

SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION FOR PROFESSIONALS AND VOLUNTEERS 1

Welcome to the October 2018 edition of the East Riding Safeguarding Children Board (ERSCB) newsletter.

As stated in the Children Act 2004 and Working Together 2018, the role of ERSCB is to coordinate and ensure the effectiveness of Board partners to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. As well as our statutory duties, we also think it is important to keep you up to date with information, especially what's going on in our local area. This edition contains information on the following:

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE?

If there is a particular feature you would like to see included – please contact:
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Board Manager
Email:
margaret.wood@eastriding.gov.uk
Telephone: (01482) 395447



ERSCB is pleased to welcome Julian Willis.

As the ERSCB Learning and Improvement Manager Julian will develop the Quality and Improvement strand of the partnership's work with a focus on audit, training and consultation.

If you would like to know more about the work of ERSCB or would like to be involved in any of the work you read about, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



ERSCB Multi Agency Partnership Missing Seminar



Alistair Kennedy Police, Helen Jones-Brown ERSCB, Sue Brown CSC, Vic Hanley YFS

The first East Riding Missing Seminar for young people, parents and carers was held on the evening of 25th September 2018 at Priory Road Police Headquarters.

The seminar included:

A presentation and group exercise to raise awareness of when to report to the police

The multi agency response to missing reports

The potential dangers of going missing, child criminal exploitation including County Lines, child sexual exploitation and substance misuse

Top Tips Parenting Guide including simple steps to undertake before reporting a child as missing

The event launched the multi agency campaign which is supported by the East Riding Safeguarding Children Board.

The Seminar was well received by participants.

The partnership between ERSCB, Humberside Police, Children's Social Care and Prevent and Education Team look forward to delivering future seminars with the aim of raising an awareness of the potential dangers of going missing and reduce the number and frequency of missing episodes.

Seminars will be held every six weeks, for those young people who are recent MISPERs.



New Unit to Tackle Exploitation of Vulnerable Young People

A new national response unit will be established to help local authorities support vulnerable children at risk of exploitation by criminal gangs.

Bespoke support will be available to local councils to help stop child sexual exploitation, trafficking, modern slavery and other attempts by criminals to take advantage of vulnerable children and coerce them into crimes like drug trafficking.

Last year's figures from the National Crime Agency show that over a third (35 per cent) of police forces reported evidence of child sexual exploitation in relation to county lines. County lines is where children and young people are exploited by criminals and used to traffic drugs in rural areas.



The new unit, which will operate from 2019 up until 2022, will address child exploitation. The support offered will included:

- providing advice and directing authorities to resources;
- an online forum for professionals;
- additional staff with experience in tackling particular areas of exploitation; and
- assessing an area's needs, strengths and weaknesses in responding to exploitation threats.



Criminal Exploitation, County Lines and Modern Day Slavery

Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults is a geographically widespread form of harm that is a typical feature of county lines activity

County lines is a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more targeted areas within the UK, using dedicated mobile phone lines or other forms of “deal line”. They are likely to exploit children and vulnerable adults to move (and store) the drugs and money. They will often use coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons. [*Serious Violence Strategy, HO 2018*]



Gangs establish a base in the market location, typically by taking over the homes of local vulnerable adults by force or coercion in a practice referred to as ‘cuckooing’.

County lines activity and the associated violence, drug dealing and exploitation has a devastating impact on young people, vulnerable adults and local communities.

Like other forms of abuse and exploitation, county lines exploitation can:

- affect any child or young person (male or female) under the age of 18 years;
- affect any vulnerable adult over the age of 18 years;
- still be exploitation even if the activity appears consensual;
- involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and is often accompanied by violence or threats of violence;
- be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and young people or adults;
- is typified by some form of power imbalance in favour of those perpetrating the exploitation. Whilst age may be the most obvious, this power imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors including gender, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources.

Indicators of County Lines Involvement and Exploitation

A young person’s involvement in county lines activity often leaves signs.

A young person might exhibit some of these signs, either as a member or as an associate of a gang dealing drugs. Any sudden changes in a young person’s lifestyle should be discussed with them.

Practitioners who have raised concerns around child criminal exploitation should adhere to the ERSCB safeguarding process and contact their designated safeguarding lead within their organisation.

The ERSCB Interagency Safeguarding Procedures can be found at

www.erscb.org.uk



If you are a first responder, you should also refer any young person you **suspect of being a potential victim of trafficking** to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). If you are an ERYC member of staff then you **must** also notify the Council’s lead Officer for Modern Slavery.

- **Some indicators of county lines involvement and exploitation are listed below, with those at the top of particular concern:**
- **Persistently going missing from school or home and / or being found out-of-area;**
- **Unexplained acquisition of money, clothes, or mobile phones**
- **Excessive receipt of texts /phone calls**
- **Relationships with controlling /older individuals or groups**
- **Leaving home / care without explanation**
- **Suspicion of physical assault / unexplained injuries**
- **Parental concerns**
- **Carrying weapons**
- **Significant decline in school results / performance**
- **Gang association or isolation from peers or social networks**
- **Self-harm or significant changes in emotional well-being**

Modern Day Slavery

Modern Slavery encompasses:

Human trafficking, slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour.

The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is a framework for identifying victims of human trafficking or modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support.

The NRM was introduced in 2009 to meet the UK's obligations under the Council of European Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. At the core of every country's NRM is the process of locating and identifying "potential victims of trafficking".

The NRM grants a minimum 45-day reflection and recovery period for victims of human trafficking or modern slavery. Trained decision makers decide whether individuals referred to them should be considered to be victims of trafficking according to the definition in the Council of Europe Convention. In England and Wales, further consideration is made to those who do not meet the definition of trafficking. Their cases are then considered against the definitions of slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour.

Potential victims of trafficking are likely to be extremely vulnerable.

They may fear revealing their status or experiences to state authorities and will often mistrust individuals in authority. Their ability to participate in any future proceedings, for example as a witness, will depend largely on their psychological, emotional and physical health.

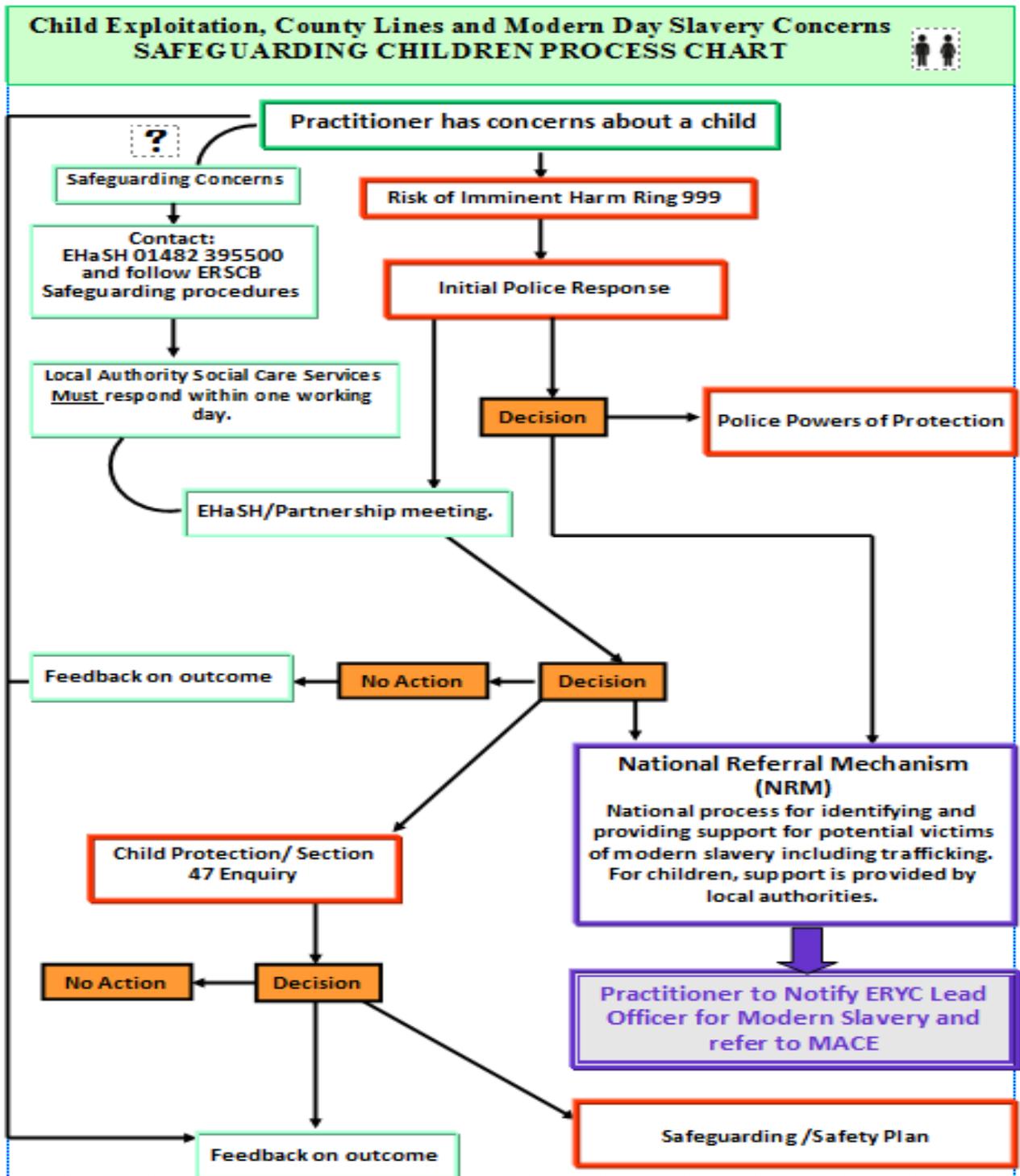
If you suspect that someone is a potential victim of modern slavery or just feel that *'something is not quite right'* you should report the matter. Act quickly as victims can be moved out of the area.

If you feel that there is an immediate risk to an individual, please contact the emergency services by dialling 999

**ERYC Modern Slavery
Advice and Notification Lead
Paul Abbott
01482 396100
Paul.Abbott@eastriding.gov.uk**



Child Exploitation and Modern Day Slavery Process Chart 7



The ERSCB Brief Guidance and Flowchart for Criminal Exploitation, County Lines and Modern Day Slavery can be found at <http://erscb.eastriding.gov.uk/professionals-and-volunteers/modern-day-slavery-human-trafficking/>

News in Brief

New Childline website for under 12s

Childline has launched a website aimed at children under the age of 12. This provides age appropriate content on topics including: bullying, family, friends, feelings, school, abuse and staying safe. It also includes games and therapeutic tools for young visitors to play and express how they are feeling. It will be promoted through the NSPCC's Speak out Stay safe programme.

Read more on NSPCC Learning:

- <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services/speak-out-stay-safe>

Children and the law

The NSPCC has published information about children and the law. This provides an overview of key legislation and guidance for each of the four nations and covers: definitions of a child; children's rights and views (including Gillick competency and Fraser guidelines); leaving school and home; child employment; ages of consent; and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Source: [NSPCC Learning: children and the law](https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-protection-system/children-the-law)

- <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-protection-system/children-the-law>

Preventing child sexual abuse in the home

The NSPCC has published two reports about working with a community to prevent child sexual abuse (CSA) in the home. Findings from an evaluation of the Lucy Faithfull Foundation's Protecting Parents Across Communities programme (PPAC) include: working directly with community members helps professionals to identify local risks; CSA prevention programmes need to help mothers overcome the challenges to identifying risk and taking action if they are to be successful.

Read more on NSPCC Learning:

- <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/2018/community-approach-to-preventing-child-sexual-abuse-in-the-home/>



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News In Brief

Impact of social media on young people

The Centre for Mental Health has published a briefing paper on the impact of social media on young people's wellbeing. From a review of the latest evidence, the paper explores what constitutes 'problematic' social media use and how social media can positively impact on wellbeing. Findings include: how social media use can boost young people's mental health by reducing loneliness through creating and sustaining connections and increasing self-esteem, through presenting a positive version of themselves to the world.

Source: [Centre for Mental Health](#)



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Vulnerability report 2018: overview.

Summary: Looks at the scale of child vulnerability in England. Using information held by various government departments, agencies and others, key findings include: 2.1 million of England's 11.8 million children, one in six, are living in families with risks so serious that they need some level of help; 890,000 children have parents suffering serious mental health problems; 825,000 children live in homes with domestic abuse; 470,000 children have parents with drug and alcohol problems; and 170,000 children are carers for their parents or siblings.



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Growing up neglected: a multi-agency response to older children.

OFSTED, Care Quality Commission, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation online report 2018 examines the multi-agency response to older children who are living with neglect following inspections of six local authority areas. The inspections reviewed practice in children's social care, education, health services, the police, youth offending services and probation services, as part of the programme of joint targeted area inspections looking at how well agencies are working together in local areas to help and protect children. The report finds that: neglect of older children sometimes goes unseen; work with parents to address the neglect of older children does not always happen; adult services in most areas are not effective in identifying potential neglect of older children; and the behaviour of older children must be understood in the context of trauma.



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News In Brief

Stand up to bullying resources.

Stand up to Bullying Group has produced a series of resources to accompany the annual Stand up to Bullying Day in June 2018. Resources include: guidance on reviewing a school anti-bullying policy; primary and secondary school lesson plans on discussing and understanding bullying; and worksheets for primary and secondary school students.

Publication details: Stand up to Bullying, 2018

- <http://standuptobullying.co.uk/resources/>



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Mind The Gap

New data laws may improve children's access to education and employment

Declaring a criminal record has traditionally been a barrier, but changes resulting from the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018 may offer a solution.

The new data protection laws require employers and education providers to first consider if it is appropriate to require the applicant to declare a criminal record. If it is deemed necessary, they need to ensure that they amend their policies and processes to ensure criminal record information is requested at a later more appropriate stage of the process.

The organisation must also have in place a transparent criminal record information policy that demonstrates how they will consider the relevance of any criminal record disclosed, and detail the rationale for any decision that they make about the suitability of the applicant.



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LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION

East Riding Safeguarding Children Board

Cross Street, Beverley, HU17 9BA

Telephone: (01482) 396999

Email: erscb.enquiries@eastriding.gov.uk

Website: www.erscb.org.uk

ERSCB training enquiries

Telephone: (01482) 396994

Email: erscb.training@eastriding.gov.uk

Local authority designated officers (LADO):

For education and school allegations contact Tony Marsh on (01482) 392139.

For agencies and organisations allegations contact Lorraine Wilson on (01482) 396996.

Early Help and Safeguarding Hub (EHaSH)

If you think a child is being abused or neglected, contact: (01482) 395500

Monday - Thursday 9am - 5:00pm.

Friday 9am - 4:30pm.

EOOH - EHaSH Out of Hours (01377) 241273

Secure email for both EHASH and EOOH:
childrens.socialcare@eastriding.gcsx.gov.uk

If a child is suffering abuse and requires urgent attention because of immediate danger, call the police on 999 or 101

Further information on support for families, children's social care and the process can be found on the
<http://www2.eastriding.gov.uk/living/children-and-families/childrens-social-care/support-for-families/>

Family Information Services Hub (FISH)

Free, impartial service for children, young people, parents/carers and the people who support them

Telephone: (01482) 396469

www.fish.eastriding.gov.uk

NATIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Anti-Bullying Campaign

www.bullying.co.uk

Barnardos

www.barnardos.org.uk

Child Exploitation & Online Protection (CEOP)

www.ceop.gov.uk

Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT)

www.capt.org.uk

Childline

www.childline.org.uk

Department of Education (DofE)

www.education.gov.uk

Gingerbread (practical support for single parents)

www.gingerbread.org.uk

Karma Nirvana (supporting victims of honour crimes and forced marriages)

www.karmanirvana.org.uk

National Centre for Eating Disorders

www.eating-disorders.org.uk

FRANK – The National Drugs Helpline

www.talktofrank.com

NSPCC

www.nspcc.org.uk

Private Fostering Campaign

www.privatefostering.org.uk

The Samaritans

www.samaritans.org.uk

Women's Aid (support for domestic violence victims)

www.womensaid.org.uk

Young Minds (children's mental health)

www.youngminds.org.uk