be noted so that multi-agency resources can be directed appropriately.

Figure



The Indicators of Need (fig 2.page 10) are a guide for all professionals to assist them in responding to concerns about CSE in a consistent manner so that screening and referrals are made and progressed appropriately. This model does not replace the local framework for identifying children in need and in need of protection as outlined in [Working Together](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/419595/Working_Together_to_Safeguard_Children.pdf) [2015].

In all cases, the earlier the intervention the better the chances of success in preventing children becoming involved in CSE, safeguarding children who are already involved, and disrupting the activities of offenders.

***Note that the Indicators of need listed are the most common indicators of CSE, but the list is not exhaustive, and this is a guide only***

***Other factors may be significant in individual cases and issues that are separate from CSE may be aggravating factors.***

# Indicators of Need for Children & Young People

***Important points to remember when assessing risk of CSE:***

* Both girls and boys are at risk of CSE.
* No child under the age of 13 should be considered in the ‘vulnerable’ category if there are indicators of CSE.
* No young person with learning disabilities should be considered in the ‘vulnerable’ category if there are indicators of CSE.
* Abusers can be of either gender.
* Abusers are often adults but can be children and young people, and their needs should be considered separately.
* Children and young people are often loyal to their abuser despite the abuse they may experience.
* Disclosure of information by the young person may take time and risks may only emerge during on-going assessment, support or intervention.

# Legal Age of Consent

The fact that a child or young person is 16 or 17 years old and has reached the legal age of being able to consent to sex, should not be taken as a sign that they are not at risk of sexual exploitation. These young people are still defined as children under the Children Acts of 1989 and 2004 respectively. They can still suffer significant harm as a result of sexual exploitation and their right to support and protection from harm should not be ignored or de-prioritised by services because they are over the age of 16, or are no longer in mainstream education or training.

Young people, under 18, especially girls, can be located in brothels and massage parlours and they may hold fake identification. Where a young person is found in this situation, steps should be taken to establish the validity of their identification and assess their age, and services should always consider what action

Figure 2 – Levels of Need

| **Category 1**  **Life Chances MAY be impaired without services** | **Category 2**  **Life Chances WILL be impaired without Services** | **Category 3**  **Risk of Significant Harm** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * Regularly coming home late or going missing * History of abuse (including familial child sexual abuse, physical, emotional abuse and neglect) * Staying out overnight with no explanation * Overt sexualised dress * Sexualised risk taking including on the internet * Associating with unknown adults * Reduced contact with family, friends and other support networks * Experimenting with drugs and/or alcohol * Changes to usual pattern of social media use * Poor self-image * Eating disorders * Superficial self-harm * Expressions of despair * Attendance at GUM Clinic * Being seen in CSE hotspots - known houses or recruiting grounds * Non school attendance or exclusion * Breakdown of residential placement due to behaviour (Looked After Children) * Repeat offending * Increasingly disruptive, hostile or physically aggressive behaviour at home or school, including the use of sexualised language * Child is a migrant, a refugee or an asylum seeker * Unsure about their sexual orientation | * Getting into vehicles with known or unknown adults * Associating with adults known to be linked to CSE * Associating with other young people at risk of sexual exploitation or those known to be exploited * Disclosure and/or withdrawal of a complaint of physical assault, with no substantiating evidence * Reports of being involved in CSE through being seen at hotspots * Adult ‘boyfriend/girlfriend’ * Unaccounted for money or goods, for example mobile phones, drugs and alcohol. Includes having multiple phones, SIM cards. * Multiple phone callers, use of phone that causes concern * Sexually transmitted infections * Previous victim of sexual abuse * Association with gangs or constrained by rules of gangs * Concealed/concerning use of the internet including web cam, online gaming and chat-rooms. * Evidence of sexual bullying/vulnerability through the internet and or social media sites * Marks, scars or physical injuries on the body that they try to conceal * Missing/Excluded from school * Breakdown of residential placements | * Rape * Child under 13 years old engaging in sexual activity * Pattern of street homelessness and staying with an adult believed to be sexual exploited them * Child under 18 meeting different adults and exchanging or selling sexual activity * Being taken to clubs and hotels by adults and engaging in sexual activity * Disclosure of serious sexual assault and/or withdrawal of statement * Abduction and forced imprisonment * Being moved around for sexual activity * Disappearing from the system with no contact or support and pre-existing CSE concerns * Being bought/sold/trafficked * Multiple miscarriages or terminations * Indicators of CSE with chronic alcohol and drug use * Indicators of CSE with serious self-harming * Evidence of internet exploitation, for example exchanging of images * Offering to have sex for money or other payment and then running before sex takes place (‘Clipping’) * Gang member or association with gangs * Receiving rewards of money or goods for recruiting peers into CSE * Risk of HBV/Forced marriage * Removed from Red Light areas by professionals |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category 1**  **(at risk of harm)** | **Category 2**  **(significant risk of harm)** | **Category 3**  **(serious risk of harm)** |
| **Child’s needs may require additional support to prevent more complex issues arising from the unmet needs in the future** | **Child’s needs are multiple and may require statutory interventions from multiple agencies to ensure needs are met and positive outcomes are achieved** | **Child’s needs are immediate needing an urgent response to ensure safety and protection** |
| **Children who are identified as at possible risk of being exploited; children who are vulnerable to CSE screening tool to be completed and sent to MASH** | **Children who are at risk of CSE; Children displaying a number of vulnerable and/or complex indicators** | **Children at risk of significant harm through CSE; Looked After Children; trafficked and unaccompanied children where risk indicators are identified; children known to associate with groups and gangs** |
| **Family CAF; Team around the Family; Statutory assessments; Advocacy** | **The Framework for the Assessment of Children and their families; Multi-Agency Referral via Screening Tool to be completed (WMP will record details on CRIMES); Individual agency assessments; Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation Meeting (MASE);**  **Graded Care Profile; Advocacy** | **Framework for the Assessment of Children and their families; Child Protection investigations (S47); Specialist Assessments, ; Multi Agency CSE (MASE) & CSE Missing Operational Group (CMOG); Legal Framework** |
| **Education; Integrated Youth Support Service; Learning Support Service; Social Care: CAMHS, Barnardo’s, Victim Support** | **Social Care; Education; CAMHS; Police; Health; Probation; Integrated Youth Support Service; Education Welfare Officers, Barnardo's, Victim Support** | **CAFCASS and Courts; Social Care; Police; Health; Education; CAMHS, Barnardo’s, Childrens Society, Victim Support, PACE, ISVA, Youth Offending Service, LA Commissioning/Placements,** |
| **Educate to stay safe**  **Risk awareness raising**  **Provision of child/family support**  **Collate & share information and intelligence**  **Monitor changes in vulnerability** | **MASE Meeting & coherent understanding of risk. Programme of Prevention/Protection/Intervention/Support & Disruption Plan should be agreed and implemented to provide tools to address risk awareness, staying safe and encourage self-protection.**  **Home debriefs of Missing episodes to be completed by 3rd sector**  **Disruption tactics to be considered/civil and criminal proceedings to disrupt perpetrators**  **Regular review of risk to prevent escalation**  **Case should be reviewed by CSE & Missing Operational Group (CMOG)** | **MASE Meeting & coherent partnership understanding of risk**  **Joint investigation by Police and CSC WILL be required**  **Use Risk Assessment toolkit to update initial /core assessments**  **Prevention/Protection/Intervention/Support & Disruption Plan MUST Be agreed and implemented incorporating long-term intensive direct work**  **Home debriefs of Missing episodes to be completed by 3rd sector**  **Abduction Warning Notices Served where possible**  **Secure & Preserve all available evidential material**  **Consider Health & CSC Risk Alerts**  **Cross reference links to other safeguarding issues (Teenage pregnancy, issuing, domestic abuse, trafficking). Harm reduction/detox intervention**  **Consult with UKHTC and or UKBA**  **Referral to National Referral Mechanism (NRM)**  **Case should be reviewed by CSE & Missing Operational Group (CMOG)** |

Figure 3 Levels of interventions

# Child Sexual Exploitation Pathway

The child sexual exploitation team will play a central role in in the collation of information relating to sexual exploitation, therefore should be informed of any young person considered to be sexually exploited and those children at risk of being sexually exploited and any adult considered to be a risk to young people in regard to sexual exploitation

# Professional response

Professionals in all agencies should be alert to the possibility that a child they are in contact with may be being sexually exploited. The professional may already have concerns about the child e.g. that s/he is missing school, frequently missing from home, misusing substances, is depressed, their behaviour has deteriorated or self-harming etc.

The professional should discuss their concerns with their agency's designated safeguarding adviser and, together, they should complete the CSE Screening Tool to make an assessment of risk of harm to the child.

In cases where a child is considered to be at risk of harm (Category 1), a plan for focused early intervention and diversion should be made to safeguard the child. Agencies should consider, in discussion with the designated safeguarding adviser, the extent to which the agency is able to meet the child's needs themselves as a single agency, and how to proceed if not then advice can be sought from the CSE team.

In cases where the risk is considered to be Significant Risk of Harm or Serious Risk of Harm (Category 2 and 3), the professional and/or their designated safeguarding adviser should make a referral to Children's Social Care in accordance with the Referrals Procedure.

# Child Sexual Exploitation Screening Tool

The purpose of the screening tool (Appendix) is to enable professionals to assess a child’s level of risk of child sexual exploitation (CSE) in a quick and consistent manner. The screening tool can be applied to all children (male and female) under the age of 18 years.

Guidance on the use of the screening tool.

1. Completion of the Screening Tool: (Appendix 1) by the professional identifying the concerns should involve liaison with other agencies to ensure that there is multi-agency information sharing and support. Whilst all professionals can screen for CSE, any screening not completed by a Social Worker will be subject of further screening by a Social Worker.

2. The screening tool is intended to assist the exercise of professional judgment by assisting professionals to consider the risk of harm to a child. Professionals are encouraged to go beyond the child’s presenting behaviour e.g. missing episodes and to explore what else might be going on for this child/young person.

3. Early intervention improves the chances of positive outcomes. One indicator is unlikely to require Children’s Social Services or specialist services intervention unless it is a Significant Risk category, but will require some preventative work to be done. Any young person considered at risk should have a plan of intervention which identifies strategies for reducing / removing the risk (CSE Pathway Guidance –appendix 2)

4. Assessing or screening for child sexual exploitation should not be seen as a one off event. Young people can move very quickly between the risk categories, therefore regular assessment should be undertaken using the Screening Tool (Appendix 1). Any escalation of risk should be dealt with in accordance with [Coventry LSCB procedures](http://www.coventrylscb.org.uk/index.htm).

5. Where risk is assessed as category 2 or 3, then a referral must be made to Children’s Social Services via the Referral Procedures or the allocated Social Worker where the child is already known.

6. The level of intervention required depends on the assessed level of risk.

7. Disruption and prosecution of perpetrator/s is also of significant importance therefore, any information which comes to light about the victim/s or perpetrator/s (however insignificant this may seem) should be passed on to the Police via 5x5x5 (See appendix 3). Parents and carers should be encouraged to also gather information to assist in prosecution (see appendix 4)

# MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub)

The aim of the MASH is to bring together key professionals to facilitate early, better quality information sharing, analysis and decision-making to deliver the best possible outcomes for children, young people and families across the city.

As a result, decisions will be made quickly and support will be targeted on the most urgent cases. Better co-ordination between agencies will also lead to an improved service for children and their families, better risk management and mitigation.

The MASH comprises of a team of co-located professionals from a range of agencies, including West Midlands Police, Health, Education, Community Safety, Probation and Children’s Services.

The co-located multi agency team is based centrally and serves the whole city. It will operate efficiently and effectively to deliver the best possible outcomes for children, young people and families across the city. In particular to ensure:

* children are better protected from harm and risk is minimised;
* safeguarding concerns about vulnerable children and adults are faster, more co-ordinated and consistent;
* an improved ‘journey’ for the child with a greater emphasis on early intervention and better informed services that are provided at the right time;
* a better understanding of potential vulnerability, enabling more preventative action to be taken, dealing with earlier cases before they escalate;
* closer partnership working with clearer accountability, more effective use of resources, better planning and delivery and less duplication of effort;
* a reduction in the number of children inappropriately accessing costly services from social care, the Police, Health and others;
* a reduction in the number of inappropriate and repeat referrals
* An agreed set of outcomes, measures and supporting key performance indicators.

# Operating Principles

In delivering this the MASH will:

* be child focused and design any new system around this
* focus on the outcome – keeping children safe;
* ensure all partners are working towards common goals;
* maintain momentum and avoid delays at all costs;
* have awareness of prejudice – be willing to look at things differently;
* be open to challenge, persistent and honest;
* clarify roles, responsibilities and who leads on what;
* assess risks effectively and focus on priorities;
* work across services boundaries acting as one team;
* recognise that no one knows everything and that there is expertise across all agencies;
* have a ‘can do’ philosophy;
* not take information at face value but dare to question and listen, and
* Use resources effectively and achieve economies of scale where possible.

The MASH will receive all new referrals in relation to children and young people that may be at risk of child sexual exploitation and will screen them in accordance to MASH process. Any referral into the MASH should include the screening tool from the agency

# Coventry CSE Multi-Agency Referral Pathway

Whilst each local area will have its own referral processes, it is important that anybody who has concerns about a child in their care should ensure that as much detail as possible is gathered, including what warning signs are identified. The local LSCB and multi-agency referral protocols and pathways should always be followed.

***Regional CSE Screening Tool***

Professionals in all agencies working with children and young people should be alert to the possibility that a child/young person for whom they have concerns may be at risk of being sexually exploited. They should discuss their concerns with their agency’s designated safeguarding advisor and they should use the CSE Screening Tool to inform their assessment about the risk of harm to the child/young person. They also need to understand how the three categories of risk ‘map across’ to the local multi-agency threshold guidance and the levels of need in that guidance.

The screening tool groups indicators of risk of harm into 3 categories:

* **Category 1 (at risk of harm):** a child who is at risk of being groomed for sexual exploitation.
* **Category 2 (significant risk of harm):** a child who is targeted for abuse through the exchange of sex for affection, drugs, accommodation and goods etc. The likelihood of coercion and control is significant.
* **Category 3 (serious risk of harm):** a child who is entrenched in sexual exploitation, but often does not recognise or self denies the nature of their abuse and where coercion/control is implicit.

The screening and risk assessment tools need to be used flexibly to take account of each child’s individuality, the uniqueness of his/her circumstances and the changes that may occur for him/her over time. Whilst the tools provide a range of risks that need to be considered and questions that should be asked, this doesn’t replace or minimise the importance of professional judgment and the voice of the child.

The regional pathway is set out below:

**CSE & Missing Regional Pathway**

CSE Concern/ Indicator/ Vulnerability

Non-Police Complete regional CSE screening tool

Police Complete regional screening tool

**Open Case**

CRU

Social workers completed assessments including CSE Specialist risk assessment

AT RISK OF HARM

MASH/Social Care ‘front door’

AT RISK OF HARM

SIGNIFICANT RISK/HARM

SERIOUS RISK/HARM

SIGNIFICANT RISK/HARM

SERIOUS RISK/HARM

* Allocated social worker completes specialist CSE screening tool.
* Arranges relevant multi agency meeting to integrate activity to address CSE and disrupt perpetrators into existing Child’s Plan.
* Provide work to educate about risk, consent and abuse.
* Share intelligence with Police as appropriate.
* Advise CSE Coordinator/Team.

YES

NO

Concerns about actual likelihood of CSE

Concerns about vulnerability to being groomed/targeted for CSE

* CP conference (CP Plan)
* MASE Meeting (CSE Plan)
* CIN Plan

Regular review and evaluation of impact and ongoing sharing of intelligence with West Midlands Police

Figure : Referrals to CSE Team for cases currently open to CSC

A professional or member of the public has a CSE concern

Information is passed to the allocated Social Worker

On-going concerns

Immediate safeguarding concerns

Allocated Social Worker to convene a Strategy Discussion or MASE Meeting depending on level of risk and invite CSE Team

Contact CSE Team/ ensure Screening Tool is completed

CSE Team co-work and carry out a risk assessment if relevant

Category 3

Category 2

Category 1

CSE Team inform allocated Social Worker

CIN Plan/ NFA as per assessment

Agree plan for intervention with clear remit for CSE Team

CSE Team to provide package of support to reduce risk

Close to CSE Team

# Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE)

A MASE meeting is a forum to share and clarify information, establish risk, consider disruption and develop a multi-agency safeguarding and support plan to meet a young person’s needs (including support for parents/ carers) who are at risk of sexual exploitation and work towards a recovery strategy

The child’s interests are kept as top priority, and their involvement ensures that they have a say in how they are being protected and cared for, acknowledging they need to be informed of any issues that affect them throughout.

It also ensures that families and carers who can safeguard and support a child or young person who is at risk of, or is being sexually exploited are involved in the planning and can see the support that is being offered; support is delivered through a partnership approach.

The meeting will complement and enhance the current process for supporting young people focusing on the child sexual exploitation and building resilience.

Where appropriate, the MASE can be combined with the TAF (Team Around the Family) meeting/care planning meeting or initial or child protection case conference.

Where the child/young person is looked after, CSE should be part of the child/young person’s care planning process/reviews.

Critically there should only ever be one plan for the child/young person, which encompasses all of the relevant requirements/actions/interventions and desired outcomes and which is then regularly reviewed by the MASE/relevant multi-agency review meetings working closely together.

The MASE meeting should conduct focused discussions for each case concentrating on:

* Whether the child is a child in need of early help (when CAF or TAF process is required), is a child in need (Section 17) and/or is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm (Section 47)
* Ensuring that a multi-agency assessment of need (i.e. CAF, a child in need assessment or child/young person in need single assessment) has been or will be carried out, involving the young person and their family to inform the plans for working with the child/young person, their family or primary carers. These plans can either be a YOS Plan, and Child in Need Plan or Child Protection Plan going forward.
* Ensuring that the child/young person has been spoken to alone and their views and desired outcomes are recorded.
* Ensuring that the child/young person’s family have been engaged and their views, strengths and support needs taken into account.
* Sharing and clarifying information in order to complete the CSE risk assessment
* Analysing their needs and/or the nature and level of any risk and harm being suffered.
* Understanding risk for any other children, including siblings.
* Sharing information pertaining to a suspected perpetrator(s).
* Considering all possible powers and options to protect the victim and disrupt the offenders.
* Consider a referral using the National Referral Mechanism in cases where a child/young person may have been trafficked.
* Ensuring a multi-agency plan is in place which provides support to address the child/young person’s needs to improve the child’s outcomes to make them safe.
* Co-ordinating actions, where appropriate, with other processes such as MARAC and MAPPA

The outcome of the meeting may be that:

* The young person and family can be supported through Early Help services.
* The young person may be supported through a Child in Need Plan.
* There is a need to invoke Child Protection procedures or review the existing Child Protection Plan.
* There is a need to review and change the existing Care Plan.
* There is a possibility of criminal action against an adult.
* Co-ordinated multi-agency support is required to support and divert the child from involvement in sexual exploitation, this will be outlined in a plan/or added to existing plans with clear lead officers and timescales.
* There is insufficient information at this stage, but concerns remain, interim action needs to be taken and further assessment is required.

***All outcomes, context, plans, interventions and their rationale of case management meetings must be clearly recorded on the child/young persons’ file.***

In every case, the local Threshold Guidance should be followed and the relevant pathways to assess, plan and intervene agreed. All the professionals involved with and working with the child/young person should have a very clear understanding of the pathways, processes and plans being made.

If a decision is made during the MASE meeting that a Section 47 Enquiry should be initiated, then the status of the meeting should change to that of a Strategy Discussion and as above, local pathways should be clear and the statutory process will take on the responsibility for managing and assessing the CSE risks.

The CSE Team Manager, or a dedicated worker from the CSE team, should attend or advise any of the relevant multi-agency case management meetings, in particular prioritising child protection case conferences and care planning meetings for children in care.

The Child’s Plan must set out which agencies will provide services to the child and family, what direct work or interventions will be used, how and with whom and should set clear measurable outcomes for the child and their parents/carers and for those professionals involved. The aim should always be to give children/young people, their parents and carers, the skills knowledge and ability to manage on their own or to cope with support. The plan should reflect the positive aspects of the family situation as well as any areas of concern.

All information from MASE meetings should be co-ordinated and analysed by the CSE Team Manager and considered/updated in relevant forums.

A template Terms of Reference for a MASE is attached at [**Appendix 5**](file:///C:\Users\cvjsk170\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\Z25Y1VBX\150416%20clean%20amended%204th%20October%202015%20v%202%20(2).docx#_Appendix_5_–).

**Children & Young People Known to the Local Authority Children’s Services**

In any case where a child or young person known to Children’s Services or where a referral is being made presents signs of CSE, the screening tool should be completed by the allocated Social Worker and also the CSE Team Manager should be advised.

Children’s Services should screen children and young people for whom there are concerns for CSE to support prevention and early identification. If the outcome of the screening tool is that the child or young person is considered to be at risk of CSE, the allocated Social Worker, in conjunction with other professionals working with the child/young person, should consider who can provide the intervention to enable the child to self-manage and avoid risky behaviours and individuals. The agreed intervention should be included in the existing child’s plan and reviewed through the relevant review process.

If the outcome of the screening tool is that the child/young person is considered to be likely to suffer significant harm from CSE, the assessment should be updated through the completion of the CSE Risk Assessment Tool [**Appendix 7**](file:///C:\Users\cvjsk170\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\Z25Y1VBX\150416%20clean%20amended%204th%20October%202015%20v%202%20(2).docx#_Appendix_7_–). In cases where the updated assessment by Children’s Services identifies that the child is being sexually exploited, a multi-agency meeting should be convened under the appropriate statutory review process, including the CSE Team Manager and actions agreed to support the child’s safety and wellbeing. The meeting should seek to facilitate the same discussions and outcomes as a MASE meeting.

The child’s plan should continue to be reviewed and revised in accordance with the relevant review process to support the child/young person’s safety and wellbeing. As appropriate, parents/carers should be included as key partners in the child’s plan including being asked to report the child missing from home and record any information that would support a future prosecution, in particular the report of an Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA)

**Children Looked After**

In any case where a child or young person who is looked after presents with signs of CSE, the CSE screening tool should be completed by the allocated Social Worker and the CSE Team Manager should also be advised. Where children in care go missing or exhibit other concerning behaviour, they should be screened for CSE and other concerns.

If the outcome of the screening tool is that the child/young person is considered to be at risk of CSE, the allocated Social Worker in conjunction with other professionals working with the child/young person, should consider who can provide interventions to enable the child to recognise and avoid risky behaviours and individuals. The agreed intervention should be included in the existing child’s plan and reviewed through the relevant statutory review process. The CSE Team Manager should be included in the review process.

If the outcome of the screening tool is that the child/young person is considered to be likely to suffer significant harm from sexual exploitation, the child’s assessment should be updated through the completion of the CSE risk assessment tool.

In cases where the updated assessment by Children’s Services identifies that a looked after child is being sexually exploited, a multi-agency meeting should be convened and actions agreed to support the child’s safety and wellbeing. The meeting can be Chaired by a Children’s Services Manager, the CSE Team Manager, or if it is being carried out as part of the statutory review process, it should be Chaired by the child’s Independent Reviewing Officer.

The CSE Team Manager should be part of the statutory review process. The agreed actions should be incorporated into the Child’s Care Plan. The meeting should seek to facilitate the same discussions and outcomes as a MASE meeting.

The same procedures as above should be followed in cases where young people in the Route 21 team are considered to be at significant risk of harm or serious risk of harm of abuse from sexual exploitation.

In summary, where children are known to Social Care, CSE should be assessed alongside other risks as part of the statutory review process. The risks from CSE and missing should be embedded in existing assessment processes, children in need and care planning processes.

**New Referrals**

MASE meetings, for all new referrals into social care where CSE has been indicated, will be chaired by the CSE Team Manager and take place within 15 working days of the referral to Children’s Social Care.

The initial agenda for a MASE Meeting provides a format for the meeting and the record of the meeting will constitute a record of attendees, the completed specialist CSE risk assessment and

the safeguarding and support plan and will follow the regional process.

Attendance at the meeting of the child and their family should always be promoted so long as attendance will not compromise the child's safety or the progress of an investigation. The final decision should be taken by the CSE Team manager in discussion with the Social Work Manager for the child's case

This decision should be clearly recorded on the child's case file. It may be that in order to promote the discussion of personal, sensitive data in respect of the child, young person or adults that there will be a need for part of the meeting to be ‘closed’ to the child and family.

Any professional attending the meeting can request a ‘closed access’ section of the meeting and the Chairperson will make the decision and explain to the child and family the reasons for any closed access section of the meeting.

**MASE meetings will:**

* Involve the child or young person and his/her carers in the meeting.
* Treat the child or young person primarily as a victim of abuse
* Focus on issues relating to sexual exploitation
* Consider the risk and vulnerability factors as well as protective factors to judge the level and detail of the risk to the child or young person
* Consider information in relation to alleged perpetrators
* Plan the detail of the interventions, including direct work with the child or young person and their family, using the risk assessment toolkit guidance detailed below.
* Consider the feasibility and progression of prosecution against the perpetrators.
* Plan disruption strategies that can be employed.
* Set the date for the CSE review.

# Child Sexual Exploitation Risk Assessment Tool

[West Midlands Metropolitan Area Child Sexual Exploitation Framework](http://www.local.gov.uk/documents/10180/6894592/West+Midlands+CSE+Regional+Framework_with+appendices+for+case+study+page.pdf/7159e5e7-d5ae-4148-865c-e56316347476)

In addition to any assessments undertaken on children who are at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation all children will have a specific risk assessment completed. (See appendix 5) This will be completed in general within a strategy or MASE meeting or before if needed.

The risk assessment is multi-agency in nature and all agencies as far as possible should contribute information and professional analysis as appropriate and where possible, but will be completed by a CSE worker.

Each assessment must include management oversight and comments by the Child Sexual Exploitation team and Police

The assessment is stored on the child’s electronic file and the risk level is retained on police records

**When the risk assessment should be used**

All new referrals received where there are concerns of Child Sexual Exploitation (category 2 or 3)

and there has been a MASE will have a CSE risk assessment completed.

The risk assessment should be completed during the MASE/strategy meeting and is detailed and reflects the level of risk **and the Police must provide an input into the Risk Assessments**

Risk assessments will be subject of regular reviews alongside reviews of safety plans / disruption plans and based on individual needs of child and level of risk

All risk assessments will be followed with a safety plan (see appendix 7)

The level of risk to the young person will be determined by the MASE/strategy meeting (i.e. category 1, 2 or 3) and is based on professional judgement

All CSE Risk Assessments should be multi-agency in nature and should as a minimum include the CSE Social Care Team, Police and CSE Health Worker. Other organisations such as Barnardo’s and Education and Placement providers should either be directly involved or contribute information and professional analysis as appropriate depending on the status of the young person.

Each assessment includes management oversight and comments by the CSE Team Manager and Detective Sergeant who will ensure that the outcome of the Risk Assessment is recorded on CRIMES and IMS Police records.

Monthly audits to dip sample CSE Risk Assessments will take place to ensure consistency and quality.

The CSE Risk Assessments should be stored on each child’s electronic social care file and the level of risk should be recorded on police record

**When the risk assessment should be used?**

All categories 2 or 3 received by the CSE team are subject to a CSE Risk Assessment.

If the referral is a S47 and CSE is the presenting issue, then the risk is automatically deemed **high** by virtue of the risk of significant harm as **high**.

On cases not considered to be presenting as S47 at initial referral stage, the CSE Team Manager and Police Sergeant in the CSE Team, using the CSE screening tool and indicators or need will determine the level of risk of the child at the MASE meeting.

The case is then allocated to the appropriate worker within the CSE team. It is the responsibility of the CSE Team’s allocated worker to undertake the CSE Risk Assessment.

# Children Looked After

When information is received suggesting that a looked after child may be being sexually exploited, the allocated social worker must inform their team manager and the CSE team.

A joint visit will be arranged between a worker from the CSE team and the child’s allocated social worker. This may result in the CSE Team worker providing additional support or a targeted piece of work as part of the child’s care plan but the child will remain allocated to their existing social worker.

Following this visit, the CSE Risk Assessment will be completed. Again, where there is an on-going Police Investigation or Police involvement, the CSE Risk Assessment should include their involvement and be stored on both Social care and the level of risk recorded on Police systems.

The allocated social worker remains responsible for the case

A multi-agency sexual exploitation meeting should be considered, in accordance with these procedures. Where a multi-agency sexual exploitation (MASE) meeting is convened, the child's independent reviewing officer should be invited to attend, if not part of reviewing process. In addition, the following factors should be taken into account:

* The risks to other children in the placement;
* Whether the child should remain in their present placement; and
* The feasibility of controlling the child's movements, and the likely effects of doing so.

A safeguarding and support plan should be drawn up, which will form part of the overall care plan for the child. The plan will continue to be reviewed by the looked after review process.

The MASE meeting should consider the appropriateness and method of informing the child's parents. If the child is accommodated under s20 of the Children Act 1989, this is a voluntary arrangement and the parent/s must be informed of all significant matters. During the MASE meeting consideration must be given to management of contact between the young person and family members/friends. If the child is subject to an Interim or Full Care Order, their parent/s should be informed of significant matters unless there is clear justification for not doing so: a decision not to inform them should be recorded on file, with reasons. Parents who have Parental Responsibility must be informed unless deemed not to be in the young person’s best interests

The child's social worker and the carer/s should put in place a written strategy which balances the need for assertive action and the need to avoid unduly increasing the likelihood of the child running away in response to the action being taken. Any consideration of restriction of liberty or confiscation of property needs to be agreed by the team or service manager responsible for the child's case and only in the event we have the appropriate Orders in place.

Active work should be undertaken with the child to address issues of their self-esteem, relationships, sexuality, sexual relationships and health.

Whether or not the child is moved from their placement, the other children in the placement should be monitored to identify whether they are also at risk of harm from, or are in some way supporting, the sexual exploitation.

If the child is in a residential unit, the staff should be asked to take positive action to clarify and record suspicions and minimise the child's involvement in sexual exploitation. If suspicions are confirmed, the following steps should be taken -

* Treat the child as a victim of exploitation, not as a criminal.
* Ensure that all relevant information is recorded in the child's care plan and file - concerning adults and identifying information (appearance, cars, telephone activity, the child's patterns of going missing etc.) together with decisions and clear directions for action.
* Make every effort to dissuade the child from leaving to engage in sexual exploitation by talking to them, involving them in alternative activities, and ensuring they have the resources to attend, including escorting where necessary.
* Offer advice about appropriate clothing.
* Ensure that the child is aware of the legal issues involved, including advice that staff cannot safeguard money which is reasonably suspected to have been gained through sexual exploitation. When staff do acquire such money, they must retain it and seek legal advice.
* Monitor telephone calls and letters by preventing the child from receiving some incoming calls, being present when phone calls are made, confiscating a mobile phone which is being used inappropriately, opening some letters in the presence of the child and withholding letters if necessary. Reasons for intercepting letters and calls should be included in the care plan;
* Monitor callers to the home, or adults collecting children by car. This will involve turning visitors away, supervising contact, passing information direct to the police, or monitoring any suspicious activity in the vicinity of the home and informing the police;
* Where the child leaves, staff will need to decide whether to follow them and continue to encourage them to return.
* If they will not return, staff should follow the local procedure for children who have gone missing from home or care.
* Liaise with outreach agencies, so they can look out for a child who has gone missing.
* Offer sensitive and welcoming responses to children returning home.

If the child is in foster care, the fostering link worker and foster carer will be invited to attend the MASE meeting or LAC Review where it will be explored what steps could reasonably be taken by the foster carer to minimise the child's involvement in sexual exploitation. Consideration will also be given to a review of the child's placement plan.

The child's behaviour and attitude may be extremely challenging, and carers and staff will require on-going support, advice and training in knowing how to respond. These needs must be considered and resources identified, either by the manager of the residential unit or the fostering link worker.

# Involvement of groups of children in care

Where there is knowledge or strong suspicion that children are involved in sexual exploitation together, or are being controlled by the same person, there will need to be additional planning, including consideration of the use of child protection procedures and/or Complex (Organised or Multiple) Abuse Procedure, where Safeguarding will lead on the process.

It will be essential to ensure that there are no inconsistencies between individual children's care plans. Where the placement is in the area of another authority, or children from other authorities are involved, that authority's duty manager must be contacted, to discuss which authority is to take overall responsibility for convening the meeting and co-ordinating the response.

# Leaving care / aftercare

The same procedures as above should be followed in cases where care leavers are considered to be at significant risk of harm or serious risk of harm of abuse through sexual exploitation.

The leaving care plan for any young person where there are concerns about sexual exploitation should specifically identify their vulnerability to sexual exploitation, and address the factors known to impede successful recovery from sexual exploitation (e.g. homelessness, poverty, lack of educational and employment opportunities and lack of supportive social contacts).

# Guidance on the use of some of the tools

When using the screening tool or risk assessment professionals need to remember that these are a guide and should assist the exercise of professional judgment.

Completion of the tools should always involve liaison with other agencies to ensure that there is multi-agency information sharing and support.

# Measuring Performance of effectiveness of interventions

* Increased awareness of risk/ protective behaviours
* Re-engaged in appropriate education provision
* Reduction in “missing” episodes
* Reduction in contact (frequency and duration) with coercive/abusive individuals
* Increased knowledge of positive sexual health behaviours
* Engagement (or increased engagement) in positive social/ recreational activities
* Improvement in family relationships
* Increased self-esteem (self-report: measured pre and post intervention)
* Disruption of perpetrators
* Investigation of perpetrators
* Increased parental awareness of risk/protective behaviours

In some cases, an additional outcome measure will be required:-

* Reduction in young person’s substance misuse

# Child Sexual Exploitation and Missing Operational Group (CMOG)

CMOG is a city wide group which is chaired by the lead Detective Inspector for Child Abuse in Coventry.

The sole purpose of CMOG is of directing medium and long term actions to safeguard, disrupt, and reduce opportunity for children to be harmed through sexual exploitation and missing episodes. CMOG terms of reference can be found in appendix 12.

# Information Sharing Protocol (see information sharing agreement)

Effective information sharing underpins integrated working and is a vital element of both early intervention and safeguarding. Each partner can hold different pieces of information which need to be placed together to enable a thorough assessment to be made.

# Child Sexual Exploitation Action and Delivery Plan

Across the West Midlands Local Safeguarding Children Boards are working together to combat Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).

In Coventry multi-agency action is delivered through a CSE Sub-Group responsible for implementation of the citywide strategy and operational delivery.

In March 2015 Coventry Safeguarding Children Board ratified the Child Sexual Exploitation Delivery Plan (appendix 10) and approved a range of measures to further strengthen partnership working across Coventry.

# Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Resources

This document provides information on CSE research and guidance; information for children and young people, parents and carers, and professionals; useful websites; and CSE projects and services.

**Research and guidance**

**I thought I was the only one. The only one in the world - the Office of the Children’s Commissioner’s inquiry into child sexual exploitation in gangs and groups (the Office of the Children’s Commissioner, November 2012).**

The report of the first year's findings of a two year inquiry into child sexual exploitation in gangs and groups.

<http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/content/publications/content_636>

**Tackling child sexual exploitation: helping local authorities to develop effective responses (Barnardo’s, June 2012).**

This practice briefing outlines the key components of effective local action on child sexual exploitation.

<http://www.barnardos.org.uk/tackling_child_sexual_exploitation.pdf>

**Tackling child sexual exploitation: action plan and progress report (DfE, 2011 and 2012).**

The action plan looks at sexual exploitation from the perspective of the child. It highlights areas where more needs to be done and sets out specific actions which government, local agencies and voluntary and community sector partners need to take to address this form of abuse.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tackling-child-sexual-exploitation-action-plan>

**Child sexual exploitation and the response to localised grooming (House of Commons Home Affairs Committee, June 2013).**

Localised grooming, for the purposes of this Report, is a model of child sexual exploitation in which a group of abusers target vulnerable children, including, but not confined to, those who are looked after by a local authority. <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmselect/cmhaff/68/68i.pdf>

**Puppet on a string: the urgent need to cut children free from sexual exploitation (Barnardo’s, January 2011).**

This report outlines what is known about the scale and nature of sexual exploitation across the UK and points to some worrying new trends identified by Barnardo's 22 specialist services.

<http://www.barnardos.org.uk/ctf_puppetonastring_report_final.pdf>

**Cutting them free: how is the UK progressing in protecting its children from sexual exploitation? (Barnardo's, 2012)**

Report setting out the progress of Barnardo's Cut Them Free campaign and presenting the findings from a survey of their services in the UK. Focuses on what is still needed to protect and support children and young people for sexual exploitation. Considers in detail how far the campaign calls have been met in England, following on from Puppet on a string (2011).

<http://www.barnardos.org.uk/cuttingthemfree.pdf>

**What's going on to safeguard children and young people from sexual exploitation?: how local partnerships respond to child sexual exploitation (University of Bedfordshire, October 2011).**

This report highlights the key principles involved in safeguarding young people from sexual exploitation and provides practical information on ways that may help to develop an effective strategy, drawn from interviews with practitioners.

<http://www.beds.ac.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/121873/wgoreport2011-121011.pdf>

**What’s going on to safeguard children and young people from sexual exploitation?: a self-assessment checklist (University of Bedfordshire October, 2011).**

‘Self-assessment tool’ to assess progress in protecting children from sexual exploitation.

<http://www.beds.ac.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/152179/Self-assessment-tool.pdf>

**Safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation: supplementary guidance to working together to safeguard children (DfE, August 2009).**

This guidance document sets out how organisations and individuals should work together to protect young people from sexual exploitation.

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130401151715/https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/eOrderingDownload/Safeguarding_CPY_from_sexual_exploitation.pdf>

**What to do if you suspect a child is being sexually exploited: a step-by-step guide for frontline practitioners (DfE, July 2012)**

This step-by-step guide was created to provide a short guide for practitioners to be read alongside the statutory guidance on safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation from 2009. It outlines the minimum actions that frontline practitioners should take if they suspect a child is being sexually exploited.

<http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/s/step%20by%20step%20guide.pdf>

**Safeguarding children abused through sexual exploitation (London Safeguarding Children Board, 2006)**

Outlines the principles of a multi-agency response to the sexual exploitation of children. Covers risk assessment framework, intervention, multi-agency planning meetings and safeguarding and support plans, roles of different services (social services, police, education, health) and prevention work.

<http://www.londonscb.gov.uk/procedures/supplementary_procedures/>

**Still hidden?: going missing as an indicator of child sexual exploitation (Missing People, 2012)**

Review examining the links between going missing and child sexual exploitation, including: the nature of links between going missing and child sexual exploitation; push and pull factors related to child sexual exploitation; missing from care; trafficking for child sexual exploitation; missing from home; abduction and kidnapping; and the need to go missing to escape from sexual exploitation.

<https://www.missingpeople.org.uk/missing-people/about-the-issue/missing-people-research>

**Out of mind, out of sight: breaking down the barriers to understanding child sexual exploitation (CEOP, 2011)**

Investigates street grooming and child sexual exploitation, and aimed to establish whether patterns of offending, victimisation or vulnerability could be identified. Refers to 'localised grooming' only and does not include online grooming or trafficking. Provides an outline of trends, themes and patterns based on six months of research.

<http://ceop.police.uk/Documents/ceopdocs/ceop_thematic_assessment_executive_summary.pdf>

**Threat assessment of child sexual exploitation and abuse 2012-13 (CEOP, 2012)**

The TACSEA is an analysis of the threat to the United Kingdom from child sexual exploitation and abuse. The aim is to provide an accurate picture of the nature and scale of current offending and highlight emerging and developing trends insofar as they are a threat in or emanating from the UK.

<http://www.ceop.police.uk/Documents/ceopdocs/CEOP_TACSEA2013_240613%20FINAL.pdf>

**Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Children Board review of multi-agency responses to the sexual exploitation of children (Rochdale LSCB, 2012)**

In December 2010, Greater Manchester Police (GMP) launched Operation Span to investigate a large group of men who were suspected of sexually exploiting children and young people in Rochdale. This report reviews how agencies in Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council worked together from 2007 until 2012 to safeguard children and young people who were at risk of sexual exploitation.

<http://www.rbscb.org/CSEReport.pdf>

**How councils are raising awareness of child sexual exploitation: a case study report (Local Government Association, June 2013)**

The Local Government Association has produced a resource to help councils raise awareness of child sexual exploitation in their area. The resource provides ideas and materials including briefings, case studies and training resources that can be adapted to meet local needs.

<http://www.local.gov.uk/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=fd8a2a91-bb11-4710-9641-97e8eefa44a8&groupId=10180>

**Unheard voices: the sexual exploitation of Asian girls and young women (Muslim Women’s Network UK, September 2013)**

The report highlights a number of issues which include: the profiles of victims and offenders; family and community responses; barriers to disclosure and reporting; and frontline professional and service provider responses.

<http://www.mwnuk.co.uk//go_files/resources/UnheardVoices.pdf>

**Information for children and young people**

**Be aware, stay alert, keep safe! (Barnardo's, 2011)**

A leaflet for young people explaining what sexual exploitation is and how to protect yourself. Discusses issues of trust in relationships.

<http://www.barnardos.org.uk/spot_the_signs_cyp.pdf>

**Information for parents and carers**

**Are you a parent or a carer? (Barnardo's, 2011)**

A leaflet for parents or carers explaining what sexual exploitation is and how it can happen. Looks at the signs a child or young person may exhibit and what the parent or carer can do to protect their children.

<http://www.barnardos.org.uk/spot_the_signs_parents.pdf>

**PACE (Parents against child sexual exploitation)**

PACE works alongside parents and carers of children who are being, or are at risk of being, sexually exploited by perpetrators external to the family. The website has a number of online guides on specific aspects of child sexual exploitation.

<http://www.paceuk.info/support-for-parents/advice-centre/>

**Sexual bullying: a guide for parents (The Nia Project)**

Leaflet focusing on sexual bullying and what parents can do to keep their child safe.

<http://www.niaendingviolence.org.uk/perch/resources/parents-guide-to-sexual-bullying.pdf>

**Information and resources for professionals**

**Bwise2 Sexual Exploitation (Barnardo’s, £85.00)**

This pack equips teachers, social workers and counsellors to educate young people about sexual exploitation with honesty and realism. The material is all based on the experiences of young people supported by a specialist Barnardo’s service. Full resources for the activity-based sessions are provided and thorough facilitators’ notes with practical tips let you feel fully confident in delivering this relevant and engaging programme. Includes a CD-ROM of the session resources for printing or projecting.

<http://www.barnardos.org.uk/resources/research_and_publications/bwise2-sexual-exploitation/publication-view.jsp?pid=PUB-1263>

**Do you work with young people? (Barnardo's, 2011)**

A leaflet for professionals explaining what sexual exploitation is, who it affects and how it can happen. Looks at the signs a child or young person may exhibit and what a professional should do to protect the child.

<http://www.barnardos.org.uk/spot_the_signs_professionals.pdf>

**NSPCC practice resources**

The NSPCC has a collection of resources for anyone working with sexually exploited children and young people.

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/resourcesforprofessionals/sexualabuse/sexual_exploitation_practice_wda85129.html>

**Sexual exploitation of children – can you recognise the signs? (Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and the National Policing Improvement Agency)**

The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) have created a new training film to help front-line police officers spot the early signs of group-associated grooming, and support vulnerable children being sexually exploited. The film can be viewed at <http://www.cse.siyonatech.com> and on CEOP’s You Tube channel <http://www.youtube.com/ceop>.

# Useful websites

Ashiana Network

<http://www.ashiana.org.uk>

Barnardo’s

[www.barnardos.org.uk](http://www.barnardos.org.uk)

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP)

[www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)

Department for Education (DfE)

[www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/healthandwellbeing/safeguardingchildren/a00200288/tackling-child-sexual-exploitation-action-plan](http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/healthandwellbeing/safeguardingchildren/a00200288/tackling-child-sexual-exploitation-action-plan)

NSPCC

[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

The National Working Group for Sexually Exploited Children and Young People

[www.nationalworkinggroup.org](http://www.nationalworkinggroup.org)

PACE (Parents against child sexual exploitation)

[www.paceuk.info](http://www.paceuk.info)

Be Savvy

<http://www.besavvy.org.uk>

Compass

<http://www.compasscoventry.org.uk>

Crasac

<http://www.crasac.org.uk>

Valley House

<http://www.valleyhouseassociation.org>

Streetwise

<http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-we-do/helping-children/birmingham-and-coventry>

Blue sky centre

<http://www.blueskycentre.org.uk>

Sexual health services <http://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/79/health_and_wellbeing_services/1785/sexual_health>

Coventry child sexual exploitation

<http://www.coventry.gov.uk/cse>

See me hear me

<http://www.seeme-hearme.org.uk>

BLAST – <http://mesmac.co.uk/blast>

# CSE projects and services

**Barnardo’s Young Women's Project**

Barnardo’s Young Women's Project is based in London and works with girls and young women up to the age of 18 who are at risk of, or who are, being abused through sexual exploitation. They work with young women from all racial, cultural and religious backgrounds, with varying disabilities and of any sexual orientation, and provide a range of practical, social care, health and educational services which focus on prevention, harm reduction and recovery for young women who are being abused through exploitation.

[www.barnardos.org.uk/youngwomenslondon.htm](http://www.barnardos.org.uk/youngwomenslondon.htm)

**New Horizon Youth Centre**

New Horizon Youth Centre aims to enable young people to gain skills and knowledge to improve their life chances and to help them move from adolescence into adulthood. They work with some very disadvantaged young people, many of whom have poor self-esteem, low confidence, a history of rejection, harm and abuse and often profoundly negative experiences of services. Based in the Kings Cross, Somers Town area of London, the centre sees up to 3000 young people a year and is open seven days a week.

[www.nhyouthcentre.org.uk](http://www.nhyouthcentre.org.uk)

**Protect and Respect, NSPCC**

Protect and Respect is a service for young people aged 11-19 years from minority ethnic backgrounds who are vulnerable to sexual exploitation or who have been sexually exploited. The service will also specifically support young people who have been separated or trafficked, are unaccompanied and seeking asylum, are looked after children, or have frequent ‘missing’ episodes.

[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

**Tender**

Tender is a charity that works to promote healthy relationships based on equality and respect. Using theatre and the arts, they engage young people in violence prevention, enabling them to recognise and avoid abuse and violence.

[www.tender.org.uk](http://www.tender.org.uk)

**The Nia Project**

The Nia Project offers prevention work for young people aged 10-21 years in schools, pupil referral units, youth groups and other settings. The work challenges sexual bullying, sexual violence and sexual exploitation, enabling young people to develop safe, healthy and consensual relationships. In addition, they offer training to professionals on sexual bullying, enabling them to address these issues effectively with young people and to deal with disclosures, and awareness-raising sessions for parents and carers, providing information on how to talk to children about keeping safe, and how to seek help if a child has been affected in any way by these issues.

[www.niaendingviolence.org.uk](http://www.niaendingviolence.org.uk)

**EMPOWER**

EMPOWER is a support programme addressing young women’s experiences of sexual violence and exploitation, primarily through gang activity. The young women engaging with the EMPOWER programme are aged 11-18. They receive support to address risk, improve their sense of identity, confidence and self-esteem. This enables them to develop resilience and so experience positive progression in their lives.

Those young women who would benefit from direct and holistic 1:1 support are referred via statutory or third sector routes or they can self-refer. EMPOWER also offers group-based programmes in schools and PRUs for young women and young men that include skills-based training and can be tailored to meet specific local needs, workshops for parents and specialist training and events for professionals.

[www.saferlondonfoundation.org/projectfull.php?p=14](http://www.saferlondonfoundation.org/projectfull.php?p=14)

# Abbreviations and Definitions

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **AAD** | All Age Disability |
| **CAMHS** | Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service |
| **CAF** | Common Assessment Framework |
| **CEOP** | Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre |
| **CEIU** | Child Exploitation Investigation Unit (Police) |
| **CMOG** | Children Missing Operational Group |
| **CIN** | Child in Need |
| **CP** | Child Protection |
| **CRASAC** | Coventry Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre |
| **CSC** | Children’s Social Care |
| **CSE** | Child Sexual Exploitation |
| **Clipping** | CYP targeting specific persons to rob by offering to have sex for monies then running when they receive payment before sexual activity takes place |
| **CYP** | Children and Young People |
| **Disruption** | Tactics used to divert or stop perpetrators exploiting young people where there is little or no evidence to prosecute |
| **DCSF** | Department for Children Schools and Families; now Department for Education |
| **EPO** | Emergency Protection Order |
| **Gang** | Organised groups with an element of status, membership and criminality or 2 or more young people involved in delinquent peer groups. |
| **Groomed** | A systematic process used to engage young people and coerce them to provide sexual favours. (See DCSF Guidance for definition) |
| **Hot spot** | Specific areas, streets or houses used to target young people |
| **Information Report Form** | Template for sharing information about risks to CYP with the Child Protection Manager CSE and the Police |
| **Misper** | Missing Persons |
| **Perpetrator** | Any person who poses a risk or commits crimes against a young person |
| **PPO** | Police Protection Order |
| **Procuring** | Adults and older peers groom the young person to procure younger children for them to sexually abuse and exploit. Occasionally parents and carers who themselves are or have been adult ‘sex workers’, or sexual abusers may procure their child for abusers and exploiters |
| **Pseudo Imagery** | Includes sharing sexualised cartoon images or other CYP’s bodies and placing CYP face on sexualised images, then sharing via the internet or texts. See CEOP for more information |
| **Red Light District** | Local area used for the purposes of soliciting |
| **Risk Indicator** | Common or known signs of child sexual exploitation |
| **Sexting** | Sharing sexualised photos and language/photographs |
| **Soliciting** | Legal term for exchanging and selling sexual favours |
| **Streetwise** |  |
| **S47** | Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 (indicative of concerns about significant harm) |
| **STI** | Sexually Transmitted Infections |
| **TAC** | Team around the Child |
| **TAF** | Team around the Family |
| **Targeting** | An adult or older peer involved in CSE identifies a vulnerable CYP and alone or with a cohort will develop a relationship with that young person with the intention of sexually exploiting them |
| **Trafficking** | International trafficking into or out of the country and domestic trafficking, moving young people from one place to another within a city or across city borders for the purposes of sexual activity. No minimum movement required. |
| **UKBA** | United Kingdom Borders Agency |
| **UKHTC** | United Kingdom Trafficking Centre |
| **5x5x5** | Information Intelligence Report |

# Appendices

## **Sexual Exploitation Screening Tool**

1. **CSE Pathway Guidance**
2. **5x5x5 Information Intelligence Report**
3. **PACE Information Log**
4. **NWG CSE Risk Assessment Tool**
5. **CSE Disruption Plan**
6. **CSE Safety Plan**
7. **Initial Agenda**
8. **Review Agenda**
9. **CSE Multi-Agency Delivery Plan**
10. **Blank**
11. **Coventry CSE & Missing Operational Group**