



CSE Pathway Guidance

Screening for CSE

All children, where there is a suggestion of CSE risk, are subject of a CSE screen using the Regional Screening Tool (see attached). All professionals can undertake this.

Should the Screening Tool identify that the child/young person is at **Medium or Significant (aka High) risk of CSE** a referral must be made to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) using the Multi-Agency Referral Form (MARF) and attach the CSE Screening Tool.

If the child/young person has an allocated Social Worker they must be contacted directly. The CSE Screening Tool must be shared with the Social Worker to enable them to undertake a discreet CSE assessment (using the National Working Group (NWG) risk assessment tool).

If the Screening Tool identifies the child/young person is at **low risk of CSE** it is expected that the person completing the Screening Tool offers support to the child/young person via an Early Help Assessment.

In **ALL** cases a copy of the completed Screening Tool must be shared with the CSE coordinator by emailing it to: cse@wolverhampton.gov.uk

What Happens when the referral goes to the MASH?

The MASH will review the Screening Tool and determine the level of intervention required based on Risk levels.

The MASH will agree:

1. **High Risk** – Swift action will be taken to protect the child/young person , a CSE strategy discussion will take place and a Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) meeting will be progressed; in exceptional cases the MASE meeting will take place without a completed Social Work CSE assessment.

2. **Medium Risk** – A MASH discussion will be progressed and the child /young person will be allocated a Social Worker to complete the CSE assessment. This assessment must be completed within 10 working days. Once complete a CSE strategy discussion will take place to decide the need for a MASE Meeting.

3. **Low Risk** - The MASH will refer the child/young person to the Local Authority Early Intervention Service who will identify any support required.

REMEMBER: If a child/young person is at immediate risk and the MASH believe the concerns to warrant immediate a Child Protection investigation then this will be conducted immediately

What happens when the completed Screening Tool is shared with the child/young person's Allocated Social Worker?

The allocated Social Worker must complete the NWG CSE risk assessment within 10 working days and once completed contact the Police CSE team to discuss whether there is a need for a MASE meeting.

If a MASE meeting is required the allocated Social Worker will liaise with the chair of the MASE meeting to ensure a meeting takes place.

Who attends the MASE Meeting and what happens there?

The chairing of MASE meetings sits with an operational manager who has responsibility for driving forward the support plans and sharing intelligence with the CSE coordinator to inform strategic oversight and citywide service delivery. The chair is Sue Priest, the Vulnerable Young Person's Risk coordinator, who is based in Specialist Support Service.

The MASE meeting is attended by key professionals involved in the child/young person's life or required to protect that child/young person e.g. School, Health professionals, Social Worker, Family support worker.

Professionals who may be able to support the child/young person in keeping them safe are also invited to the MASE meeting. E.g. Connexions, Police, Voluntary Sector organisations

The worker who has completed the Screening Tool must be invited to attend the MASE meeting.

The Child/young person is invited to attend for part of the meeting and their carer/parent are invited to attend too.

The views of children/young people are captured by the Vulnerable Young Persons Team prior to the meeting and shared with participants.

At the MASE meeting a CSE action plan is developed which clearly outlines what actions must take in order to reduce the risk of CSE. The action plan includes the names of those responsible and the timeframe in which they must complete their intervention.

All actions plans are reviewed in future MASE meetings which may take place at 6, 8 or 12 week intervals dependant on the level of CSE risk.

Why does the CSE coordinator require a copy of the completed Screening Tool?

In April 2016 a new CSE coordinator, Sandeep Gill, was appointed and the remit of the role was reviewed in order to enhance data collection, CSE intelligence, partnership working and cross border working.

The CSE coordinator in gathering CSE data, identifying trends and analysing the outcomes for the young people impacted by CSE utilises Information held within the Screening Tool.

The CSE coordinator will regularly dip sample the completed Screening Tools to ensure appropriate thresholds are applied.

Are children who go Missing screened for CSE?

All children who have a missing episode are automatically screened for CSE at their return interview. This is completed by the Local Authority Missing Return Officer or allocated Social Worker.

All completed Screening Tools follow the same process as outlined above.