

# Bitesize Exploitation Training

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## Extra-familial harm

- ❖ Nationally child protection systems and procedures have been set up to respond to harm that children experience within the family (inter-familial harm).
- ❖ Interventions to address the harm are targeted at the family with an onus on parents making changes to ensure their child's safety, protection and wellbeing.
- ❖ Nationally there has been an acknowledgement that the risks young people face during adolescence, compared with those faced by younger children, are more likely to be situated outside of the home environment and in public places where young people socialise (extra-familial harm).

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## Extra-familial harm cont'd....

- ❖ The term extra-familial harm refers to harm that young people experience beyond the family/ home environment and can include:
  - Violence, coercive control within intimate relationships
  - Exploitation – sexual and/ or criminal, financial exploitation
  - County lines
  - Modern slavery
  - Trafficking
  - Peer on peer/ group based (gang\*) violence/serious youth violence

(\*we are trying to move away from the use of the term 'gangs')

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## County Lines

- ❖ County Lines is a form of Criminal Exploitation
- ❖ Organised crime networks in which drug dealers in major cities establish networks for the supply and sale of drugs to "users" in towns/rural areas
- ❖ Criminals groom and manipulate young people into drug dealing. These young people are often vulnerable, due to age, many being in care, linked to missing episodes
- ❖ Lines = mobile phones used to control a young person who is delivering drugs, often to towns outside their home area.

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## Financial Exploitation

- ❖ Financial exploitation happens when someone is deceived or coerced into handing over monetary funds or assets
- ❖ It can happen through fraud, blackmail, accumulating debts, or having money or property stolen.
- ❖ Often involves grooming – fraudsters may seek to befriend someone and establish a relationship of companionship and trust to gain access to the person's money and property
- ❖ As part of wider exploitation – for example, becoming indebted to a county lines drug group, being a victim of labour exploitation or sexual exploitation.
- ❖ Forms of Financial Exploitation for young people:
  - Money laundering – opening bank accounts
  - Debt (drug) – linked to criminal exploitation

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## NRM's: Trafficking & Modern Slavery

- ❖ The NRM or "National Referral Mechanism" is a framework for identifying victims of human trafficking and modern slavery.
- ❖ A child should be recognised as a trafficking victim if the following 2 things have taken place:
  1. The child has been recruited ("grooming") or transported or harboured
  2. This has been done for the purposes of being exploited: criminal/ financial/labour or sexual exploitation.
- ❖ If a child is treated as if owned or if made to work somewhere (and unable to leave) that is termed modern slavery.

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## Partnership Intelligence Management Meetings (PIMMs)

- ❖ The PIMM is the starting point for new intelligence/ information re. extra-familial harm in South Gloucestershire. (Getting the right membership is essential).
- ❖ The PIMM spreadsheet replaces the previous South Gloucestershire exploitation list.
- ❖ The cohort is tiered and monitored.
- ❖ Multi agency information including from the VRU app, missing children – incl RHIs, social work teams, BASE, DYPP.

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## Implementing the Risk Management Pathway

- ❖ PIMMs (Partnership Intelligence Management Meetings) started in January 2021.  
36 children on the PIMM spreadsheet  
Tier 1 = 10, Tier 2 = 22, Tier 3 = 4 (as at 21/8/22).
- ❖ Targeted PIMMs have also been taking place as required.
- ❖ The new process for individual children at risk of significant harm (extra-familial) – MARMMs were introduced in May 21 – 26 Initial MARMMs have taken place to date (21/09/22).

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## Group/ organised exploitation

- ❖ Working with young people at risk of CCE has highlighted the issue of groups of young people being at risk of exploitation through a joint activity/ shared location or through contact with perpetrators.
- ❖ This is one of the biggest challenges in our response to child exploitation.
- ❖ PIMMs/ targeted PIMMs
- ❖ Peer mapping meetings
- ❖ Complex extra-familial safeguarding meetings (significant harm)

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## Targeted PIMMs

- ❖ Concerns from any agency about a possible group of yp being exploited or a location etc can lead to a targeted PIMM. (These referrals generally come from schools.)
- ❖ Recent examples:
  - CCE concerns in specific area (identified children, info sharing, intelligence gathering, problem solving re. locations, individual support for yp)
  - CSE concerns in specific area (Topaz prevention officer doing a session with the girls, webinar for parents of the school, action day targeting locations)

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## Exploitation Identification Tool

- ❖ Previous tool in South Glas is the SERAF. This was only used if there are concerns regarding CSE.
- ❖ We knew we need to update/ replace SERAF. Staff wanted a tool that can be used when there are concerns regarding other forms of exploitation. The SERAF was developed approx. 14 yrs ago and our knowledge around child exploitation has moved on significantly since that time.
- ❖ The new Exploitation Identification Tool replaces the SERAF and should be used from **1<sup>st</sup> March 2021** instead of a SERAF when a practitioner has concerns about child exploitation.
- ❖ The tool is for use by any practitioner working with children. Unless an urgent referral to Social Care is required (due to a disclosure/ injuries etc) the tool should be completed and submitted **alongside** the referral.
- ❖ The Exploitation Identification Tool must be reviewed a minimum of every 3 months and should be reviewed earlier if risks are increasing or there is a significant change in situation (e.g. if the child becomes accommodated or permanently excluded from their school provision.)

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## Exploitation Identification Tool cont'd...

- ❖ The tool is broken down into the following areas:
  - education
  - health
  - accommodation
  - going missing
  - peer relationships and/or contact with abusive adults
  - concerning environments, places and spaces
  - drug and alcohol use
  - coercion and control
  - unexplained items/ rewards
  - offending behaviour and risk to others
  - family relationships
  - engagement with services/ positive activities

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## Exploitation Identification Tool cont'd...

- ❖ Examples of low, medium and high-risk indicators are given in relation to these 12 areas and practitioners are asked to make a decision as to whether low, medium/ high risk indicators are most applicable in each area.
- ❖ An overall low/ medium/ high risk rating is required.
- ❖ The tool is intended to assist in your decision making; helping you make an initial judgement regarding the risk of child exploitation and to consider the required response.

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## Resources

- ❖ Exploitation Central Locality Social Care Team: working specifically with YP at high risk of exploitation, some of which are subject to MARMP's.
- ❖ Young People's Support Team (YPS): Preventative Services: targeted adolescent support for young people with complex factors e.g risk of exploitation, missing, school issues, family breakdown. YPS can contribute and support social care cases.
- ❖ BASE: "Barnardo's Against Sexual Exploitation"
- ❖ Barnardo's Independent Child Trafficking Guardianship Service (ICTG)
- ❖ TOPAZ: Police Exploitation Team. Sharing information, monthly multi-agency meetings. Reporting exploitation concerns via portal. Working with victims in order to identify exploiters.
- ❖ Youth Offending Team: Youth Justice Support Worker developed "Trapped" a programme for working with young people at risk of criminal exploitation.

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## Resources cont'd...

- ❖ VRU: Violence Reduction Unit. Support via VRU Officer who can provide funding to access be-spoke resources e.g., St Giles Trust/ Mentors. VRU also commissions:
- ROUTES: Learning Partnership West (LPW). Working with young people at risk of Criminal Exploitation.
- Education Inclusion Project: working with individual pupils at risk of exclusion who have concerns related to serious youth violence. Project funded until 31/3/23, YOT and VRU overseeing project. Individual work (short interventions 4-8 weeks) undertaken by LPW. Home Office funded. Subject to evaluation.
- School Serious Youth Violence Project: Targeted schools having support for school staff/ parents and young people through workshop-based training/ consultation. Recently ended and possibly re-commissioned.

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## The language you use to describe children at risk of/ who have been exploited

- ❖ it is important to use language to describe children which does not "victim blame" and places the responsibility for the exploitation, abuse and harm with perpetrators. Language which indicates a child is complicit or in some way responsible for their exploitation must be avoided:
- Promiscuous/ provocatively dressed
- Lifestyle choice
- Boyfriend/ girlfriend
- Relationships
- Placed herself/ himself at risk
- Involved in CSE/ CCE

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## Why does the language you use matter?

- ❖ Victim blaming. Impacts on the child's understanding of the situation and how this is perceived by others – professionals, parents, friends, society....(Consider shame and self blame)
- ❖ Modelling and teaching parents/ carers that this is not the child's fault
- ❖ Court/ criminal implications
- ❖ Changing the narrative is about changing understanding... trauma-based practice, recognising behaviour as a symptom of abuse, recognising vulnerability, placing blame on perpetrators not the child.
- ❖ Language guide. This provides alternatives:  
<https://csepoliceandprevention.org.uk/sites/default/files/Guidance%20App%20Language%20Toolkit.pdf>

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## Multi-Agency Exploitation Case Audits

- ▶ 6 monthly audits to consider how effectively organisations within South Gloucestershire identify and respond to child exploitation.
- ▶ Partners represented at Audit: CSC, Police, Probation, PS, Health (CAMHS, CCG, Sirona, Sexual Health), BASE, YOT, Education (Head of PRU, EP, Education Safeguarding Lead)
- ▶ Learning briefs of the audits are shared across partners and include themes, as well as any actions needed.
- ▶ Audits are monitored through a number of forums: BSIL for vulnerable children, Extra Familial Harm MA Strategic Panel, SLT.

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