

## Guidance notes for CSE referral flow chart

- 1) CSE concerns referred to SPA or CSE concern identified in existing open case.

If a case is open to Prevention, Early Help or Youth Resilience it needs to go through the MASH process via SPA and if CSE concerns are confirmed the case will be allocated to R&A social worker who will complete the CSE referral form ( if it has not been done by Prevention, Early Help or Youth Resilience worker) and complete 87A and refer to CAIT.

If it is a new referral and case is not known to any service, case to go through MASH process and CSE referral form to be completed by MASH team

- 2) After completion of CSE referral form information is to be reviewed and decision to be made by allocated worker & manager regarding the level of CSE risk and if the case is likely to meet the category 1 threshold (see thresholds for categories below).

If no- case to case to be considered as CSE vulnerability and emerging themes:

**Note 1 CSE vulnerability & emerging themes** For cases where CSE themes and vulnerabilities have been identified but do not meet the category 1 threshold for referral to MASE, cases should be discussed with the CSE worker at the Phoenix Project who will offer the options of consultation, support or guidance for the worker and/or the young person.

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- 3) If the CSE concerns are considered to be significant and likely to meet the category 1 or above threshold:

Social worker to complete 87a, refer to CAT and have a strategy discussion with CAIT if there is immediate risk.

### **Note 2 Strategy discussion with CAIT**

Referral to be sent to CAIT referrals desk for creation of CSE-flagged CRIS, Merlin and risk assessment. CRIS supervised by Sexual Exploitation Team and allocated to local CSE team (level 1 CSE) or central CSE team (level 2/3 CSE). See Appendix C, London CSE Operating Protocol 2017

- 4) Strategy meeting to be held with relevant agencies within 3 days and category of risk to be determined at strategy meeting.
- 5) If the case is category 1 or above MASE referral form to be completed by lead professional and sent to MASE business support.

The strategy meeting can decide that the case does not meet category 1, not refer to MASE and refer for CSE vulnerability and emerging themes support

6) Pre MASE meeting to be held in exceptional circumstances:

**Note 3 Pre MASE**

A Pre MASE meeting to be held in exceptional circumstances e.g. network of persons of interest, gang affiliations or hotspots identified

**Category level of CSE risk**

Risk categories for young people at risk of, or experiencing CSE:

Category 1 (at risk)

A vulnerable child or young person, where there are concerns they are being targeted and groomed and where any CSE warning signs have been identified.

However, at this stage there is no evidence of any offences.

Category 2 (medium risk)

Evidence a child or young person is being targeted for opportunistic abuse through the exchange of sex for drugs, perceived affection, sense of belonging, accommodation (overnight stays), money and goods etc. This will also include a child or young person being sexually exploited through the use of technology and without the child or young person receiving any reward ie. the exchange of indecent images on-line. The likelihood of coercions and control is significant.

Category 3 (high risk)

A child or young person whose sexual exploitation is habitual, self denied and where coercion/ control is implicit. This is often carried out by multiple perpetrators.