# Safeguarding in Special Circumstances

**Dr NV Tiwari** 

Named Safeguarding GP Herts Valleys CCG





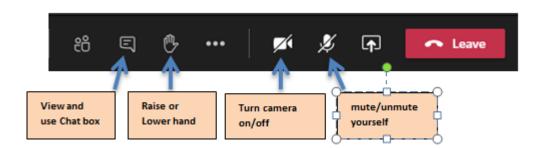
#### **Safeguarding Training**

#### Housekeeping

- Place yourself on mute but feel free to leave your camera on. This well help us to clearly hear the presenters, without background noise and distractions.
- The training session. Please place your question in the "chat box" or raise your hand and the trainer will review all questions.

#### **Troubleshoot Tech Issues:**

- Make sure you are in a place with a strong Wi-Fi signal.
- ✓ Try using headphones if you are having trouble with sound.
- Leave and rejoin the session using the initial invite link.



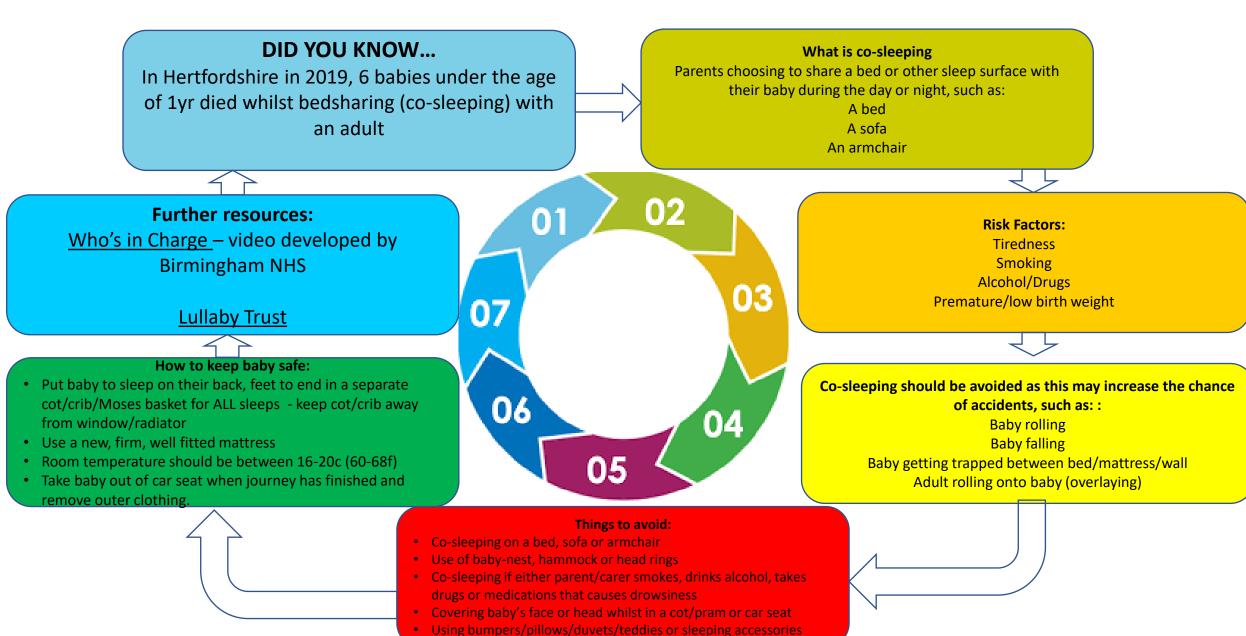
### Today's programme

- The special vulnerabilities of infants
- The older child: Internet safety and gaming
- Contextual safeguarding in Adolescence
- Young adults
- Pregnancy
- Older adults

#### SUDDEN UNEXPECTED DEATH IN INFANTS (SUDI)



To be used at Team Meetings – 7 MINUTE BRIEFING (please see our website for the HCT <u>leaflet on Safe Sleeping</u>



#### Homicide rates in the UK 2019

- Children under the age of 1 had the highest rate of homicide (45 per million population), unchanged from previous years
- followed by those aged 16 to 24 years (18 per million population).

#### Child victims 2019

• For almost a third of child victims the suspect was a parent or stepparent (31%, 21 offences), a similar proportion to the previous year (29%).

## Baby Ethan 2003



### Death of Hemel Hempstead Baby 2003

- Parents were known heroin addicts, and were being treated by various agencies including in general practice
- The baby was registered as a temporary resident at the practice which carried out the 6 week check, and his details were never placed on the electronic record system
- He was presented frequently at two general practice surgeries and at A&E with bleeding from the nose, mouth and anus
- He was seen by 5 different doctors in the fortnight before he died
- Post-mortem examination showed multiple injuries including fractures of differing ages
- There was limited documentation and history taking e.g. the 6 week check was recorded 'NAD' on a temporary resident paper form and the doctor carrying out the check was unaware that the baby had been seen at A&E a few hours earlier

#### Minor marks: major implications

- Subconjunctival haemorrhage
- Minor bruising to visible areas such as face or neck (can be known as sentinel bruising)
- Ptechiae around nose and/or mouth
- (Note Hertfordshire Policy for Management of suspicious bruises/marks in infants
  - https://hertsscb.proceduresonline.com/pdfs/bruising\_suspicious\_marks.pdf)



#### Patterns of injuries

- Involvement of multiple areas of the body beyond bony prominences
- Bruising of ears, facial cheeks, buttocks, palms, soles, neck, genitals
- Bruises at many stages of healing
- Bruises in non-ambulatory child
- Patterned markings resembling objects, grab marks, slap marks, human bites, and loop marks
- Oral injury, lingular or labial frenula tears

# Internet connected toys

Young children

Gaming

Sexting and imaging

#### Toys

- voice or image recognition, such as Hello Barbie™ and Furby Connect
- robots, drones and other mechanical toys, controlled via an app, such as Dash and Dot.

Some of the risks of using internet connected devices are:

- other people might be able to access your device and content without you knowing. You may not be able to see that someone's connected to your device, but sometimes developers or hackers can see your content.
- baby monitors, children's tablets and even remote-control helicopters or drone toys, can be hacked and used by people outside of your home.
- internet connected devices can collect personal data, including audio and visual data.
- NSPCC has tips for keeping your family safe https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/internet-connected-devices/





#### Gaming: why play?

- Socialising with friends. When gaming children can play together on the same team, or play against each other.
- Games based on location, such as Pokémon Go and Wizards Unite, encourage players to go outside and explore.
- Watching videos and livestreams of other people playing, or share tips with other players to develop their own gaming skills.
- Games are designed to be entertaining and can be fun and engaging for young people.
- Watching their favourite gamers on YouTube or livestreaming on Twitch. They may also want to livestream themselves playing games

The hazards of gaming

Bullying

Trolling, griefing and scams

In-game purchases

Talking to people they don't know

### Bullying

- Children may be deliberately excluded from a game by their friends, or criticised for how well they play.
- Other players may swear or use abusive language over voice chat

#### Trolling, griefing, and scams

- Griefers are gamers who deliberately try to ruin the game for other players. This can be called trolling.
- Players may also try to trick or scam young people into giving up 'skins' or other in-game items by offering them money or by hacking their account.
- Skins are a cosmetic feature that let players personalise their character and in-game items. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zfVT0w0G7n4
- Some skins are extremely rare and valuable so losing them can be as upsetting for a child as losing a favourite toy or possession

#### In-game purchases

- Some games cost money to download, or ask players to buy credits or items so they can keep playing.
- Many free games are designed to make the player want to continue (designed to be addictive) but need payments to make this possible, which can be very frustrating.

#### Grooming

• Some games are designed to be played in teams or against other people, and sometimes players can be based in different locations. This means young people can easily play with people they don't know and haven't met. They can communicate using voice, video or text chat. Some gamers use voice chat to discuss tactics and many games have a chat room.

 Young people can also use other platforms, like Discord and Reddit, to learn tips about the games they play and speak to other players with similar interests. Many popular games have official channels with thousands of members. There's a risk of young people being groomed on these platforms.  $Breck \ \, \text{https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2016/jan/23/breck-bednar-murder-online-grooming-gaming-lorin-lafave}$ 



## Relationship between gaming and adolescent aggression

"Too much violence in video games makes it easy for individuals to become accustomed to violence and emotionally apathetic towards the harmful consequences of violence. Moreover, it can make individuals accept the idea that violence is a good way of problem solving"

Front. Psychol., 21 February 2019 | https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.00384

#### Sexting and sending nudes

 Sexting or sending nudes is when someone shares a sexual message, naked or semi-naked image, video or text message with another person. It doesn't have to be a nude image of them and could be an image of someone else.

 Young people can send nudes using phones, tablets and laptops and can share them across any app, site or game, including during a livestream. Many young people also share them on social media channels.

#### Risks of sexting

- losing control of the images, videos or messages and how they're shared. Once something's shared online it's public and can be saved or copied by others.
- blackmail, bullying and harm. Young people can have their photos, messages or videos shared without their consent or be bullied about them.
- This can lead to them feeling difficult emotions like distress or embarrassment and shame.

#### The law

The law says that creating or sharing sexual images or videos of a child under 18 is illegal, even if the person doing it is a child. This includes:

- sending sexual messages to a child
- a child taking an explicit photo or video of themselves or a friend
- sharing an explicit image or video of a child, even if it's shared between children of the same age
- having, downloading or storing an explicit image or video of a child, even if the child gave their permission for it to be taken.
- sharing an explicit image or video of a child is illegal, even if it's shared between children of the same age.
- Sharenting or adults sharing a photo of a child to raise awareness is also illegal.

#### Reporting a sexual image or video

- contact CEOP if you're worried about a child sending naked images,
   videos or sexual messages.
- report the image to the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF). Your child may need a copy of their passport to confirm they're under 18.
- make a report on the social media platform where the image or video is shared. Use Net Aware, in partnership with O2, to learn how to do this on different social networks, apps and games.
- <a href="https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/about">https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/about</a> has a hotline and helpline

# Contextual safeguarding https://contextualsafeguarding.org.uk/

Current child protection processes and legislation focuses on abuse and neglect occurring within the family and perpetrated by family members

Abuse can occur outside of the home and be committed by people unrelated to the child

The different relationships children form in their neighbourhoods, schools and online can feature exploitation, violence and abuse

# Locations for abuse

School

Sports, clubs, leisure activities

Private tutors

Work

#### Contextual safeguarding theory

• Considers the dynamic 'interplay' between the child, family, peers, school, and neighbourhood; and the 'weight of influence' presented by the attitude of their peers.

Four domains need to be present for Contextual Safeguarding to be effective:

- 1. Target: prevent, identify, assess, and intervene with the social conditions of abuse
- 2.Legislation: incorporate extra-familial contexts into child protection frameworks
- 3.Partnerships: with sectors/individuals responsible for the nature of extra-familial contexts
- 4.Outcome measures: monitor outcomes for success in relation to contextual, as well as individual change

https://contextualsafeguarding.org.uk/

### Safeguarding in schools

- Unsafe spaces
- Concealed bullying and abuse
- Peer on peer sexual harassment and violence
- Children with SEN and disability are at greater risk of abuse changes of behaviour, mood and injuries may relate to abuse not disability

## Age of Consent

In law, a person's 18th birthday draws the line between childhood and adulthood (Children Act 1989 s105) - so in health care matters, an 18 year old enjoys as much autonomy as any other adult.

To a more limited extent, 16 and 17 year-olds can also take medical decisions independently of their parents.

The right of younger children to provide independent consent is proportionate to their competence - a child's age alone is clearly an unreliable predictor of his or her competence to make decisions.

Law Lords' decision: Gillick and Fraser Competence 1985

- The Law Lords examined the issue of 'parental rights' and concluded that these only really exist for the benefit of the child and effectively dwindle as the child grows in age and maturity. Lord Scarman stated that this "parental right yields to the child's right" when she becomes sufficiently mature to make autonomous decisions.
- The judges also firmly concluded that any doctor who exercised clinical judgement in offering contraceptive advice to a girl under 16 without her parent's consent would not be guilty of an offence. With these rulings the decision of the Court of Appeal, which had overturned the original ruling, was itself quashed, and Gillick had finally lost.

#### Gillick competence

- Lord Scarman ruled: "I would hold that as a matter of law the parental right to determine whether or not their minor child below the age of 16 will have medical treatment terminates if and when the child achieves a sufficient understanding and intelligence to enable him or her to understand fully what is proposed."
- Thus, Gillick competence allows a child under age 16 to consent to or refuse medical treatment, and it is up to a doctor to decide whether a child has the maturity and intelligence to fully understand the nature of the treatment, the options, the risks involved and the benefits. Importantly, no lower age limit was defined in the ruling for the potentially competent child.

#### Fraser Guidance

- The 'Fraser guidelines' specifically relate only to contraception and sexual health. They are named after one of the Lords responsible for the Gillick judgement but who went on to address the specific issue of giving contraceptive advice and treatment to those under 16 without parental consent. The House of Lords concluded that advice can be given in this situation as long as:
- 1.He/she has sufficient maturity and intelligence to understand the nature and implications of the proposed treatment
- 2.He/she cannot be persuaded to tell her parents or to allow the doctor to tell them
- 3.He/she is very likely to begin or continue having sexual intercourse with or without contraceptive treatment
- 4. His/her physical or mental health is likely to suffer unless he/she received the advice or treatment
- 5. The advice or treatment is in the young person's best interests.

#### Under 13

- There is no lower age limit for Gillick competence or Fraser guidelines to be applied.
- That said, it would rarely be appropriate or safe for a child less than 13 years of age to consent to treatment without a parent's involvement.
- When it comes to sexual health, those under 13 are not legally able to consent to any sexual activity, and therefore any information that such a person was sexually active would need to be acted on, regardless of the results of the Gillick test. (Sexual Offences Act 2003)

#### 16-17

- Young people aged 16 or 17 are presumed in law, like adults, to have the <u>capacity to consent to medical treatment</u>.
- However, unlike adults, their refusal of treatment can in some circumstances be overridden by a parent, someone with parental responsibility or a court. This is because we have an overriding duty to act in the best interests of a child.
- This would include circumstances where refusal would likely lead to death, severe permanent injury or irreversible mental or physical harm.

## Puberty blockers and consent to treatment: of the High Court's ruling

 The High Court in 2020 was asked to determine whether children experiencing gender dysphoria could give informed consent to receive puberty-suppressing drugs, by achieving Gillick competence.

• The court found that competence to consent to such treatment was "highly unlikely" for 13-year-olds and "very doubtful" for those aged 14 or 15. While consent can be presumed for young people aged 16 and 17, medical professionals may want to seek court approval before treatment if there are doubts as to whether it would be in the young person's long-term best interests.

#### Use of Gillick Competence

Two key issues were defined by the court:

- whether Gillick competence could be achieved and
- whether the information being given was adequate (to enable Gillick competence).

#### Judge's comments

- In determining competence, the judgment states that a child must not only have sufficient understanding of the factors relevant to the present, but also be able to objectively weigh information relevant to the future
- Thus, although a child might understand the concept of fertility loss, it is not the same as understanding how this might affect their adult life

#### Potentially lifelong consequences

• "the court acknowledges that a lack of evidence in experimental medicine is not a barrier to competence per se, it is the combination of this with the potentially profound lifelong consequences that a child will struggle to comprehend that has led it to conclude that Gillick competence for a child under 16 is highly unlikely to be reached, no matter how much information and support is given."

## Adultification/commodification/criminalisation bias

- 1.A process of *socialisation*, in which children function at a more mature developmental stage because of situational context and necessity, especially in low-resource community environments
- 2.A social or *cultural stereotype* that is based on how adults perceive children 'in the absence of knowledge of children's behaviour and verbalisations'.
- 3. This latter form of adultification, which is based, in part, on race.
- 4.Children regarded as commodities without human rights, to be used as required by adults, (e.g. Rochdale, Rotherham, Mersey, Jersey)
- 5.Children who are being sexually exploited regarded as child prostitutes, assumed to have agency, control over their own lives

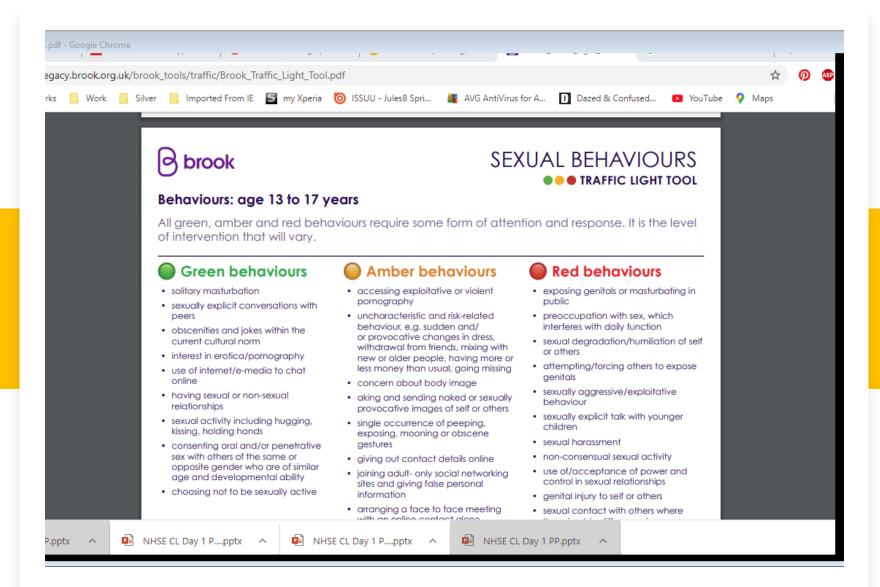
#### Evidence from Mersey Report

https://hampsonhughes.com/latest-posts/sexual-abuse-blog/merseyside-sex-abuse-claims-young-girls-from-care-homes-feared-victim-of-paedophile-ring/

- "I went into care at 14. Staff turned a blind eye whilst I was groomed, battered, kidnapped and raped.
- "They (the alleged attackers) knew the staff. Most were taxi drivers who offered us lifts to school."
- After a few months the girl was moved to Briars Hey home, where she was given cigarettes, alcohol and a phone by one of the taxi drivers, who she said later attacked her in his car after getting her drunk.
- A fortnight after this incident, a taxi took her from the home to a house in Preston, where she was raped and then forced to have sex with numerous men for months.
- She said:
- "There were four or five girls there, all from homes. Two guys kept an eye on us. We called them 'The Keepers'."
- She said that when she tried to escape the house, she was hunted down, then gang-raped and beaten."
- Her claims have been investigated by Lancashire Police since 2012.

#### Current picture of adolescent sexuality

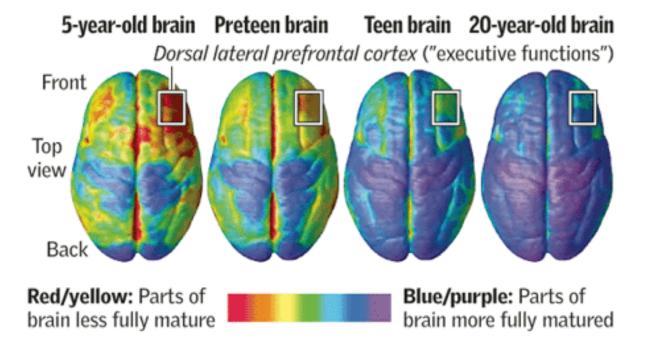
- Peer on peer abuse
- Child sexual exploitation and trafficking
- County lines/gang abuse
- Paedophile rings
- Internet facilitated abuse



Brook
Sexual
Behaviours
Traffic Light
Tool

#### Judgment last to develop

The area of the brain that controls "executive functions" — including weighing long-term consequences and controlling impulses — is among the last to fully mature. Brain development from childhood to adulthood:



#### Adolescent brain development

#### Adolescent brain development

- The parts of the adolescent brain which develop first are those which control physical coordination, emotion and motivation.
- The part of the brain which controls reasoning and impulses known as the Prefrontal Cortex – is near the front of the brain and develops last.
- This part of the brain does not fully mature until the age of 25.

#### The homeschooled child

- Children not attending school nor on a school roll, including children who have been excluded either on a permanent or an informal basis and for whom no suitable alternative provision is arranged.
- Children who fall under the heading 'educated at home', but may not be receiving effective, efficient and suitable education or any education. This includes some children who may not be known to their local authority (LA) or any agencies.
- Children attending unregistered schools, sometimes under the guise of being electively home educated.
- Children in alternative provision that is of insufficient quality or is not provided for the required hours.
- Children without a school place in LAs in which the protocols are not working well enough for hard-to-place children.

#### The law relating to home schooling

- Parents are not legally required to tell their LA (or any other public body) that they are home educating their children.
- They do, however, have a legal duty to ensure that their child receives a suitable education.
- But there is no statutory duty for an LA to routinely monitor the quality of home education.
- Parents can decline an LA's offer of a home visit or a meeting elsewhere to offer advice and support.
- They do not have to cooperate but the LA may take action if it is not satisfied that suitable full-time education is being provided.
- Furthermore, if a child has never been on roll at a school, parents do not have a legal duty to register them at a school or to inform the LA that they are being educated somewhere else.

#### The risks of home schooling

- Schools act as a protective factor in children's lives.
- Children who do not attend school can become 'hidden', which means that we are less able to help and protect them.
- Some may experience risks within their family, such as abuse and neglect.
- There may be risks outside their family, such as radicalisation or exploitation.
- Children who do not attend school may be at further risk of not achieving their educational potential. They may not be able to access formal education or employment in the future if they have not gained recognised qualifications. They will also not benefit from the role that schools play in developing children's skills to participate fully and constructively in society.



Football 17 March 2021: An independent review finds the FA did not "do enough to keep children safe" and that there were "significant institutional failings".

#### Sport and Leisure

- When children take part in sports, there are many reasons why coming forwards with concerns can be difficult.
- They often admire and look up to their coach or mentor, develop a sense of belonging due to being part of a team, and they change and train in close proximity with others.
- If talented they may experience huge pressures from family members to succeed and excel.
- These factors mean that it can be hard to avoid offenders and even harder to report abuse.

#### Private tutors

- work with groups of children
- work on a one-to-one basis
- regularly visit children at home
- work in their own home with children.

Parents need to ensure tutors have undergone all necessary checks including DBS and are safe to work with children

#### Work

- Only children over 13 years old can work part-time but there are different rules for child performers.
- Young people can only start working full-time once they're legally old enough to leave school.
- Children under the school leaving age should only work:
  - the correct number of hours for their age
  - at certain times not before 7 am or after 7 pm
  - if they have regular breaks 1 hour for every 4 hours worked
  - in places that are safe for children. For example, they can't work in factories, industrial sites, pubs or betting shops
  - if it doesn't affect their health, wellbeing and education.
- Child performers: If the child or young person performing is under the school leaving age, they'll need a <u>performance licence</u> if they are taking part in:
  - films, plays, concerts or other public performances that the audience pays to see, or that take place on licensed premises; and/or
  - any sporting events or modelling assignments where they are paid.
  - They need to be chaperoned

#### Keeping children safe outside the home

- For young children- look at friendly dinosaur Pantosaurus to help you Talk PANTS. <a href="https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/">https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/</a>
- Encourage parents to talk to children about their day
- Be alert to sudden behavioural change or new onset symptoms in children-
- Always consider child abuse as a differential diagnosis when previously well, thriving children are presented with sleep disorders, vague aches and pains, headaches, anxiety, depression, self-harm, hyperactivity, increased incidence of accidental injuries, school refusal, running away

## County lines and gangs

County lines is a form of criminal exploitation where urban gangs persuade, coerce or force children and young people to store drugs and money and/or transport them to suburban areas, market towns and coastal towns (Home Office, 2018).

It can happen in any part of the UK and is against the law and a form of child abuse.

Other forms of criminal exploitation include child sexual exploitation, trafficking, gang and knife crime.

#### Video

• <a href="https://www.nnetwork.org.uk/advice/do-you-understand-what-county-lines-is-and-the-affects-it-has-in-our-communities/">https://www.nnetwork.org.uk/advice/do-you-understand-what-county-lines-is-and-the-affects-it-has-in-our-communities/</a>

#### Operational processes

- Perpetrators use children and young people to maximise profits and distance themselves from the criminal act of physically dealing drugs (National Crime agency, 2019).
- Young people do the majority of the work and take the most risk. Children as young as 8 may be employed.
- Dedicated mobile phone lines or "deal lines" are used to help facilitate county lines drug deals. Phones are usually cheap, disposable and old fashioned, 'burner phones' because they are changed frequently to avoid detection by the police.
- Gangs use the phones to receive orders and contact young people to instruct them where to deliver drugs. This may be to a local dealer or drug user, or a dealer or drug user in another county.

#### Risks to the child

- Drugs: Perpetrators may use drugs and alcohol to entice young people into the gang lifestyle. In some cases gangs trick young people into incurring drug debts that they then have to pay off through county lines activity. This is often referred to as 'debt bondage'.
- Physical violence: The fear of serious physical violence as revenge for disrespecting, 'snitching' or 'grassing' is one of the things that prevents young people from leaving gangs or seeking help from the police and other agencies.
- Sexual Abuse or exploitation: young people being forced into sexual activity with gang members or for the gang's financial gain
- vulnerable children being made to work off drug debts through sexual exploitation as 'payment' (this might happen after the child has been coerced into becoming dependent on drugs by the gang)
- children being groomed into what they believe is a romantic relationship with a gang member which then leads to exploitation

#### Transportation of drugs

 Some children are forced to transport drugs in ways that are invasive and harmful to their bodies. Young people may be forced to swallow bags of drugs to transport them, which could potentially be life threatening.

• The practice of 'plugging' is also common, whereby drugs are inserted into a child's rectum or vagina. This is a form of sexual abuse and in some cases it can cause a child's death (Ofsted et al, 2018)

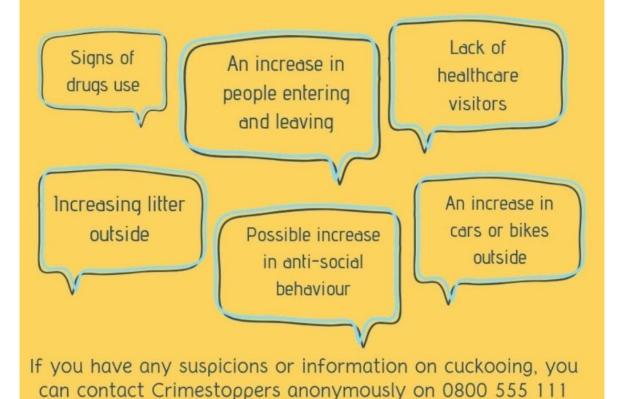
Children who are trafficked or missing from home

- Young people can be trafficked to locations far away from where they live for long periods of time, forced to deal drugs or provide sexual services.
- They may end up staying in unsuitable accommodation in an area that is unknown to them.
- This might include short term holiday lets or budget hotels.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=230dI9 Qk8S0

#### Cuckooing

- This happens when a county lines gang takes over the home of a vulnerable adult by coercion or force, and use it as a base to deal drugs from.
- The vulnerable adult may have issues with substance misuse or mental health problems, be elderly or disabled or be in debt to the gang.
- These factors can make it easier for the gang to exploit and control them.
- Children can be forced or coerced to stay at cuckooed addresses for long periods of time to deal drugs or as sex workers.
- A cuckooed address is sometimes referred to as a 'bando' or a 'spot' by county lines gangs (Thurrock Council, 2020).

## Signs that 'cuckooing' may be going on at a property include:



www.crimestoppers-uk.org #SAW19

#### Cuckooing: the nest

- ""I have had my house taken over and witnessed it a lot it's everywhere now, like a big craze going on. Especially with all the big city people," Kevin said. "They prey on people with habits and addictions as they use it as a key to get in. In my experience I needed money and I was lonely. These people pretended to be my mates.
- "But they don't give a shit about us losing our places, they just cause trouble at your door. They are like bullies. They start off as friends but end up as bullies."
- Kevin's response to their departure is one measure of just how difficult the problem is to solve. "I always itched to have them back as I missed the company," he said. "They prey on lonely people and drug users. Some people are looking for them to come.""
- <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/sep/18/they-start-as-friends-but-end-as-bullies-the-victims-of-cuckooing">https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/sep/18/they-start-as-friends-but-end-as-bullies-the-victims-of-cuckooing</a>

#### Financial exploitation and abuse

 Gangs are known to launder money from drug sales through children's bank accounts, either by using an existing account or forcing or persuading the child to open a new one (Children's Society, 2019).

• County lines gangs might refer to 'squares' - meaning cash cards, and 'deets' - meaning bank details (Safe4Me, 2019).

#### Child trafficking and modern slavery

• Child trafficking is child abuse. It's defined as recruiting, moving, receiving and harbouring children for the purpose of exploitation. Child trafficking is a form of modern slavery (HM Government, 2014).

#### Purpose of trafficking

- child sexual exploitation
- criminal activity, including:
- cannabis cultivation
- street crime such as pickpocketing, begging and bag theft
- moving drugs
- benefit fraud
- immigration fraud
- selling pirated goods, such as DVDs

- forced marriage domestic servitude, including:
- cleaning
- childcare
- cooking

forced labour, including working in:

- restaurants
- nail bars
- factories
- agriculture
- illegal adoption
- unreported private fostering arrangements (for any exploitative purpose).

#### Help for trafficked children

• If you suspect a child may be trafficked, call the Modern Slavery Helpline on 0800 012 1700.

• If the child is in immediate danger phone 999 immediately and let the operator know that there is a possibly that they are a trafficked child.

 You should also make a safeguarding referral to your local child protection services

#### Children living with domestic abuse

- Delayed development
- Truancy
- Running away
- Avoiding extra curricular activities
- Aggressive/anger to siblings
- Attending school late
- Fakes illness to miss school
- Memory/concentration difficulties

- Protective towards mother/siblings
- Attends school when ill
- Secretive about family life
- Advanced maturity/sense of responsibility
- Anger
- Staying late after school
- Aggressive towards mother
- Responses to home and school

### Vulnerable Young Adults

# Anyone aged 18 or over who is unable to look after their own

- well-being,
- property, rights, or other interests
- and is at risk of harm (either from another person's behaviour or their own behaviour) due to disability, illness, physical or mental infirmity.

# Assessment of capacity

1. Is there an impairment of, or disturbance in the functioning of a person's mind or brain? This could be due to long-term conditions such as mental illness, dementia, or learning disability, or more temporary states such as confusion, unconsciousness, or the effects of drugs or alcohol.

2. If the answer to the above is yes, is the impairment or disturbance sufficient that the person lacks the capacity to make a particular decision when they need to?

#### Decision making

A person is unable to make their own decision if they cannot do one or more of the following:

- a)understand information given to them
- b) retain that information long enough to be able to make the decision
- c)weigh up the information available to make the decision
- d)communicate their decision this could be by talking, using sign language, or even simple muscle movements such as blinking an eye or squeezing a hand.
- Every effort must be made to find ways of communicating with someone before deciding that they lack capacity to make a decision based solely on their inability to communicate

#### Referrals without consent

- If an adult at risk of abuse is perceived to lack the mental capacity to make the decision regarding a referral, professionals must consider what is in the adult's best interests. A referral without consent must be made in cases where:
- a) there is an emergency or life-threatening situation
- b)other people are, or may be, at risk including children
- c) sharing the information could prevent a serious crime
- d)a serious crime has been committed.

Note that adult social care services do not have a statutory obligation to respond within a specified timeframe. Local response timeframe targets may operate; these are available on the individual local authority Safeguarding Adult Board website. Responses may include: 1. no further action, 2. an enquiry under Section 42 of the Care Act (refer to procedure 3.9, 'Working with adult services')

#### Aim of a referral

Prevent, reduce or prevent, reduce or remove specific risks remove support individual adults to recover from any abuse or neglect they Support have experienced Help help people make the decisions they feel are right for them.

### **Working with Parents with Emotionally Unstable Personality Disorder (EUPD)**



To be used at Team Meetings – 7 MINUTE BRIEFING (please refer to the FULL <u>Guidance to Support Staff</u> document for more in-depth information)

#### What is EUPD?

EUPD (aka Borderline Personality Disorder or Complex PTSD) is characterised by a pattern of instability in relationships, mood and impulsivity. There is no single cause identified for EUPD; it's causes are multiple and include both genetic (nature) and environmental (nurture) factors.

#### **Symptoms of EUPD:**

Intense and highly changeable moods that can last for several days; dysfunctional self-image; feeling isolated/bored; lack of self-confidence; impulsivity; risky/self-destructive behaviours; excessive sensitivity/mistrust/hostility in relationships; fear of rejection/abandonment; self-harming behaviour; suicidal thoughts

#### Impact of EUPD on Parenting:

Some parents (not all) may experience difficulties with attachment to the baby/ feelings of rejection or hostility if baby cries for prolonged periods/ struggle to set boundaries etc.

Feeling of rejection when their child begins to develop independence. Difficulty separating their own needs from that from the child.

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#### Impact of symptoms of EUPD:

Difficulties developing mature/lasting relationships; function effectively in home/education/work.

Failures in these areas accentuate feelings of rejection, depression and self-destructive impulses; distorted perception of themselves/others; experience enormous emotional pain and evoke high levels of anxiety in those around them.

#### **Causes of EUPD:**

Current research points to the development of EUPD to be an interaction between biological factors (e.g. genetics/hormonal) and environmental factors (e.g. history of abuse, early attachment). There is often a history of traumatic/adverse experiences in childhood or the adolescent period



#### **Suicide and EUPD:**

1 in 10 people with EUPD end their own lives.

Some of these deaths are the result of accidental self-harm.

During perinatal period, mothers with EUPD are more likely to find the demands of parenting more emotionally demanding and may have a increased propensity towards ending their own lives.

#### **Self-Harm and EUPD:**

Repeated self-harm can be seen as a method used in an attempt to regulate painful emotions. Whilst self-harm can often offer an immediate reduction in stress, for most people this only works in the short term, and many find themselves feeling guilty and ashamed, creating additional negative feelings

# Abuse in young adults without known care and support needs

- Modern slavery/exploitative labour practices
- Domestic abuse including coercion, 'honour' based violence, forced marriage, FGM,
- Radicalisation

# Signs of domestic abuse

- Highly developed social skills
- Lack of concentration
- Withdrawn
- Lack of trust
- Self harm
- Lying
- Attention seeking
- Victim of bullying
- Over responsive to loud sudden sounds
- Poor social <u>skills</u>

- Perfect behaviour
- Bullying
- Drug/alcohol abuse
- Tired, Yawning
- External front of fearlessness
- Low self-esteem
- Criminal behaviour
- Fantasizing
- Hyperactivity
- Disruptive or troublesome behaviour

# Help and support for victims of domestic abuse

- Call the National Domestic Abuse Helpline
- You can call for free and in confidence, 24-hours a day.
- 0808 2000 247
- We understand it can be difficult to pick up the phone. You can now chat to us online, live: Monday – Friday, 3pm – 10pm. https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.u k/en/How-can-we-support-you

- Herts Sunflower
- Herts Domestic Abuse Helpline
- 08 088 088 088
- Free and confidential support for anyone affected by domestic abuse.
- Mon-Fri: 9am 9pm
- Sat-Sun: 9am 4pm
- Or email: Kim@mailpurple.org confidentially, anytime.

## Modern Slavery

- Most prevalent nationality Romania, reported out of total 1552 referrals, individuals from many countries including England
- Age groups 18-24 years old (28%). The second most prevalent age group is the 25-34 year comprising 26% (279) of those where the age is known. Although over half of those indicated in situations are reported to be between 18-34, in 2020, 34 (3%) of those indicated were over 60 years of age. 11% under 15.
- Type of exploitation: Labour, Sexual, Domestic, Criminal
- More than half were male
- https://www.unseenuk.org/ Annual Report 2020

## Trafficking and modern slavery

• Suspicion of trafficking: it is necessary to identify an element of coercion in the context of trafficking, (children are recognised as being unable to consent to their own exploitation).

### Modern slavery:

- labour exploitation: victims are forced to work for nothing, low wages or a wage that is kept by their owner; work is involuntary, forced and/or under the threat of a penalty, and the working conditions can be poor
- sexual exploitation: victims are exploited through non-consensual abuse or another person's sexuality for the purpose of sexual gratification, financial gain, personal benefit or advantage, or any other non-legitimate purpose
- domestic servitude: victims are domestic workers who perform a range of household tasks (for example, cooking and cleaning); some live with their employers and have low pay, if any at all
- criminal exploitation: victims are forced to work under the control of criminals in activities such as forced begging, shoplifting, pickpocketing, cannabis cultivation, drug dealing and financial exploitation
- organ harvesting: living or deceased victims are recruited, transported or transferred, by threat or force for money, for their organs
- Because of the nature of the crime, a victim can suffer from multiple exploitation types at the same time or throughout their lifetime.
- <a href="https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/modernslaveryintheuk/march2020">https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/modernslaveryintheuk/march2020</a>

### Alerting signs and referral mechanisms

- Sectors: car washes, nail bars, agriculture, cannabis farming, construction industry
- Poor health and safety conditions, excessive working hours
- Use of Safe Car Wash App <u>https://www.theclewerinitiative.org/safecarwash</u>
- UK Modern Slavery Helpline <a href="https://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org/">https://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org/</a>

### Radicalisation

Radicalisation is the process by which an individual, influenced by internal and external factors, starts to develop increasingly extremist ideals and aspirations to disrupt society that can lead to violent extremism or terrorism.

There is no obvious profile of anyone likely to become involved in extremism or a single indicator of when a person might move to adopt violence in support of extremist ideas.

The process of radicalisation is different for every individual and can take place over an extended period or within a very short time frame.

### Alerting signs child and adult

- isolating themselves from family and friends
- talking as if from a scripted speech
- unwillingness or inability to discuss their views
- a sudden disrespectful attitude towards others
- increased levels of anger
- increased secretiveness, especially around internet use.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=udRpKAlu-Q8

# PREVENT – Anti Terrorism and Anti-Radicalisation of Vulnerable People

 The PREVENT Strategy is a cross-Government policy that forms one of the four strands of CONTEST: the United Kingdom's Strategy for Counter Terrorism. It includes the anti-radicalisation of vulnerable adults and children.

CONTEST as a counter-terrorism strategy is organised around four work streams, each comprising a number of key objectives:

- PURSUE: To stop terrorist attacks;
- PREVENT: To stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism;
- PROTECT: To strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack; and
- PREPARE: To mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack.

### Thank you, any questions?



### Resources and References

- CEOP online safety <a href="https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/">https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/</a>
- Childline <a href="https://www.childline.org.uk/">https://www.childline.org.uk/</a>
- Contextual Safeguarding Network <u>https://contextualsafeguarding.org.uk/</u>
- Forced Marriage Unit <a href="https://www.gov.uk/stop-forced-marriage">https://www.gov.uk/stop-forced-marriage</a>
- Honour Based Violence Refuge <a href="https://www.refuge.org.uk/our-work/forms-of-violence-and-abuse/honour-based-violence/">https://www.refuge.org.uk/our-work/forms-of-violence-and-abuse/honour-based-violence/</a>
- KarmaNirvana <a href="https://karmanirvana.org.uk/about/honour-based-abuse/">https://karmanirvana.org.uk/about/honour-based-abuse/</a>

### References and Resources

- Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership
   https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/childrens-social-care/child-protection/hertfordshire-safeguarding-children-partnership/hscp.aspx
- Modern Slavery <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/modern-slavery">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/modern-slavery</a>
- NSPCC Learning <a href="https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-protection-system/gillick-competence-fraser-guidelines">https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-protection-system/gillick-competence-fraser-guidelines</a>
- SCIE https://www.scie.org.uk/children/safeguarding/
- Sexual Behaviours Traffic Light Tool <a href="https://www.brook.org.uk/training/wider-professional-training/sexual-behaviours-traffic-light-tool/">https://www.brook.org.uk/training/wider-professional-training/sexual-behaviours-traffic-light-tool/</a>
- Working Together to Safeguarding Children <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2</u>