



**Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board and Stoke on-Trent  
Safeguarding Children Board**

**Inter-Agency Procedures for  
Safeguarding Children and Promoting their Welfare.**

**SECTION 4Ha (Staffordshire) / D14 (Stoke-on-Trent)  
Safeguarding Children from Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

Click on the links to the SSCB website	SSCB	Stoke-on-Trent SCB
<a href="#">Child Sexual Exploitation Risk Factor Matrix</a>	Section 4HB	Section D14B
<a href="#">Completing the Child Sexual Exploitation Risk Factor Matrix - Guidance Notes</a>	Section 4HC	Section D14C
<a href="#">Staffordshire Police Information Report Form</a>	Section 4HD	Section D14D
<a href="#">Joint Staffordshire &amp; Stoke-on-Trent LSCB Interim Strategy to Prevent CSE</a>	Section 4	Section D14A
<a href="#">Safeguarding Trafficked Children Guidance</a>	Section 4Ka	Section F03a/b / F04
<a href="#">Safeguarding Trafficked Children Toolkit</a>	Section 4Kb	
<a href="#">Sexually Active Children &amp; Young People Guidance</a>	Section 4J	Section F10

## **1. Introduction**

1.1 In June 2009 the Government published its supplementary guidance to Working Together to Safeguard Children 2006. This document<sup>1</sup> set out how organisations and individuals should work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people from sexual exploitation. Following on from Lord Laming's report in March 2009 'The Protection of Children in England: A progress Report'<sup>2</sup> the government then published a revised version of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010<sup>3</sup>. In 2013 the Government again reviewed Working Together to Safeguard Children<sup>4</sup> following Professor Eileen Munro's report in 2011<sup>5</sup>. The revised document emphasises the duties put upon all local authorities and statutory partners to secure sufficient provision of local early help services for children, young people and families'.

1.2 It is clear that any action taken to tackle the growing issue of child sexual exploitation (CSE) needs to be underpinned by some key principles:

- Reducing the vulnerability of children and young people
- Improving their resilience
- Disrupting and preventing the activities of perpetrators
- Reducing tolerance of exploitative behaviour
- Prosecuting perpetrators

## **2. Understanding Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

2.1 Sexual exploitation needs to be understood in its various forms, from apparently 'consensual' sex which may, although not always, be exchanged for attention or affection, accommodation and gifts, to serious organised crime including trafficking (both internally and externally). Practitioners should be aware of the increased risks posed by organised crime members and the additional complexities and risks that may occur as a result of this for young people.

2.2 Sexual exploitation incorporates sexual, physical and emotional abuse, as well as, in some cases, neglect.

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<sup>1</sup> Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation DCFS 2009

<sup>2</sup> The Protection of Children In England: A progress Report March 2009

<sup>3</sup> DCFS 2010

<sup>4</sup> Working Together 2013 [www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/statutory/g00213160/working-together-to-safeguard-children](http://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/statutory/g00213160/working-together-to-safeguard-children)

<sup>5</sup> The Munro Review of Child Protection: Final Report A child-centred system Professor Eileen Munro DCFS 2011

- 2.3 Sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) may, although not always, receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities. Exploitative relationships can develop very quickly in response to threats, bribery and blackmail. Child sexual exploitation can occur through the use of technology without the child's immediate recognition; for example being persuaded to post sexual images on the Internet/mobile phones without 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 relationships 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. (Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation DCFS 2009)

**The DfE proposed definition which has gone out for consultation with the expectation it will be used from 1 April 2016 is:**

**Child sexual exploitation is a form of child abuse. It occurs where anyone under the age of 18 is persuaded, coerced or forced into sexual activity in exchange for, amongst other things, money, drugs / alcohol, gifts, affection or status. Consent is irrelevant, even when a child may believe they are voluntarily engaging in sexual activity with the person who is exploiting them. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact and may occur online.**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/consultation-on-a-new-child-sexual-exploitation-definition>

- 2.4 It is very difficult to say how many children and young people are being sexually exploited in the UK, because the hidden nature of the issue makes it difficult to identify. Difficulties not only lie within the identification of victims but the ability for victims themselves to recognise their situation as abuse. There are many reasons for this. The child or young person may feel that they love the perpetrator; they may act out of admiration or respect (for example, in gang cultures); there may be other forms of emotional attachment / dependency.
- 2.5 A child under 13 is not legally capable of consenting to sexual activity. Any offence under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 involving a child under 13 is very serious and should be taken to indicate a risk of significant harm to the child.
- 2.6 Cases involving under 13s should always be discussed with a nominated child protection lead in the organisation. Under the Sexual

Offences Act, penetrative sex with a child under 13 is statutory rape. Where a practitioner is concerned that a child is involved with penetrative sex, or other intimate sexual activity, there will always be reasonable cause to suspect that a child, whether girl or boy, is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm. For further guidance please refer to:

Staffordshire: Section 4H - **Promoting the Welfare & Safety of Children in Specific Circumstances**

Stoke-on-Trent: Section D – **Procedures for children in specific circumstances.**

- 2.7 Sexual activity with a child under 16 is also an offence. Where it is consensual it may be considered less serious than if the child were under 13, but may nevertheless have serious consequences for the welfare of the young person. Consideration should be given in every case of sexual activity involving a child aged 13-15 as to whether there should be a discussion with other agencies and whether a referral should be made to those agencies noted above. Please refer to:

Staffordshire: **Section Four H - Promoting the Welfare & Safety of Children in Specific Circumstances**

Stoke-on-Trent: Section D – **Procedures for children in specific circumstances.**

- 2.8 Within this age range, the younger the child the stronger the presumption must be that sexual activity will be a matter for concern. Practitioners should always discuss their concerns with their nominated child protection lead and subsequently with other agencies as required. Where confidentiality needs to be preserved, a discussion can still take place without identifying the child. Where there is reasonable cause to suspect that significant harm to a child has occurred or might occur, again an immediate referral must be made to either the First Response service (Staffordshire) or the Safeguarding Referral Team (Stoke) or Staffordshire Police. All cases should be carefully documented including where a decision is taken not to share information.
- 2.9 It is important to bear in mind that on a child's 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday they legally become an adult. This cross over from children's to adult's services should not mean that agencies are not longer able to support an individual who is either at risk of or involved in CSE. In fact it may increase their vulnerability. Exit strategies allow for a gradual tailoring off of services or a transfer from one to another. Whilst working with individuals they may very well cross this boundary from children's to adult's services and it is important to consider the potential risks involved and if applicable then an adult protection referral must be considered.
- 2.10 For some young people aged 16 -18 years old, consideration may be

given (in very limited circumstances and where all other options have failed) to the use of the criminal justice system for example Curfews /Exclusion Zones and other Street Offences if applicable.

- 2.11 Many sexually exploited children and young people have difficulty distinguishing between their own choices around sex and sexuality and the sexual activities they are coerced into. This potential confusion needs to be handled with care and sensitivity. Young people cannot consent to sex when under the influence of alcohol or drugs or if they have an incapacity which impacts on their capacity to consent.
- 2.12 At times, issues may be faced over gaining consent to engage as there may be occasions where children and young people refuse to consent to the involvement of any service. Early intervention work should not need to seek consent from the young person as work can be done at any stage in order to raise a child or young person's awareness of the risks involved and may also be used to actually encourage their involvement. For further advice on issues over consent and information sharing such as confidentiality, please refer to [Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Information Sharing Guidance](#) (Click on the link to view the document)
- 2.13 The primary law enforcement effort must be against the coercers and abusers, who may be adult, but may also be the child's peers or older people. Criminality may be an indicator of child sexual abuse such as in gang affected communities.

## **REMEMBER**

**Children and Young people do not make informed choices to enter or remain in sexual exploitation. Rather, they do so from coercion, enticement, manipulation, fear or desperation.**

### **3. Who is at risk and why?**

- 3.1 The reality is that any child or young person, from any social or ethnic background, can be exploited. Boys and young men can be at risk as well as girls and young women. Research has shown that a number of factors can **increase** a young person's vulnerability to sexual exploitation.
- 3.2 We also know that some *groups* of young people are more vulnerable to targeting by the perpetrators of sexual exploitation. These include children with disabilities (particularly children with a learning disability) those living in care (particularly residential care), those who are excluded from mainstream school and those who misuse drugs and alcohol. Children and young people who go missing from home or care

are at increased risk of being sexually exploited or they may be going missing because they are being sexually exploited.

- 3.3 There is also a significant correlation between gangs, youth violence and child sexual exploitation. Separate screening tools may be used for youth violence and vulnerability (Gangs).
- 3.4 Children and young people who experience sexual exploitation may be trafficked. This can happen on a very local basis, for example, from house to house, hotel to hotel, vehicle to vehicle. Children and young people can also be trafficked from between towns and cities within the UK and between the UK and other countries.

**The Modern Day Slavery Act 2015 places a duty on the Local Authority to refer any child or young person who they believe is being trafficked or has been trafficked to the National Referral Mechanism.**

- 3.5 There is growing concern that these children are increasingly being targeted by abusers who are developing more sophisticated grooming techniques.

#### **4. Initial Response**

- 4.1 Early intervention is crucial in order for agencies to proactively tackle the growing problem of CSE. Everyone within each agency or organisation has a responsibility to keep children and young people safe. By becoming aware of and understanding the risk indicators or factors that push or pull children and young people into CSE enables practitioners to effectively intervene at an early stage, aiming to reduce and/ or eliminate the risk.
- 4.2 Each agency, whether working alone with the child or young person or with other agencies, has a responsibility to share information. It is important at this stage however to distinguish between information and intelligence.
- 4.3 Information collected should include the child or young person's name (and nicknames if they exist), address, age and gender, their ethnicity and any other information that helps to build a picture of that child or young person's characteristics. This type of information also helps agencies and LSCBs to understand the nature and scope of the issue, which in turn assists other strands of work such as awareness raising and training.

**4.4** Intelligence is what helps build a case, so recording data such as car registration numbers, the make, model and colour, key times and dates,

descriptions, known hot spots (i.e. favourite places the victims and perpetrators like to frequent such as hotels, fast food outlets, parks or taxi firms used to drop off and collect victims). This type of data is extremely important when bringing a case to trial. Intelligence such as this can be recorded on the Staffordshire Police Information Sheet – [Section 4Hd - Staffordshire Police CSE Information Report](#) (Staffordshire) / [Stoke-on-Trent Section D14D](#) and returned to the Child Exploitation Team, Staffordshire Police at [childexploitation@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:childexploitation@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk) This information can be shared at any time and not necessarily when a referral is made. The aim is to step in at an early stage to prevent children from becoming involved in CSE.

## 5. Using the Risk Factor Matrix

### Please see:

- [Child Sexual Exploitation Risk Factor Matrix](#) Section 4Hb (Staffordshire) / Section D14B (Stoke-on-Trent)
- [Completing the Child Sexual Exploitation Risk Factor Matrix - Guidance Notes](#) Section 4Hc (Staffordshire) / Section D14C (Stoke-on-Trent)

- 5.1 The Risk Factor Matrix is a tool to map risk indicators and can help you consider risk, from the information you have available. However, you may not have the full picture and practitioners should always use their professional judgement when considering level of risk and next steps.
- 5.2 Completion of the Risk Factor Matrix by the professional identifying the concerns involves liaison with the designated lead within your own agency as well as with professionals from other agencies who are or maybe with the child or young person. Appendix B provides considerations to inform any existing review meeting (Early Help Assessment; Child In Need; Child Protection Plan; Looked After Child review). Where appropriate to do so, the practitioner should also seek to engage the young person and their family.
- 5.3 **Step 1** – If a child or young person presents with one indicator action required - the earlier the intervention, the better the chances of success. However, one indicator is unlikely to require social care or specialist services intervention unless it is in a high risk category. A record must be kept of the case and what interventions have taken place and kept on the young person's files. Talk it through with your designated lead and decide what the best course of action is for the child or young person – you may do this through your own agency or pair up with another and work together to provide support, managing the risks until they are either reduced or eliminated.
- 5.3 In **Stoke-on-Trent**, the Strategic Manager Safeguarding and Quality Assurance chairs a monthly multi-agency CSE Panel where there is oversight of children/young people at medium to high risk of sexual

exploitation. The Risk Factor Matrix is used to identify the level of risk and appropriate interventions and actions are agreed by this Panel. The primary purpose of CSE Panels will be to ensure strategic oversight is enabled to enable problem profiling and to ensure prevention and targeted interventions aimed at groups and communities can be planned for and routinely monitored. The Panels will thus support actions to safeguard children and to disrupt and reduce the opportunity for children and young people to become victims of abuse as a result of CSE. Additional actions to existing Early Help Assessments, CIN, CP or looked after children plans may be agreed as part of the Panel's primary strategic objectives. Practitioners may find Appendix B useful as it outlines considerations to inform any existing review meeting (Early Help Assessment, Child In Need, Child Protection Plan or Looked After Child review) which will be achieved via a review of all locally held individual cases.

- 5.4 In **Staffordshire**, County Managers chair bi-monthly Panels where children / young people at medium to high risk of sexual exploitation are discussed. The Risk Factor Matrix is used to identify the level of risk and appropriate intervention agreed by this Panel. The primary purpose of CSE Panels will be to ensure strategic oversight is enabled at a district and County level to enable problem profiling and to ensure prevention and targeted interventions aimed at groups and communities can be planned for and routinely monitored. The Panels will thus support actions to safeguard children and to disrupt and reduce the opportunity for children and young people to become victims of abuse as a result of CSE. This will be achieved via a review of all locally held individual cases. Additional actions to existing Early Help Assessments, CIN, CP or looked after children plans may be agreed as part of the Panel's primary strategic objectives. Practitioners may find Appendix B useful as it outlines considerations to inform any existing review meeting (Early Help Assessment, Child In Need, Child Protection Plan or Looked After Child review).
- 5.5 Designated Leads can refer a child / young person to the CSE Panel at any stage so risk can be assessed and interventions agreed in a multi-agency forum.
- 5.6 **Step 2** – if a child or young person presents with mostly *low indicators* they are to be assessed carefully and a decision made as to whether they require specialist services. In Staffordshire, follow the Early Help Assessment referral route. In Stoke-on-Trent, an Early Help Assessment can be undertaken or a referral can be made to Co-operative Working (Stoke-on-Trent). Make sure the reasons for this level of intervention are recorded. Following this course of action will depend on the presenting indicators and vulnerability factors. If a child or young person presents with other factors they need to be included on the Risk Factor Matrix and clearly linked to the actions on the Early Help Assessment or and Care Plan.

- 5.7 It is important to be aware that children and young people can move very quickly between the risks categories; therefore regular assessments should be undertaken using the risk indicators, at least every six weeks, more frequently if there are significant changes to level of vulnerability or risk. Any escalation of risk should be dealt with immediately through the processes outlined below and recorded in the young persons file. Where risk has either stepped up/reduced a new risk assessment form should be completed and attached to their file.
- 5.8 **Step 3** – where a child or young person presents with indicators that put them at medium risk then, through discussion with the designated lead, an assessment should be made about whether the child or young person is at significant risk. If so, then the agency will need to initiate a referral to First Response (Staffordshire) or the Safeguarding Referral Team (Stoke-on-Trent). A lead agency will oversee the process and regular multi-agency planning meetings (see Appendix B) will decide the best course of action, through either a number of agencies or just one, depending on the ability to support the child or young person. If, at any stage, the risk increases, this information needs to be shared with First Response (Staffordshire) or the Safeguarding Referral Team.
- 5.9 Where a child or young person is thought to be at risk of or experiencing significant harm, a qualified Social Worker will then make the decision as to whether the case meets the threshold for a Section 47 Enquiry.
- 5.10 If a child or young person in care is placed in Staffordshire or Stoke-on-Trent by another authority, the responsible authority should contact the Families First CSE Co-ordinator with details of any concerns around CSE, the level of risk and a copy of a recent completed CSE Risk Assessment. The child or young person's case will be discussed at the appropriate CSE Panel to which a member of staff from the responsible authority will be invited. If no-one is able to attend, a case update will be made available.
- 5.11 In Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, the CSE Panel Agenda is shared with the Youth Offending Service so that the service can provide details of any out-of-county children in care, where there are CSE concerns and provide an update to the relevant CSE Panel.

Where a practitioner has information which could interrupt or disrupt criminal activity, they are advised to complete a **Staffordshire Police Information Report Form** Section 4Hd (Staffordshire) / Section D14D (Stoke-on-Trent)

## Appendix A - Disruption Strategies

This tool identifies which disruption tactics may be used for the individual child, identifies who is responsible and allows for monitoring of progress. It has been developed to support practitioners to consider and add relevant actions to existing plans.

Strategic Aim	Intervention Options	Responsible	R	A	G
Disrupt the young person's relationship with other young people suspected of introducing them to adults involved in violence, gang activity and sexual exploitation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify whom the young person is spending time with and recognise negative relationships.</li> <li>• Prevent visits to the home by other young people who may either deliberately or unwittingly be recruiting the young person.</li> <li>• Screen telephone calls to the home.</li> <li>• Complete police information report forms on known associates and any risk they pose (this can be done at any stage).</li> </ul>				
Disrupt the young person's contact with adults or young people suspected of being involved in violence, drugs and sexual exploitation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement the abduction warnings and orders strategy</li> <li>• Recognise and acknowledge abusive relationships.</li> <li>• Deny individuals suspected of abusing, grooming, or recruiting the young person access to the children's home.</li> <li>• Secure mobile phones and Sim cards, particularly if supplied by abusers and pass to the Police.</li> <li>• Consider removing mobile phones at night for the purpose of charging the batteries and monitor internet, call and text use.</li> </ul>				
Gather information to assist prosecution and disruption of adults suspected of being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain as much information as possible to identify associates and those who pose a risk to C &amp; YP. Good information includes, full names, nick names, telephone numbers, addresses and car registrations etc.</li> </ul>				

involved in violence, gang activity drugs, sexual exploitation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep accurate records and retain the information on CYP personal files – it is important to date and time the information and note who is involved in incidents and any interventions.</li> <li>• Send Police Information Reports forms to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>For Stoke-on-Trent cases to the Child Exploitation Team, Staffordshire Police HQ.</b> <a href="mailto:childexploitation@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk">childexploitation@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Note down any licensed body or property and send information to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>For Stoke-on-Trent cases to the Child Exploitation Team, Staffordshire Police HQ.</b> <a href="mailto:childexploitation@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk">childexploitation@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk</a></li> <li>○ <b>For Staffordshire to the CSE Team @ MASH</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ensure all network group members are updated at meetings and as and when information is accessed.</li> <li>• Be aware of specific agency responsibility and interventions re abduction orders, licensing remedies, checks on persons etc.</li> </ul>				
Promote positive relationships with family, friends and Carers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carers/Parents should be actively engaged in searching for the young person to show that they care.</li> <li>• Promote positive relationships with family and friends.</li> <li>• Promote the need for Carers/Parents to show attention.</li> <li>• Encourage honesty. Reinforce the nature of the crime</li> <li>• Involve Parents/Young Person in tackling the problem.</li> <li>• Identify suitable long-term Key Workers who can befriend the young person.</li> </ul>				
Physically protect the young person.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is permissible to physically intervene to prevent a young person running from care as an emergency intervention.</li> </ul>				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• However, physical intervention does not offer a long-term risk management strategy. If the only way to prevent the young person repeatedly running away is by physically restraining the young person on a regular basis, an alternative or reciprocal placement should be considered.</li> <li>• Consider removing and preserving clothing and passing it to the Police if it will aid the police in an investigation</li> <li>• Police and Social Care Protection Powers to be used as appropriate</li> </ul>				
Maintain contact whilst absent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ring the young person’s mobile phone.</li> <li>• There must be 24/7 contact available so that the young person does not feel isolated during evenings or at weekends.</li> <li>• Ensure the numbers of the Missing People helpline and Childline are in the young person’s mobile phone address book or text the numbers to them.</li> <li>• Compassion banking - send text messages to the young person. Consider using ‘text language’ that the young person relates to, tell them you are worried and care about their safety and encourage them to contact you or another adult.</li> <li>• Consider informing appropriate outreach workers, SNT Bulletins, Border alerts (UKBA<sup>6</sup>/UKHTC<sup>7</sup>) and agencies in other cities such as social care, police and specialist services.</li> </ul>				

<sup>6</sup> United Kingdom Border Agency <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-border-agency>

<sup>7</sup> United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/about-us/what-we-do/specialist-capabilities/uk-human-trafficking-centre>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider publicity and posters if whereabouts is unknown – National Missing Helpline. Their design should be young person centred.</li> <li>• After 7 days Young People must be referred to the Missing Person’s Task Group – check with police. (<a href="#">Section 4G - Children Missing from Care and Home and Vulnerable Missing Families</a>)</li> </ul>				
<p>Enhance the return procedure to ensure it is a positive experience.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify an individual that the young person respects and wants to talk to. This person should conduct the return interview on every occasion wherever possible. This will ensure consistency and facilitate a positive relationship between the young person and the interviewer.</li> <li>• Interviews by Police officers that are no more than an admonishment of the young person should be avoided, as these may exacerbate the situation. Threats to prosecute for wasting Police time or threats to take out an ASBO are rarely effective at engaging young people who regularly go missing and are unlikely to positively change their behaviour.</li> <li>• Independent interviews should be arranged and would preferably be conducted by staff who have received specialist training and have a good relationship with the young person.</li> <li>• Return interviews should be followed up by active support of the young person to ensure the return interview is seen as a positive experience.</li> <li>• Where children and young people are involved in petty offending consider Restorative Justice Solutions as the offending could be symptomatic of abuse – this has been recognised in young men and young women.</li> </ul>				

Set clear boundaries to acceptable behaviour and motivate positive behaviour.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider reward schemes – monetary/ vouchers.</li> <li>• Be flexible.</li> <li>• Consult the young person and agree rewards and penalties.</li> <li>• Adopt a behaviour management strategy.</li> <li>• Give the young person more independence in response to responsible behaviour.</li> </ul>				
Empower the carer/ foster carer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise the awareness of Carers and Foster Carers of relevant policies, procedures, their responsibilities, duties, legal powers, their options and restrictions upon them.</li> <li>• Consider family support services.</li> <li>• Maintain active support of Carers and foster Carers.</li> <li>• Raise the awareness of Parents to help them to identify the signs of child sexual exploitation and encourage use of the information report forms.</li> <li>• Consider Parenting Orders.</li> <li>• Provide training in self-protection.</li> </ul>				
Build the young person's self-esteem.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and encourage positive activities that the young person may engage in and encourage the young person to make positive contributions at home, school, leisure or work (positive activities should build self-esteem, not just entertain).</li> <li>• Assist the young person to look at the consequences of their behaviour.</li> <li>• Take time to explain the issues and keep the young person informed.</li> <li>• Involve the young person in looking at alternatives and decision making.</li> </ul>				
Raise the young person's awareness of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with schools to raise awareness of risk.</li> <li>• Develop or identify internet sites aimed at young people</li> </ul>				

the dangers.	<p>to raise their awareness of the dangers of going missing. They must be young person focussed, accessible and user friendly to ensure that young people will be attracted to them and motivated to use them (see the Know About CSE<sup>8</sup> and Think U Know<sup>9</sup> websites).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrange inputs by professionals to groups or individuals explaining the dangers.</li> <li>• Organise individual or group discussions with adults that the young person respects.</li> <li>• Facilitate peer mentoring (buddies) by young people who have been through similar experiences and learnt how to cope and protect themselves from exploitation.</li> <li>• Arrange personal safety training for the young person and family</li> </ul>				
Consider the health needs of the young person.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advice on contraception and sexual health</li> <li>• Medical treatment if suffering neglect, injury or poor health.</li> <li>• Therapeutic Interventions</li> </ul>				
Involve the young person in diversionary activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable the young person to participate in exciting positive activities and leisure activities such as drama or dance.</li> <li>• Activity weekends or team building exercises through multi agency provision.</li> <li>• Arrange work experience opportunities or vocational training.</li> <li>• Use all agencies involved such as YOS, Police, Voluntary sector, and Children’s Social Care</li> </ul>				

<sup>8</sup> Know About CSE [www.knowaboutcse.co.uk](http://www.knowaboutcse.co.uk)

<sup>9</sup> Think U Know [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/)

<p>Make home a more attractive place to live.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify push/pull factors and deal with them.</li> <li>• Tackle relationship problems.</li> <li>• Address domestic violence issues.</li> <li>• Tackle drug/ alcohol problems of other family members.</li> <li>• Consider an alternative placement that gives the young person a feeling of more independence and responsibility.</li> <li>• Consider a placement that has continuity of staff and extra support for evening shifts.</li> <li>• Consider extended stay with a family member in a different city to break the cycle.</li> <li>• Consider specialist placement options.</li> </ul>				
<p>Achieve normality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enforce bed times.</li> <li>• Enforce waking times.</li> <li>• Promote attendance at school.</li> <li>• Encourage young people to eat together at meal times.</li> </ul>				
<p>Make school a more attractive place to go.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tackle bullying, truancy and peer pressure.</li> <li>• Provide 'Personal, Social and Health Education'.</li> <li>• Encourage engagement with alternative and educational provision</li> <li>• Provide funding for after school activity</li> </ul>				
<p>Provide specialist support through other agencies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sexual, Drug and Alcohol Counselling and other Services</li> <li>• Therapeutic Services</li> <li>• Advocacy Services</li> <li>• Mentoring Services</li> <li>• Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)</li> <li>• Involve Education Welfare</li> <li>• Involve Youth Services</li> <li>• Raise awareness of "Drop In" support groups</li> </ul>				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to Voluntary Sector for support</li> <li>• Positive activities</li> <li>• Consider Barnardo's 4 A's Model<sup>10</sup> (Access, Advocacy, Assertive outreach and Affection)</li> <li>• Provide self-referral systems so that young people can refer themselves</li> <li>• Provide parent-referral systems that deal with parent's concerns that their young people will be taken into care if they report abuse</li> </ul>				
Plan on positive change and set small targets to achieve monthly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targets need to be agreed with Young Person and Parents</li> </ul>				
Where a young person is refusing or reluctant to engage, and is involved in soliciting or grooming peers, ensure all engagement and disruption activities detailed above have been considered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where the police are considering criminal action against children and the final decision rests with the police, they should consult with partner agencies to ensure that all alternatives and appropriate actions have been considered for that child, in line with ACPO guidance in relation to not criminalising young people where possible.</li> </ul>				

<sup>10</sup> Barnardos [www.barnardos.org.uk/what\\_we\\_do/our\\_projects/sexual\\_exploitation.htm](http://www.barnardos.org.uk/what_we_do/our_projects/sexual_exploitation.htm)

## Appendix B

### Children Abused through Sexual Exploitation

#### **CONSIDERATIONS TO INFORM ANY MULTI-AGENCY MEETINGS** (Early Help Assessment; Child In Need; Child Protection Plan; Looked After Child Review)

#### **INITIAL AGENDA**

- Information given at this meeting is confidential. Matters discussed here should only be disclosed to professional colleagues with a real need to know.
- The agencies involved have an equal opportunities policy. It is important that everyone at the conference is treated with mutual respect giving due regard to race, religion, language, culture, gender, sexuality and disability. Discriminatory attitudes, opinions or language expressed at this meeting will be challenged.
- All participants will be invited to contribute any information they have. Information not presented openly at the meeting cannot be considered in assessing risk. It is important that it is clear from individual contributions what is fact and what is opinion.

Ensure that the meeting agenda includes the following:

- **Introduction to and status of meeting**
- **Apologies**
- **Factual information / details**
- **Reason for convening meeting**
- **CSE risk indicators identified**
- **Sexual health concerns**
- **Family awareness / response to risks**
- **Child protection considerations**
- **Potential involvement of adults and / or peers**
- **Risk discussion**
- **Chair's summary (including level of risk)**
- **Decisions / recommendations**

i) **Level of risk:** Low risk  Medium risk  High risk

ii) **Concerns about trafficking:**

iii) **Potential involvement of other children or young people**

**iv) Potential involvement of adults and / or peers:**

**v) Outcome:**

- Continue with multi-agency planning meetings
  - Consider initiating child protection procedures
  - No further action under this procedure – exit procedures
- 
- **Review date**

## Children Abused through Sexual Exploitation

### REVIEW AGENDA

- Information given at this meeting is confidential. Matters discussed here should only be disclosed to professional colleagues with a real need to know.
- The agencies involved have an equal opportunities policy. It is important that everyone at the conference is treated with mutual respect giving due regard to race, religion, language, culture, gender, sexuality and disability. Discriminatory attitudes, opinions or language expressed at this meeting will be challenged.
- All participants will be invited to contribute any information they have. Information not presented openly at the meeting cannot be considered in assessing risk. It is important that it is clear from individual contributions what is fact and what is opinion.

Ensure that the meeting agenda includes the following:

- **Introduction to and status of meeting**
- **Apologies**
- **Changes to factual information/details**
- **Significant incidents**
- **Agency feedback**
- **Family situation update**
- **Update on involved adults**
- **Risk discussion**
- **Chairs summary**
- **Decisions and recommendations**
- **Review date**

## APPENDIX C

### Glossary of Terms

ACPO	Association of Chief Police Officers
ASSET	Youth Justice Board Offending Assessment Tool
CEOP	Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre
CIN	Child in Need
CP	Child Protection
CSC	Children's Social Care
CRU	Central Referral Unit (MASH)
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
Clipping	Children and young people targeting specific persons to rob by offering to have sex for money then running off when they receive payment and before sexual activity takes place
C & YP	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)
EHA	Early Help Assessment
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, houses or locations used to target young people
Information Report Form	Template for sharing information about risks to children / young people with the Child Exploitation Team, Staffordshire Police
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 children's /young people's bodies and placing the child or young person's 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 (prostitution)
S47	Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 (process to respond to concerns about significant harm)
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
SSCB	Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board
SSCB	Stoke-on-Trent Safeguarding Children Board
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	Trafficking involves moving people from one place to another with the purpose of exploitation – this may include sexual exploitation. Domestically, this can be within a city / county or across city / county. There is no minimum distance so it can be room to room or house to house. International trafficking is moving people into a country from another country.
UKBA	United Kingdom Borders Agency
UKHTC	United Kingdom Trafficking Centre

## Appendix D

### Useful numbers and websites

First Response Team (Staffordshire)	0345 604 2886
Safeguarding Referral Team (Stoke-on-Trent)	01782 235100
Staffordshire Police	Emergency 999 Non Emergency 101
NSPCC Child Protection Help line	0808 800 5000
Childline	0800 1111
Missing People	11600
National Association for People Abused in Childhood:	0808 800 0123
Broken Rainbow (Lesbian and Gay Helpline)	0300 999 5438
NHS 111	111
Victim Support	0808 16 89
Savana	01782 433 204 (Message Service)
Staffordshire Women's Aid	0870 2700 123
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Staffordshire Youth Offending Service (Referrals taken for Prevention Interventions)	01782 297615
Stoke on Trent Youth Offending Service (Referrals taken for Prevention Interventions)	01782 235858

#### Useful Websites:

knowaboutcse	<a href="http://www.knowaboutcse.co.uk">www.knowaboutcse.co.uk</a>
CEOP	<a href="http://www.ceop.co.uk">www.ceop.co.uk</a>
SSCB	<a href="http://www.staffsscb.org.uk">www.staffsscb.org.uk</a>
SSCB (Stoke)	<a href="http://www.safeguardingchildren.stoke.gov.uk">www.safeguardingchildren.stoke.gov.uk</a>
UKHTC	<a href="http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk">http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk</a>
UKBA	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-border-agency">https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-border-agency</a>
Purple Teardrop Campaign.	<a href="http://www.purpleteardrop.org.uk">www.purpleteardrop.org.uk</a>