



## Sexual exploitation screening tool *(For children/young people 13 years +)*

Date of screening tool completion: \_\_\_\_\_

Completed by (name and role): \_\_\_\_\_

### West Midlands Metropolitan Regional Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Screening Tool

Guidance for completing the screening tool:

- The purpose of the CSE screening tool is to support a professional judgement about whether a child is at risk of/experiencing Child Sexual Exploitation and inform decision making about what action is required.
- The screening tool enables professionals to identify where young people are exhibiting risk indicators which frequently occur in young people who are at risk/experiencing CSE, however further assessment or investigation needs to be undertaken which may confirm this initial judgement, heighten or reduce concern. Likewise a “no current CSE risk” screening tool does not mean they are not being sexually exploited and any further work or assessment should continue to consider the vulnerabilities and risk indicators, screening again as necessary according to additional information as it becomes available or changes in the child circumstances.

- In some instances, the screening tool will identify that the child is no more vulnerable to CSE than is typical for children of that age i.e. the risk is universal. This would be deemed to be “**No Current CSE Risk**”.
- An “**At Risk**” screening tool combined with information held by Children’s Social Care could indicate the need for a referral and therefore professionals are encouraged to have discussions with relevant services (CSE co-ordinator/social care front door) to determine appropriate action.
- Once a screening tool has been completed, local referral pathways need to be followed to ensure that where necessary a MASE/strategy meeting is convened and a risk assessment undertaken. Risk assessments should be led by a lead professional, contributed to and supported by the professionals working with the child and family.
- It should be used by any professional who has a concern about a child or young person.
- Young people aged 16 or over can still be at risk of/experiencing CSE and should not be viewed as lower risk due to their age.
- Males can be at risk/experience CSE and should not be viewed as lower risk due to their gender.
- If it is deemed that there is “**no Current CSE risk**”, it is important to remember that professionals have identified some concerns about the child’s safety and vulnerability. Whilst these may not be about CSE, appropriate action should be taken to support and safeguard the child. For children under 13/learning disabilities this should still trigger a MASH referral.
- It is important that the screening tool is not completed in isolation and that relevant people are involved so that a complete picture of specific risks is ascertained.
- If “**significant risk**” or “**serious risk**” is identified, a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) referral should be made and a Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) meeting established where applicable. At this point further assessment will be completed with the child and family.
- It is helpful where possible to capture the voice of the child in the final section, only if the child has shared anything with you. However, there is no need for the child to be with you when completing the screening tool.
- Evidence about your concerns should be captured as fully as possible, including any examples of the behaviour.

- The risk assessment should be used to review the level of risk to a child in review MASE or other review meetings (dependent of the needs of the child this may be early help, CIN, CP or LAC) but the screening tool could be used as an exit tool to confirm that original risk indicators are no longer present prior to closing a case from the CSE dataset/team.
- Where you are aware of names of other young people, adults of concern, locations of concern please include them in the evidence box on the screening tool and complete and submit the intelligence form attached to this screening tool with guidance on instructions.
- Guidance notes and risk indicators are not exhaustive and professional judgement should be used if there some something else you believe should be included in your evidence.
- The information inputted in this screening tool is sensitive as per the Data Protection Act and should be recorded, stored and shared as per information sharing guidance.
- Where possible consent should be sought from parents and carers to complete the screening tool and share the information, unless to do so would place the child at increased risk. However refusal of consent should not prevent the tool from being completed and a referral to the MASH being made if there are concerns about significant harm to a child.

**Children at risk need as many protective factors as possible. School have a significant role in offering protection, therefore all attempts to maintain school attendance should be made and all partners must work to support a child in retaining their school place.**

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Also known as:</b>		<b>Ethnicity:</b>	
<b>Date of Birth:</b>		<b>Gender:</b>		<b>Disability:</b>	

<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Contact number:</b>	
<b>Lives with, including siblings:</b>	
<b>Who has Parental Responsibility and what is their relationship to the child:</b>  (Any other comments about the relationship).	
<b>Current level of support/legal status</b>  <b>Early help/child in need/child protection/ LAC - s20/Care Order/ Other, if so please state</b>	

**Referrer's details**

Name:

Agency:

Telephone:

Email:

**Date Completed:**

**Reason for completing screening tool:** *(Please explain why you are completing the screening, what your concerns are and provide any intelligence/evidence/information regarding CSE).*

### Child Sexual Exploitation Screening Tool

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child 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.

**Name of child/young person:** \_\_\_\_\_

Serious Risk (harm) Indicators	Current or during the past 6 months:	Prior to 6 months ago:
	Please Tick	Please Tick
<b>Sexual Activity of Concern:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Evidence of multiple sexual contacts with multiple people</li><li>- Clipping (offering sexual activity for money then running after payment)</li></ul>		

Serious Risk (harm) Indicators	Current or during the past 6 months:	Prior to 6 months ago:
	Please Tick	Please Tick
<b>Repeated periods of absence/missing (day and/or night)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Frequently going missing with whereabouts unknown or of concern</li> <li>- Missing with other young people assessed as being at risk/experiencing CSE</li> <li>- Pattern of street homelessness</li> <li>- Persistently running away/going missing from placement or returning late</li> </ul>		
<b>Relationship of concern with adult (male or female) or young person, which might involve physical and/or emotional abuse and/or gang activity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Teenage relationship abuse</li> <li>- Believing they are in a relationship with an older adult (2 years +)</li> <li>- Other relationship where control appears to be present that indicates concern</li> <li>- Gang associations</li> <li>- Risky associations with other young people known to be experiencing CSE.</li> </ul>		
<b>Entering/leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults (not car theft)</b>		
<b>Unexplained amounts of money, expensive clothes or other items</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More than one mobile phone</li> <li>- Unaccounted for money/goods/jewellery</li> <li>- Funding drugs/alcohol/tobacco through unknown sources</li> <li>- Hotel keys</li> </ul>		
<b>Frequenting areas known for risky activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Locations known for adult sex work</li> <li>- Locations where there have been previous or current concerns about grooming/sexual activity</li> <li>- Locations known for gang /criminal activity</li> <li>- Frequently in high risk situations</li> </ul>		
<b>Groomed/abused via the Internet and mobile technology:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Taking and sharing indecent images of self or others with aggravating factors such as the involvement of an adult or older person, evidence of coercion or threat, more than one person involved</li> <li>- Using internet to identify and meet unknown peers/adults</li> <li>- Evidence of displaying or receiving sexualised bullying via the internet/social media</li> <li>- Multiple social media accounts</li> <li>- Excessive texts and calls/changes in behaviour or absconding in response to phone activity (aggressive/anxious)</li> </ul>		

Serious Risk (harm) Indicators	Current or during the past 6 months:	Prior to 6 months ago:
	Please Tick	Please Tick
<b>Having unexplained contact with hotels, taxi companies or fast food outlets:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hotels known for CSE or multiple unknown hotels/B&amp;Bs</li> <li>- Being picked up by different taxis on a regular basis with no plausible explanation or money to pay for them</li> </ul>		
<b>Evidence of sexual/physical assault including where followed by withdrawal of allegation</b>		
<b>Evidence:</b> <i>Please include names/DOB's/dates/locations/vehicle registrations/ social media names/specific risks/ descriptions where possible</i>		

\*\* evidence of a risk indicator from 6 months ago or more should still be considered for the need for a safeguarding referral, primarily if this is information that has not previously been known or investigated even if not current.

Significant Risk	Please Tick
<b>Whereabouts unclear or unknown – day and/or night</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Frequently staying out late without permission and whereabouts unknown and/or of concern</li> <li>- Absconding from education provision</li> </ul>	
<b>Absences/exclusion from school or not engaged in school/college/ training/work</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Failing to attend school and whereabouts unknown</li> <li>- Being on a part time timetable</li> <li>- Suspended or excluded from school and not in alternative provision</li> <li>- Elective home educated but concern over whereabouts during day</li> </ul>	
<b>Regular/Multiple contacts from unknown adults/young people</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At educational provision</li> <li>- At home/placement address</li> <li>- On the telephone/text/messaging apps</li> <li>- Online via social media/gaming/email</li> <li>- Excited about new friendships that are unknown</li> </ul>	

Significant Risk	Please Tick
<b>Physical injuries without plausible explanation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This should still trigger consideration of a safeguarding referral –</li> </ul>	
<b>Sexually transmitted infections/ Pregnancies / termination of pregnancies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Particularly multiple</li> </ul>	
<b>Drug and/or alcohol (mis)use</b>	
<b>Self-harming/challenging behaviours/suicide attempts/ eating disorders/aggression</b>	
<b>Use of a mobile phone which causes concern –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sending/receiving of youth generated sexual images with no aggravating factors</li> <li>- multiple phones/sims/protective of phone/high volume texts/calls</li> <li>- change in behaviour in response to mobile phone contacts</li> </ul>	
<b>Overt sexualised dress/age inappropriate dress</b>	
<b>A&amp;E attendance of concern or with no plausible explanation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- no appropriate adult in attendance or young person unwilling to share details.</li> <li>- Inappropriate explanation of presenting symptoms</li> </ul>	
<b>Being accompanied to appointments by an unknown person that causes concern</b>	
<b>Association with gang members/known criminals</b>	
<b>Evidence:</b> <i>Please include names/DOB's/dates/locations/vehicle registrations/ social media names/specific risks/ descriptions where possible</i>	



At Risk of CSE Indicators	Please tick
Unsuitable/inappropriate accommodation/sofa surfing/financially unsupported (including migrant or refugee children)	
Isolated from or reduced contact with normal peers/family/social networks	
Association with new/unknown groups of peers	
Poor school attendance (current in last 6 months)	
<b>Unsafe use of internet</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Poor privacy setting on social media</li> <li>- Interacting with high numbers of unknown social media "friends"</li> <li>- Poor understanding of how to keep safe online</li> </ul>	
Engaged in offending and/or anti-social behaviour	
Siblings involved in sexual exploitation/risky behaviour	
Poor engagement with support services/key worker	
Lack of awareness/understanding of being safe	
<b>Evidence:</b> <i>Please include names/DOB's/dates/locations/vehicle registrations/ social media names/specific risks/ descriptions where possible</i>	

**COPY OF THE SCREENING SHOULD ALWAYS BE SENT TO Child Sexual Exploitation [CSE@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:CSE@wolverhampton.gov.uk) cc. [sandeep.gill@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:sandeep.gill@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk)**

Vulnerability Factors	Please tick
Social Isolation or social difficulties	
Learning disabilities/special needs or mental health issues	
History of Local Authority Care	
Family conflict/ breakdown, lack of love/security, bereavement through death, loss, illness of a significant person in child's life	
Prior experience of neglect, emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse	
Lack of a safe/stable home environment, now or in the past (domestic abuse and/or substance misuse and/or mental health difficulties or criminality, for example)	
Family history/current experience of sex work	
Reduced capacity (due to age, education, experiences, mental health)	
Disguised compliance by family or minimisation of risks	
Economic vulnerability	
Homelessness or insecure accommodation status	
Absence of a safe environment to explore sexuality	
<b>Evidence:</b> <i>Please include names/DOB's/dates/locations/vehicle registrations/ social media names/specific risks/ descriptions where possible</i>	

The framework includes four categories of risk and is intended to inform appropriate responses in relation to children and young people's safeguarding needs. The presence of one significant risk indicator will necessitate action as per LSCB safeguarding procedures

**Professional Judgement:** In the box below please record your professional judgement based on the information recorded on this screening tool and consider the health, welfare and safety of the child in question, include any protective factors that you are aware of.

	Description	Associated actions
	<p><b>No CSE Risk evident</b></p> <p>A child who may have additional support needs and/or vulnerabilities but is not currently deemed to be at risk of CSE.</p>	<p>Liaise with Agency Designated Safeguarding Advisor for any advice/guidance. Child is not deemed at risk of CSE but there may be additional risks, vulnerabilities or needs to still require action through an early help response or a referral to the MASH.</p> <p>Work with child, young person and family to address the identified support needs, intervene early and take proactive action to prevent escalation. Delivered via a single agency/multi agency early help offer. integrated into an existing multi-agency plan or through a referral to the MASH for assessment by Children's Social Care.</p> <p>Ongoing review of risk required particularly if there are any changes in circumstances.</p> <p>Copy of screening tool is sent to CSE co-ordinator : <a href="mailto:CSE@wolverhampton.gov.uk">CSE@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a> and/or <a href="mailto:sandeep.gill@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk">sandeep.gill@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk</a></p>
<b>Social care threshold 3</b>	<p><b>"At Risk"</b></p> <p>A child who is at risk of being groomed for sexual exploitation.</p>	<p>The indicators raise some concerns that the child may be at risk of being targeted or groomed.</p> <p>Liaise with Agency Designated Safeguarding Advisor for any advice/guidance.</p> <p>Work with the child, young person and family to develop an awareness of the risks that can lead to a situation in which they may be exposed to sexual exploitation should be delivered via a single agency/multi agency early help offer or integrated into an existing multi-agency plan.</p> <p>Local early help referral pathways should be followed and may still require a referral to be sent to the MASH/front door dependent on your local procedures.</p>

		Copy of screening tool is sent to CSE co-ordinator : <a href="mailto:CSE@wolverhampton.gov.uk">CSE@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a> and/or <a href="mailto:sandeep.gill@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk">sandeep.gill@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk</a>
<b>Social care threshold 4</b>	<b>Significant Risk</b>  A child who is at increased risk of CSE and is likely to be/already being targeted for abuse through exchange of sex for affection, drugs, accommodation and goods etc.	(1) A multi-agency approach will be needed to promote child's safety and well-being.  (2) Follow local procedures including referral to Children's Social Care Services: MASH <a href="mailto:MASH@wolverhampton.gov.uk">MASH@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:MASH@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk">MASH@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk</a> ; who will lead the completion of a specialist CSE Risk Assessment on a multi-agency basis. A multi-agency child sexual exploitation meeting should be held to devise a safeguarding and support plan or such activity should be integrated into an existing multi-agency plan. The plan should include actions in relation to disrupting, investigating and prosecuting perpetrators. Risk should be closely monitored and regularly assessed as part of the risk management process.  (3) Inform local CSE Coordinator/Team of young person considered at risk of CSE (so information about the extent and profile of CSE is recorded).  Copy of screening tool is sent to CSE co-ordinator : <a href="mailto:CSE@wolverhampton.gov.uk">CSE@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a> and/or <a href="mailto:sandeep.gill@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk">sandeep.gill@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk</a>
<b>Social care threshold 4</b>	<b>Serious Risk</b>  A child who is entrenched in sexual exploitation, but often does not recognise or self denies the nature of their abuse often in denial, and where coercion/control is implicit.	(1) A multi-agency approach will be needed to promote child's safety and well-being.  (2) Follow local procedures including referral to Children's Social Care Services: MASH <a href="mailto:MASH@wolverhampton.gov.uk">MASH@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:MASH@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk">MASH@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk</a> ; who will lead the completion of a specialist CSE Risk Assessment on a multi-agency basis. A multi-agency child sexual exploitation meeting should be held to devise a safeguarding and support plan or such activity should be integrated into an existing multi-agency plan. The plan should include actions in relation to disrupting, investigating and prosecuting perpetrators. Risk should be closely monitored and regularly assessed as part of the risk management process.  (3) Inform local CSE Coordinator of young person considered at risk of CSE (so information about the extent and profile of CSE is captured by LSCB).  Copy of screening tool is sent to CSE co-ordinator : <a href="mailto:CSE@wolverhampton.gov.uk">CSE@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a> and/or <a href="mailto:sandeep.gill@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk">sandeep.gill@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk</a>

### Where to refer or discuss your concerns:

*Anyone who completes a CSE screening tool, or is considering the need to do so, can seek advice from the Designated Safeguarding Advisor in their agency/service/setting*

*Advice can also be sought from the CSE Co-Ordinator*

**COPY OF THE SCREENING SHOULD ALWAYS BE SENT TO Child Sexual Exploitation [CSE@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:CSE@wolverhampton.gov.uk) cc. [sandeep.gill@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:sandeep.gill@wolverhampton.gcsx.gov.uk)**

*If the screening tool indicates that the child/young person is likely to be at significant risk of sexual exploitation you should contact Children's Social Care or the Police:*

<b>Children's Social Work Services:</b>	MASH	<b>01902 555392</b>
	Emergency Duty Team (EDT) (out of hours)	<b>01902 552999</b>
<b>Police:</b>	Central Referral Unit	<b>101</b>
	Emergency	<b>999</b>

**Where to get more information:**

Wolverhampton Safeguarding Childrens Board Website: [www.wolverhamptonsafeguarding.org.uk](http://www.wolverhamptonsafeguarding.org.uk)

See Me Hear Me Website: [www.seeme-hear.me.org.uk](http://www.seeme-hear.me.org.uk)

NWG: <http://www.nwgnetwork.org/>

Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

PACE – Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation. [www.paceuk.info](http://www.paceuk.info)

NCA Modern Slavery Human Trafficking Unit; <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/about-us/what-we-do/specialist-capabilities/uk-human-trafficking-centre>

Centre of Expertise on CSA: <https://www.csacentre.org.uk/>

