



**Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership  
Child Exploitation Priorities 2023-2028**

**A Plan to Tackle and Prevent Child Exploitation in Rotherham**

## Introduction

Tackling exploitation of children in Rotherham is one of our most important roles, and always will be. Our priority is to work in partnership with organisations, communities, children and their families to reduce child exploitation and keep children safe. We commit to focusing on harm reduction in our communities through awareness raising campaigns and the identification of individual and groups of children that may be vulnerable, at risk of or victim of exploitation, and in the pursuit of criminals and bringing them to justice. In Rotherham we also recognise the need to provide post abuse support to victims and survivors and this has and will continue to be significant to us. At the heart of all our activities is ensuring that the voices of victim and survivors is listened to, and that the lived experience of the child sits at the centre of our approach.

***Child Exploitation includes Child Sexual Exploitation, Child Criminal Exploitation, Radicalisation, Modern slavery, Human Trafficking and Honour Based Violence***

This Child Exploitation Plan sets out how we will deliver our priorities, based under the 4 Ps, **Prepare Prevent Protect Pursue**, which will be driven by the Child Exploitation Delivery Group. This will have strategic oversight from the Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership (RSCP), with strong links into the Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP). The priorities, derived from the National Child Sexual Abuse Plan and the National Child Sexual Exploitation Action Plan, are based in evidence and methodology of supporting organisations to help target offenders and protect children and young people, through new ways of working, to understand the complexity and extent of Child Exploitation. These priorities were the basis of the previous Rotherham Child Sexual Exploitation Plan and remain relevant.

The Safeguarding Children Partnership recognise that a broader view of safeguarding and response is required when considering the exploitation of children and young people. Our approach to child exploitation recognises the different forms of exploitation, which encompasses child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation and, where there are links to child exploitation, gangs, county lines, knife crime, radicalisation, youth violence, modern slavery and child trafficking. The Plan recognises and addresses the risks and vulnerabilities faced by children who go missing, children with additional needs, issues of equality and diversity, children experiencing other forms of abuse, Looked After Children and Care Leavers, increases in online abuse and associated risks and those who are victims of or witnesses of domestic abuse. We continue to support Operation Stovewood and the National Crime Agency's investigation into historical

allegations of abuse in Rotherham during the period between 1997 and 2013, with extensive support services being available for adult survivors, as well as undertaking proactive work to protect children today.

It is the intent of all agencies to improve the lives of vulnerable children and young people living in Rotherham, to identify potential victims due to vulnerability and to safeguard them from further risk of harm. This Plan builds on the ***'Plan to Tackle and Prevent Child Exploitation in Rotherham – 2019-2022'*** and has an associated delivery plan. It sets out intentions regarding use of data to capture themes, emerging trends and using these for learning and response purposes, as well as how agencies will work together to ensure there is the most effective and coordinated response to identify and protect children at risk of exploitation. There are robust community safety and engagement arrangements in place to support the work we do as a Safeguarding Children Partnership and as a Safeguarding Adults Partnership. This Plan sets out the strategic priorities and focuses on building on communities' strengths and empowering them to keep children safe.

Specific legal duties that relate to this Plan are:

- *Children Act 1989 – Section 17* – places duty on the local authority to provide services to children in need in their area, regardless of where they are found
- *Children Act 1989 – Section 47* – requires local authorities to undertake enquiries if they believe a child has suffered or is likely to suffer significant harm.
- *Working Together 2018* – states: *'Whilst it is parents and carers who have primary care for their children, local authorities, working with partner organisations and agencies, have specific duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in their area'*
- *The National Plan for Child Sexual Exploitation* – sets out the Government's ambition to prevent, tackle and respond to all forms of child sexual abuse

Other guidance documents on or linked to Child Exploitation includes:

- Serious Violence Plan
- Keeping Kids Safe
- The Home Office Child Exploitation Toolkit (2019)

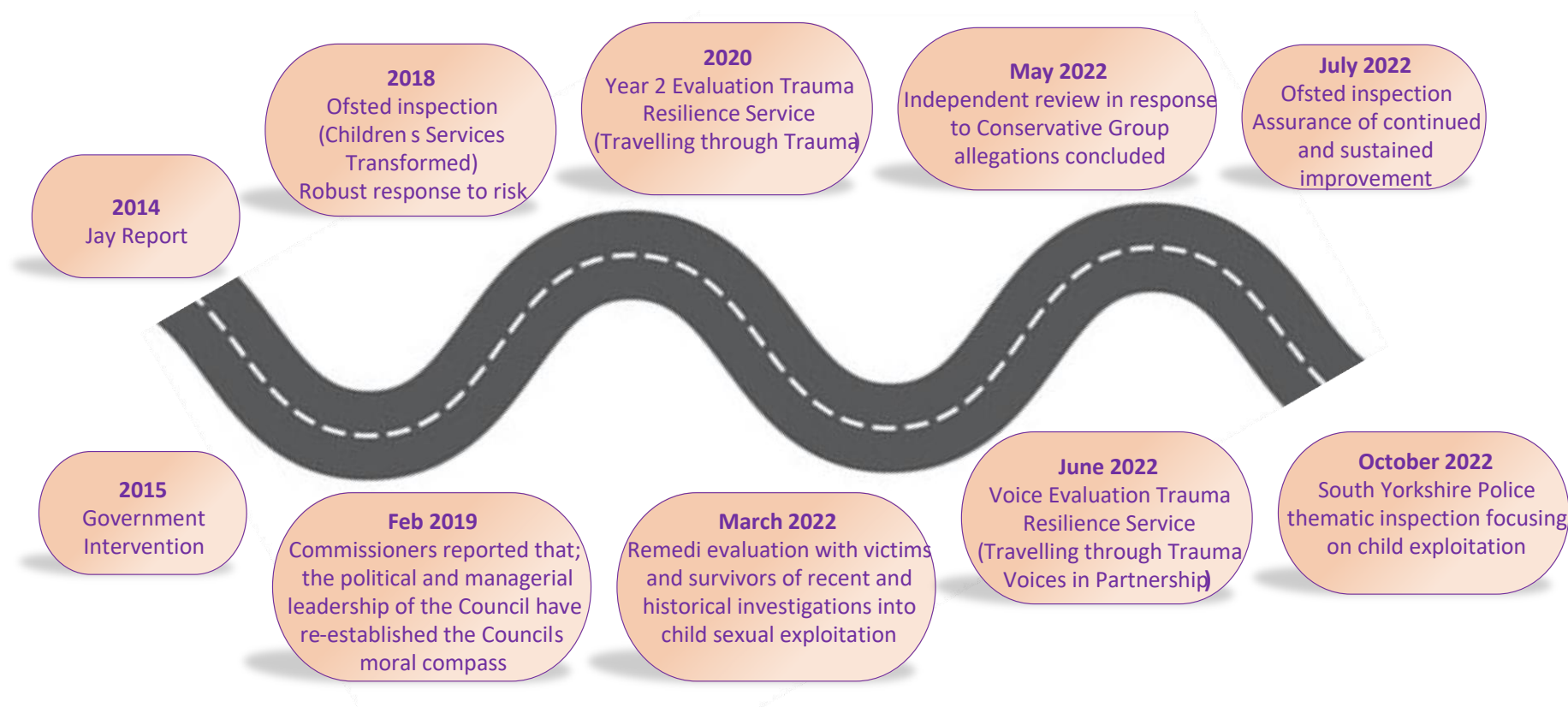
see links in the glossary

Whilst there are clear definitions of what Sexual Exploitation and Criminal Exploitation are, there are similarities between the two in relation to the tactics used by criminals, and the impact for the victims, and that children can be victim of both at the same time, by the same perpetrator. In response we have adopted the umbrella term of Child Exploitation, and this has resulted in bringing together these complex work areas under one pathway with one specialised multi-agency service – ***EVOLVE***. This service has co-located social workers, police officers, missing advocates, family support workers, and voluntary sector

officers from Barnardo's and a dedicated health professional which ensures effective sharing of information. They work directly with the child, their family and wider networks to develop safety plans that recognise and respond to the harm outside of the home.

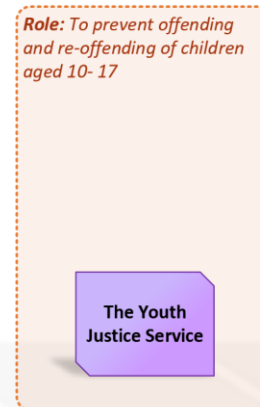
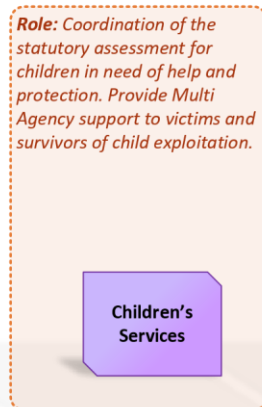
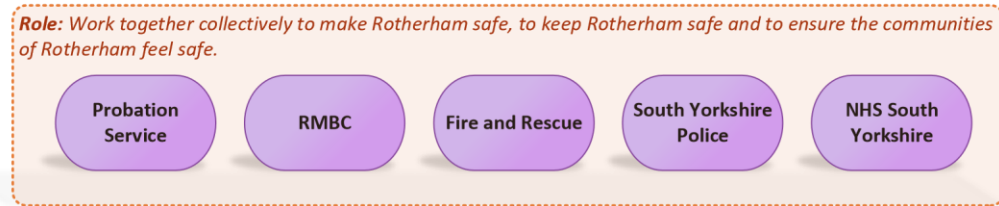
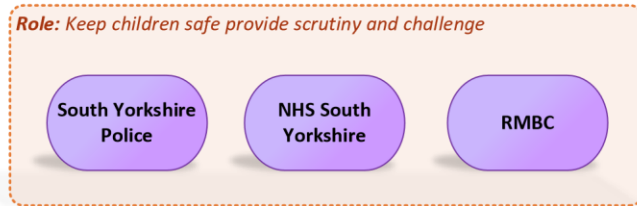
## **Our Journey**

The Rotherham Partnership ambition is to be at the forefront of tackling Child Exploitation. Since 2014 and the publishing of the Jay Report (covering years 1997-2013) there has been on a significant journey of improvement, led by the voice of survivors and victims. We set high standards, and achievement is validated by external and independent experts, including the Office for Standards in Education Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) the Independent Review completed in 2022 in response to Conservative Group allegations, all of whose recommendations have integral to this Plan and the associated Delivery Plan.



## Roles and Responsibilities

We know that one agency cannot tackle the complexity of child exploitation alone. Effective interventions, whether they are community groups, universal services, early help, child in need or child protection, are dependent on professionals having strong working relationships that recognise each organisations' statutory responsibilities and procedures regarding keeping children safe. Partnership working is a strength in Rotherham, something that each organisation continually invests in.



## Priorities

Strand		How will we achieve this	How will measure success
<b>PREPARE</b>  To have an effective response to tackling exploitation in Rotherham, from prevention, safeguarding systems, identification of	Partnerships are just one of our unique strengths, and support us in all our activities to safeguard against all forms of exploitation	We will continue to work together, have a multi-agency approach to tackling exploitation through our Evolve Childs Exploitation team, and joint operational and strategic meetings	Evolve will continue the partnership approach to tackling child exploitation  Meetings will be represented from across the partnership  Transparent escalation processes in the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership and Safer Rotherham Partnership
	Ensure we have effective early identification services	Promoting early interventions through universal services and use of the early help assessment key tool to support the early identification and intervention by universal and targeted services	Increase in identification  Increase prevention at an earlier stage  Data to be analysed for themes and emerging trends to inform learning and response

<p>offenders, to victim support</p> <p> </p>	<p>Ensure we have effective intervention embedded within communities to minimise the occurrence and harm linked to child exploitation</p>	<p>Developing, informing and empowering communities to have an empowered and active role in prevention</p> <p>Ensure that information including strategies, and information on what to do if there are concerns, is available in different languages to ensure all people know how to raise concerns and where to</p>	<p>Targeted communication through communities, universal services and the partnership around child exploitation, raising awareness around spotting the signs of criminal and sexual exploitation and online abuse. Engagement work with communities, universal services and partners to capture they knowledge of contextualised safeguarding, spot the signs, and compare to referral origin data to the police and children's services</p> <p>Communication training and awareness raising to include consideration of equality and diversity, language and additional needs, and this to be captured via audit activity</p> <p>Clear reporting pathways for organisations, professionals and from the community are embedded</p>
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		<p>Provide continuous targeted education and training in priority areas</p>	<p>All schools in Rotherham will be offered a targeted intervention from specialist services including EVOLVE, with a priority on high risk and vulnerable areas</p> <p>Training will be offered to youth groups, focusing on high risk and vulnerable areas, include spot the signs, healthy relationships and friendships, issues of equality and diversity and inclusion, and children with additional needs</p>
			<p>Ensure that training covers all formed of exploitation, criminal exploitation, sexual exploitation, gangs, county lines, knife crime, radicalisation, youth violence, modern slavery and child trafficking</p>



		Development of a child exploitation pathway for practitioners across the partnership workforce	Children vulnerable or at risk of exploitation referred to Children Services and assessed as low risk will receive an early help assessment and intervention / support
		<p>Prepare young people for adulthood</p> <p>Effective safeguarding partnerships arrangements monitored by the Rotherham</p> <p>Strong Safeguarding Partnership</p> <p>Transitioning arrangements in place for vulnerable young people transitioning to adulthood and adult services</p> <p>Quality assurance activity and appreciative enquiries will evidence strong partnership working and effective practice leading to good outcomes</p> <p>Embedded data reporting systems across the partnership</p>	
	Promote our established and successful systems and interventions to install confidence in our partners, communities, and survivors on the outstanding work undertaken	Communicate success of the 2019 -2022 plan and activities through awareness initiatives including spot the signs, training events, Makesafe and Keepsafe. Work with community groups, voluntary sector and elected members to link with communities and engage them in feedback to support the CE Plan and associated workplan	Communities will have awareness of who to contact if they have concerns. They will speak positively about services, and the Towns response to Child Exploitation
	Promote safeguarding is everybody business	Promotion of awareness raising including Spot the Signs, Makesafe and Keepsafe. Draw on community groups and link in with community activities	

<b>PREVENT</b> Reducing exploitation from happening in Rotherham	Ensure the right learning and development offer in place for all partners, relevant organisations and community groups around areas of child exploitation	The partnership is trained to identify and act on early indicators around Child Exploitation and understand their role in the Safeguarding process	Partnership Training offer from Rotherham Safeguarding Partnership will be audited, and monitored against demand and performance data
		To review and evaluate the impact of the whole range of services	Multi-agency audit Internal audits Appreciative enquires
		Use analytical capability and capacity to identify high risk areas of vulnerability. This will enable us to target intervention/prevention activity, including identification of emerging themes to support early intervention and longer-term problem solving	Community, universal services, early intervention and locality-based problem-solving delivers reductions in risk and vulnerability Assurance checking against data and quality

		Work to identify and engage with hardto-reach communities to improve confidence in reporting abuse	Increased engagement with all communities Recognition of inclusion, equality and diversity through language in all activities Increase in reporting from communities Improved trust and confidence from communities.
		Work with organisations, community groups and businesses that work with or provide a service to children to improve their knowledge and understanding and practices in spotting the signs and taking appropriate action	Operation Make Safe to continue and be expanded out  Training to be provided to organisations where there is contact with young people, and focusing vulnerable areas

		<p>Work with Communities and community groups to provide education and learning</p> <p>Work with children and young people in communities, youth groups and schools to provide education and awareness of the risks and empower them to support themselves and keep themselves and their peers safe</p>	<p>Operation Keepsafe to continue, focusing on vulnerable areas</p> <p>Work with children and young people directly in schools, community groups and in the community, providing workshops and engagement sessions on healthy relationships, spot the signs, keepsafe and what to do if they are worried for themselves, friends or peers</p>
			<p>National Referral Mechanisms' will be used for all high-risk victims of exploitation</p>
<p><b>PROTECT</b></p> <p>Keeping children and young people safe from harm through exploitation</p>	<p>Ensure that local processes and practices are effectively protecting children when child exploitation is suspected or confirmed, as well as effective working arrangements to ensure that perpetrators are identified and brought to justice</p>	<p>Evidencing that child who are at risk of, or who are experiencing child exploitation receive interventions that reduce risk in a timely way</p>	<p>Processes for referral to intervention are clear to all partners and the public</p>
		<p>South Yorkshire Policing is Child Centred and ensures the child is firstly seen as a victim</p>	<p>Children are protected and supported when they are vulnerable to exploitation or have been exploited</p>
		<p>The on-going collection of service user feedback from children and families,</p>	<p>Strong pathways to listen to the voices of victims and survivors Evidence of feedback influencing practice</p>

		considering the impact of practice on children, young people and their families as well as perpetrators of abuse	
		Review of the child protection process for children who are at risk outside the home as a coordinated approach whilst embedding effective partnership processes and response to protect vulnerable individuals from risk whilst targeting those who seek to harm them	Contextualised safeguarding arrangements embedded in all relevant training courses Contextualised safeguarding risks considered in all safeguarding discussions and actions along with traditional risks
	Provide support to victims and survivors of exploitation, recognising the importance of trauma informed practice and ensuring their needs are met, and understanding that this will be continuous activity	Development and implementation of the trauma resilience roadmap, providing post abuse support to victims and survivors	Post abuse services are flexible to meet the needs of victims and survivors at the point of need  Community, universal and targeted services have access to clinical guidance to enable them to provide post abuse support The voice of victim and survivors continues to inform pathway and service development
<b>PURSUE</b> Identifying offenders of exploitation and bring them to justice	Pursue all forms of child abuse including sexual abuse sexual exploitation and criminal exploitation and bringing offenders to justice.	The continued review and refinement of processes and pathways so support effective sharing and recording of information about people who pose a risk and or are known to Operation Stovewood	Processes for referral to intervention are clear to all partners and the public
	All child exploitation, including single incidents, individual and groups of children, and complex and organised abuse networks		Utilise the information from partners, CETG and MACE to identify subject and offending profiles, working in partnership to proactively target and disrupt criminal activity
			Police will utilise all available covert and overt techniques to safeguard victims and target perpetrators

	are identified and understood, effectively managed, investigated and resolved. There are effective working arrangements to ensure that perpetrators are identified and brought to justice		Multi-agency approach to proactively target and disrupt offenders through operation fortify
	Ensure that the right strategic and operational arrangements are in place so that investigations including Operation Stovewood around large scale historic abuse concerns in the borough connect effectively to processes for current work with children and survivor	The police with support of partners will pursue those offenders who cause the most harm	For the child exploitation delivery group to continue to lead on ensuring the systematic learning from experiences of Operation Stovewood is embedded into current and future practice
			Ensure there is continued engagement with service users and communities to consider the wider impact of large-scale operations and how we can improve practice

**These priorities sit alongside a work plan, which is actioned and driven by the Child Exploitation delivery Group.**

**END**

## Appendix Organisations

**Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership (RSCP)**. Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 places the responsibility on the three 'safeguarding partners', the police, the local authority and health agencies, to formulate the local arrangements for partnership arrangements for safeguarding children in their respective geographical areas. The partnership is made up of executive officers from the partners, and who meet regularly to review arrangements for keeping children safe, providing scrutiny and challenge as part of their duties. Feeding into the partnership are four delivery groups, Child Exploitation, Learning and Improvement, Performance and Quality and Practice Review Group where scrutiny and assurance and challenge takes place and is then provided to the partnership meetings. These meetings are chaired by senior staff from different organisations which provides accountability.

**The Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP)** is the borough's Community Safety Partnership, set up under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The SRP work out how to deal with crime and local issues like anti-social behaviour, drug or alcohol misuse and reoffending. They assess local crime priorities annually, consulting with partners and the local community about their priorities and monitor progress in achieving them. There are five responsible authorities that make up the Safer Rotherham Partnership: Probation Service, Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue and South Yorkshire Police. They work together collectively to make Rotherham safe, to keep Rotherham safe and to ensure the communities of Rotherham feel safe.

**Children's Services** are responsible for the co-ordinating of statutory assessments for children in need. Where there are concerns about the safety and welfare of a child, a referral should be made to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). They will assess the information and if deemed appropriate undertake further assessment. The assessment may result in the provision of services designed to address the identified needs of the child through Early Help support, Barnardo's, a multi-agency child in need plan or child protection plan. Where a child is assessed as having suffered, or being at risk of, significant harm as a result of Exploitation, Children's Services will follow a Contextual Safeguarding process to ensure that extra familial risks are considered under a multi-agency plan coordinated by the exploitation team – Evolve. Barnardo's are commissioned to work alongside Evolve, Social Care and Early Help to support children and young people at low risk of exploitation. Multi agency support is provided to victims and survivors of Child Exploitation.

**Adult Services** are responsible for the co-ordinating of statutory assessments for adults with eligible care act needs. Where there are concerns about the safety and welfare of an adult, a referral should be made to the adult social care front door. They will assess the information and if deemed appropriate undertake further assessment. The assessment may result in the provision of services designed to address the identified needs of the adult through early intervention and prevention, care act assessment, and review. Where an adult is assessed as having suffered, or being at risk of, significant harm including as a result of exploitation, adult services will follow a safeguarding process to ensure that all risks are considered under a multi-agency framework.

Alongside a statutory duty, Rotherham adult social care has a vulnerable adult's risk management approach to people with a level of complexity, dual diagnosis or offender management who do not meet either adult social care or mental health criteria this team is called the complex lives team and is co located with housing a

community psychiatric nurse, South Yorkshire Police and safer neighbourhood services. Referrals can also be made via adult services front door to these series. Adult Services also commission post abuse support for victims and survivors of child's sexual exploitation.

**The Police** have a duty of care to protect all members of the community and to bring offenders to justice. The welfare of children is a priority for the service, and all officers are responsible for identifying and referring children who are at risk of harm including exploitation to Children's Services. There are several situations where the police may have opportunity to believe there is cause for concern that a child is at risk of exploitation, this may be a direct referral, in the course of other duties including police work in communities, or through targeting known crime hotspots, and are therefore well placed to identify issues that might indicate child exploitation. In these circumstances the Police will liaise with Children's Services Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). It is imperative that Police Officers attend safeguarding training specific to Child Exploitation so that they are aware of the signs of abuse and exploitation and know the pathway to follow if they have concerns about a child.

**The NHS** within Rotherham encompasses several individual organisations, both in a provider and a commissioning capacity, including, the NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) and The NHS Rotherham Foundation Trust (TRFT), Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH), and General Practitioners, to name a few, and who provide universal health service in Rotherham. Health professionals, particularly sexual health workers, school nurses, specialist paediatric staff, and mental health services, spend time with young people either in their homes or other establishments (schools/hospitals/clinics) and are well-placed to identify cases of child exploitation. It is important that health professionals are alert to the signs of exploitation in young people including sexual exploitation, and signs of criminal exploitation and attend the numerous safeguarding training opportunities that are available to them. The nature and impact of child exploitation is cumulative and corrosive, so it is essential that all health professionals maintain accurate, detailed and contemporaneous records that help to form a "picture" of the exploitation. When a practitioner identifies concerns regarding exploitation in a child life, they should speak to a member of the designated Health Safeguarding Children team to determine what the next steps to take are. However, this should not delay a referral to Children's Services or police in an emergency.

**All schools** play a significant role in the early identification and prevention of all forms of abuse. Schools are a universal service that can provide a safe environment for children and young people. Due to the amount of time that school staff spend with children they often are the professional that knows the child and their circumstances best. Schools therefore play an essential role in identifying behaviours that may be indicative of child exploitation. Where there is concern that a child or young person may be involved in sexual or criminal exploitation or is vulnerable to risk of exploitation the School / Education establishment should always initiate action to ensure the child's safety and welfare are paramount consideration. All education settings should have a policy which sets out how they will address child exploitation. The training for Designated Safeguarding Leads will include additional information and guidance on child exploitation.

**The Youth Justice Service (YJS)** aims to prevent offending and re-offending of children aged 10- 17. All YJS staff have a responsibility to be alert to safeguarding issues in their work with children and their families and must ensure that all young people are assessed to identify risk of exploitation. Exploitation Risk Assessment Management Tools should be completed where appropriate and appropriate concerns should be raised with line managers and where appropriate referred to Children's Social Care and specialist exploitation teams.

## Glossary

Sentence or Word	Clarification
Sexual Exploitation	<p>Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a type of sexual abuse. Child Sexual Exploitation includes forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving violence, or whether the child is aware of what is happening and in some situations the child may believe they are in a loving consensual relationship – this is called grooming. The activities may involve physical contact, and may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse. Children or young people might be invited to parties or gatherings with others their own age or adults and given drugs and alcohol.</p> <p>They may be assaulted and sexually abused by one person or multiple perpetrators. The sexual assaults and abuse can be violent, humiliating and degrading. Sexual abuse can take place online, and technology can be used to facilitate offline abuse. CSE can happen in person or online and children encouraged to film or stream sexual activities and have sexual conversations. An abuser will gain a child's trust or control them through violence or blackmail before moving onto sexually abusing them.</p> <p>The national plan focuses on the relationship between Child exploitation and the Serious and Organised Crime delivery framework, also known as the '4Ps' – Pursue, Prepare, Protect and Prevent. This document can be found at <a href="https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/91222/tackling-child-sexual-abuse-plan-2021.pdf">Tackling Child Sexual Abuse Plan 2021 (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a></p>



Criminal Exploitation	<p>Child criminal exploitation (CCE) is the manipulation, coercion and control of children and young people to commit crimes usually for the benefit of other abusive adult's or peers. This could be within extended families, communities or more sophisticated organised crime groups, linked to the modern-day slavery. transporting and storing of drugs and harbouring or receipt' monies. Such exploitation usually happens outside of the home and is extra-familial.</p> <p>The national guidance can be found at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/criminal-exploitation-of-children-and-vulnerable-adults-county-lines">Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p>
Vulnerable Child	<p>Vulnerable children are children can be at greater risk of experiencing harm because of one or more factors in their lives including abuse, living in a home where there is domestic abuse, addiction or mental ill health, and or having additional needs such as learning or physical needs. Vulnerable children can have less resilience or safeguards around them to spot signs of risk.</p>
Radicalisation	<p>Radicalisation is the process through which a person comes to support or be involved in extremist ideologies. Children who are at risk of radicalisation may have low self-esteem or be victims of bullying or discrimination. Extremists might target them and tell them they can be part of something special, later brainwashing them into cutting themselves off from their friends and family.</p>
County Lines	<p>County lines is a form of criminal exploitation in which criminals groom and manipulate children to recruit them as runners for criminal enterprise including the transportation of illegal goods including drugs and cash, all over the country. The 'lines' refer to mobile phones that are used to control a young person who is delivering drugs/cash, often to towns outside their home county. Children are recruited to protect the criminals enabling them to remain detached and less likely to be detected.</p> <p>This crime is often associated with other serious crimes such as sexual exploitation, violence, money laundering, modern slavery and human trafficking.</p>
Modern Slavery	<p>Modern slavery, including child slavery includes when a child is exploited for someone else's gain. This can be through threats of violence and abuse. It can include child trafficking, sexual exploitation, child soldiers, child forced marriage, child domestic slavery or any services children are forced to do against their will.</p>
Child Trafficking	<p>Child trafficking is when a child is moved around (the country, region or into / out of the country) for criminal means. This includes sexual and criminal exploitation.</p>

Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership (RSCP)	The Rotherham safeguarding partnership, (RSCP) sometimes known as the Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership. Each Local area is required by law to establish a Safeguarding partnership. The partnership consists of three statutory agencies, The local authority children's services, South Yorkshire Police, and the Integrated Care Board. The leaders form these three organisations for a partnership, tasked with overseeing and scrutinising the safeguarding arrangements. The group are supported in this activity by an independent Chair, sometimes referred to as a scrutineer, and who provides additional scrutiny and challenge to all partners. <a href="https://www.rscp.org.uk">Homepage – Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership (rscp.org.uk)</a>
Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP)	The Safer Rotherham Partnership is the borough's Community Safety Partnership, set up under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Safer Rotherham Partnership Plan 2022-2025 can be found at <a href="https://safer-rotherham-partnership-plan (saferrotherham.org.uk)">safer-rotherham-partnership-plan (saferrotherham.org.uk)</a>
Safeguarding Adult Board	The Rotherham safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) is required under the Care Act 2014. It is made up of three statutory partners, the local authority adult services, Integrated Care Board and South Yorkshire Police. Members of the Board are jointly for ensuring the effective safeguarding of adults at risk of abuse or neglect in Rotherham. <a href="https://www.rsab.org.uk">Governance – Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board (rsab.org.uk)</a>
Child Exploitation Delivery Group (CEDG)	The Child Exploitation Delivery Group (CEDG) is a multi-agency group of professional people representing all the key agencies that work with or provide a service to children and young people. This group of professionals are at a strategic level where they are responsible for the safeguarding and protection of children. This meeting is responsible for the delivery of the Child Exploitation Plan.
Operation Stovewood	Operation Stovewood is led by the National Crime Agency (NCA) is the investigation into historical Child Sexual Exploitation (crimes between 1997 – 2013).
Serious Violence Plan 2018	The plan sets out four key themes: tackling county lines and misuse of drugs, early intervention and prevention, supporting communities and partnerships and an effective law enforcement and criminal justice response. There are clear parallels between all of these and Child Exploitation The plan can be found at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/682107/Serious_Violence_Plan_-_GOV.UK.pdf">Serious Violence Plan - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>

Keeping Kids Safe report	<p>The report by the Children's Commissioner published in 2019, undertook research to describe what it's like to be a child gang member. It estimates how many children are in gangs including looking at the risk factors which make it more likely for a child to be groomed for gang membership and questions whether those responsible for safeguarding children are responding adequately to the rise in gang violence and how children can better be kept safe. Practical solutions to support frontline staff to tackle child exploitation have also been made recently available.</p> <p>It can be found at <a href="https://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/keeping-kids-safe">Keeping kids safe – Children's Commissioner for England (childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)</a></p>
The Home Office Child Exploitation Toolkit (2019)	<p>This toolkit was developed to support frontline practitioners to safeguard children and young people under the age of 18 from sexual and criminal exploitation. This includes social workers, police officers, housing officers, education staff, healthcare staff, charity staff, and others. Additionally, the toolkit sets out supportive information to assist information sharing and multi-agency working as well as intelligence and evidence gathering and profiling</p> <p>It can be found at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-exploitation-disruption-toolkit">Child exploitation disruption toolkit - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p>