



Local approach to tackling  
*Child Sexual Exploitation*

# Aim and Objective

## Aim:

*To have a thorough understanding of the child sexual exploitation process in order to safeguard, protect children from harm and improve their outcomes.*

# Aim and Objective

## Objectives

- To confidently understand the whole process from identification to risk management
- To recognise and understand the risk and impact of CSE on the child and their family including links to children that go missing
- To confidently assess the level of risk in order to protect the child from harm and promote the child's outcomes
- To understand your roles and responsibilities and recognise the benefits and importance of multi agency working

# What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

**Child sexual exploitation** is a form of sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity

- (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or
- (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator.

The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.

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# Unhelpful comments about sexual exploitation

The following slide provides examples of professionals comments made in respect of children and young people at risk of sexual exploitation. These are genuine comments recorded by different professionals

***Take some time to reflect on a system that, at times, may reinforce the victim/s belief that they are in some way responsible. If the young person and the professionals believe this is a true reflection of what is happening then consider what 'the system' is saying to the abusers***

# Professional's responses:

She's Promiscuous She is prostituting herself  
She's always doing this She is putting herself  
at risk He's sexualised He is over the  
age of consent  
There's nothing we can do  
It's their boyfriend/ partner Attention seeking  
Manipulative  
They want the money/ drugs He is streetwise  
She is giving consent It's legal  
**They are making a choice**

# A change of perception

The following slide provides examples of language all professionals should use in order to effect change for the victim.

***Take some time to reflect on the messages***

# Change of perception:

Vulnerable ABUSED low self esteem  
manipulated neglected HURTING  
Coerced INNOCENT trusting  
Inexperienced young AT RISK  
testing boundaries CONFUSED  
LOOKING FOR LOVE scared  
acting out past trauma GROOMED  
learned behaviours ANGRY Needing  
positive attention  
wanting to feel grown up



# Darlington approach to tackling Child Sexual Exploitation

The Multi-agency procedures is Darlington support all professionals working with children and young people who suspect they are at risk of CSE.

This includes:

- The risk matrix to assess the level of risk based on the information known about the child or young person
- Facilitating soft intelligence reporting to Durham police relating to threats or risk
- The Missing and Exploited sub group which is focused on protecting and supporting children and young people by reviewing individual cases
- The Durham police ERASE team who are the intelligence arm, consolidating the intelligence and information shared
- Child protection procedures to be followed if any child is at risk of harm



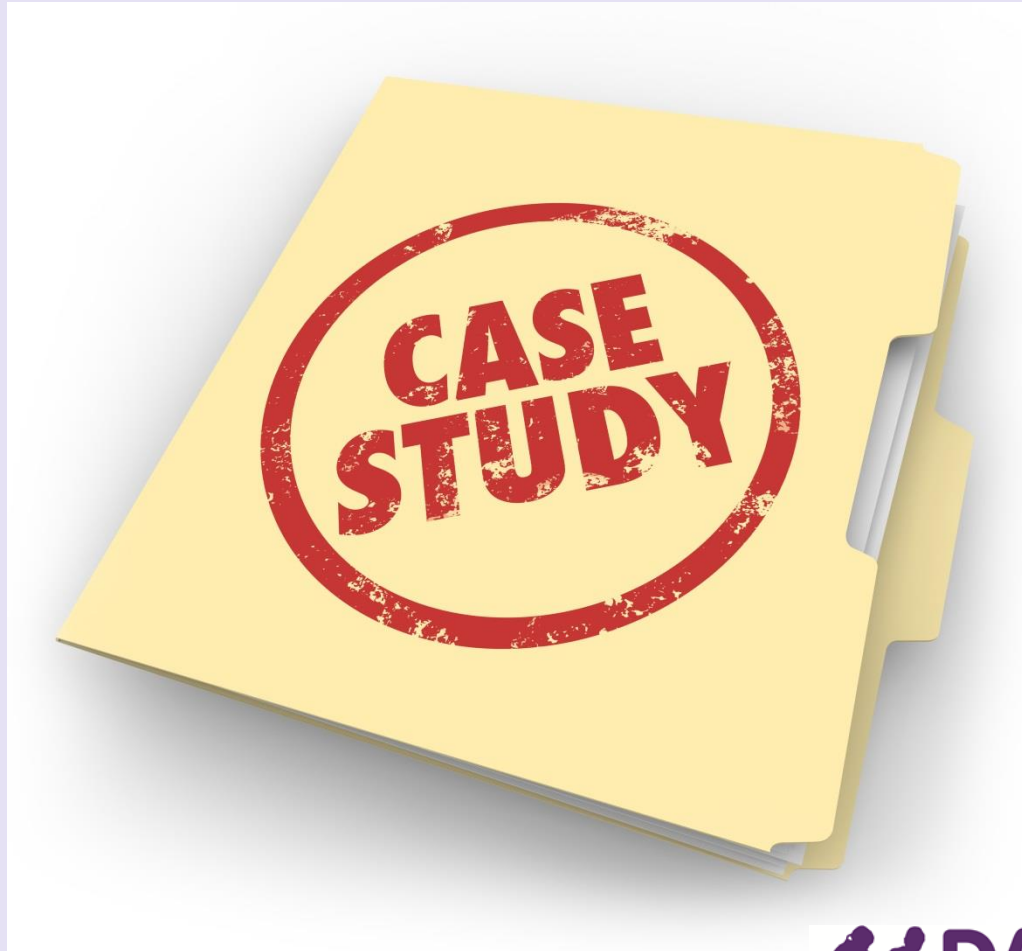
# The Darlington risk matrix Child Sexual Exploitation

The risk matrix can be accessed via the following link

<http://www.darlingtonsafeguardingboards.co.uk/media/1261/cse-matrix-jan-17-final.docx>

***Please access the form to complete the following case study***

# *Sarah - aged 16 years*



# Part 1

Sarah is 16 years old and lives with her mum. Mum is a single carer. Sarah's parents separated when she was 9 as mum fled domestic violence. For the past 5 years Sarah has moved between parents several times. Sarah attends a pupil referral unit after having problems in school. Her attendance is sporadic and neither school or parents know where she is when not in education. Mum has reported that Sarah's behaviour and attitude has changed in recent months, she is aggressive and has started to self harm.

***Please refer to the definition of CSE and the risk matrix when considering the following questions***

# Sarah part 1

**What are the issues you can see?**

**What additional information would you gather and from where?**

**What is the level of risk in respect of CSE?**

**Would you raise a safeguarding concern?**

# Sarah part 1

You may have identified the following issues:

*Home life*

*Domestic Violence*

*Education*

*School attendance*

*Whereabouts when missing*

*Behaviour and attitude*

*Self harm*

# Sarah part 1

**Would you raise a safeguarding concern?**

Based on your professional expertise and judgement you may consider contacting to the Children's Access Point (CAP).

*This child/ family may benefit from an Early Help Assessment*



# Sarah part 2

A friend of Sarah's from the pupil referral unit reports that Sarah has been picked up outside school in a car by an older male. The teacher managed to get a partial registration number for the vehicle. Sarah has been boasting about having new clothes and a mobile phone. Sarah's mum reports that Sarah is now less aggressive but she is worried that she may have an eating disorder as she is reluctant to eat meals prepared for her. On a couple of occasions when missing Sarah has been seen leaving a hotel with an older male.

***Please refer to the definition of CSE and the risk matrix when considering the following questions***

# Sarah part 2

**What are the issues you can see?**

**What additional information would you gather and from where?**

**What is the level of risk in respect of CSE?**

**Would you raise a safeguarding concern?**

# Sarah part 2

You may have identified the following issues:

*Getting into the vehicle with an older male*

*New clothes*

*Mobile phone*

*Less aggressive*

*Eating disorder*

*Missing episodes*

*Hotel*

# Sarah part 2

- **Would you raise a safeguarding concern?**

Contact the **Children's Access Point (CAP)** for further advice and actions required, this contact must also include details of any other child and/or young person who may be involved (whether perpetrators/victims) and/or may also be at risk:

## **Children's Access Point:**

- Telephone: 01325 406222
- e-mail: [childrensaccesspoint@darlington.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:childrensaccesspoint@darlington.gcsx.gov.uk)

# Sarah Part 3

Sarah is putting on weight and the concerns are she might be pregnant.

Sarah was reported missing from home 2 days ago. She has now returned home and has disclosed that whilst away from home she visited a male friend at his flat. She discloses that whilst at the flat she was raped by the friend and his flatmate.

**What would you do now?**

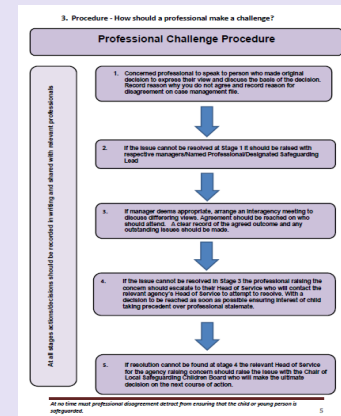
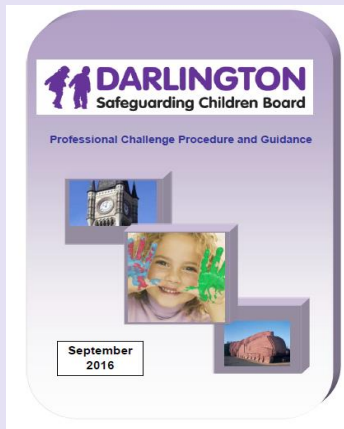
# Sarah part 3

You should immediately contact the police as an allegation of rape has been reported.



# Professional Challenge

*'Professional challenge is about challenging decisions, practice or actions which may not effectively ensure the safety or well-being of a child or young person or his/her family.'*



For more information on professional challenge follow the link to the Darlington procedures  
[http://www.darlingtonsafeguardingboards.co.uk/media/1058/professional\\_challenge\\_jan\\_2016\\_v4.pdf](http://www.darlingtonsafeguardingboards.co.uk/media/1058/professional_challenge_jan_2016_v4.pdf)

# Missing and Exploited Operational Group (MEG)

A multi-agency meeting Chaired by a Safeguarding Lead from Durham Constabulary. The main purpose of the group is to prevent, disrupt and deter children and young people from being sexually exploited and who go missing.

- The MEG will have management oversight of all medium and high risk cases, with the aim to disrupt perpetrators, target locations and protect children and young people at risk of CSE
- The CAP will complete the risk matrix and identify any cases to be included on the MEG agenda.
- Low risk cases are managed through the CAF process and interventions are offered by the Early Help team with the aim of reducing/preventing risks escalating. If at any point a low risk case identifies new or escalating risks the lead worker e.g. Family Worker, teacher must refer to the CAP
- All agencies are responsible for the implementation of the safeguarding plans and disruption plans and the appropriate dissemination of these to their organisations.





**ERASE** stands for *Educate and Raise Awareness of Sexual Exploitation*.

The team focus on child sexual exploitation, but also on missing children, as being reported missing from home can be an indicator that a child is at increased risk of sexual exploitation.

The team is made up of a number of professionals including police officers and staff, a social worker, an intelligence officer and Barnardo's youth workers, the team have close working relationships with schools and the other agencies involved with the local safeguarding children board

# Information/Soft intelligence about CSE

Any information you have around potential risk/s to Children/Young people should be reported to the Durham police ERASE team. This may be information relating to Vehicles, People or Premises.

The information can be shared on a information sharing report which can be accessed at

<http://www.darlingtonsafeguardingboards.co.uk/media/1233/cse-intelligence-information-submission-form-2016.docx>

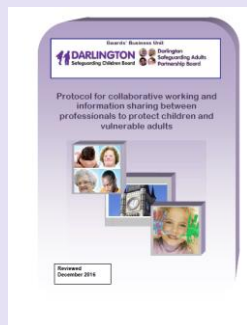
Alternatively contact Durham police on Tel 101

# What does Working Together, 2015 say?

## Information Sharing

*‘Effective sharing of information between professionals and local agencies is essential for effective identification, assessment and service provision.*

*Early sharing of information is the key to providing effective early help where there are emerging problems’ page 16 – 17 WT, 2015*



# Useful Resources

- Practice guidance and Procedures such as CSE and Professional Challenge

[www.darlingtonsafeguarding.co.uk](http://www.darlingtonsafeguarding.co.uk)

- ERASE website: [www.erase.org.uk](http://www.erase.org.uk)

- Link to Working Together, 2015 -

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/592101/Working Together to Safeguard Children 20170213.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/592101/Working_Together_to_Safeguard_Children_20170213.pdf)

# Additional Resources

- Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham, 1997 – 2013 (Jay, August 2014)

[http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/1407/independent inquiry cse in rotherham](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/1407/independent_inquiry_cse_in_rotherham)

- Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation, HM Government in March, 2015

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/408604/2903652\\_RotherhamResponse acc2.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/408604/2903652_RotherhamResponse_acc2.pdf)

# Contact Details

Darlington's Safeguarding Boards' Business Unit staff are based at Town Hall, , Darlington, DL1 5QT

- Emma Chawner - Boards' Business Manager (01325 406459)
- Chris Ashford - Multi Agency Trainer (01325 406453)
- Amanda Hugill - Development Officer/LADO (01325 406450)
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- Hannah Fay - Business Support Officer (01325 406452)
  
- Secure email: [LSCB@darlington.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:LSCB@darlington.gcsx.gov.uk)
- General email: [SafeguardingBoards@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:SafeguardingBoards@darlington.gov.uk)
- Training enquiries: [LSCB.Training@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:LSCB.Training@darlington.gov.uk)