

The Ride children's Home

The Ride children's Home

7th Ride Brentford, TW8 9LB

Child Criminal Exploitation Policy or CCE Policy 2019

Policy Name	Child Criminal Exploitation Policy or CCE Policy
Author	Mike Bhebhe
Signed	
Version	V1.0
Date	21 October 2019
Review Date	October 2020

1.0

What is CCE?

CCE Definition:

Child Criminal Exploitation is common in county lines and occurs where an individual or groups takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18. The victim may have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears consensual. Child criminal exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.

(Home Office September 2018)

2.0

The Ride Children's Home's Approach to CCE:

The Ride Children's Home is a Local Authority Children's Home accommodating a maximum of six children per given time. Some of the young people cared for maybe be victims of CCE due to a variety of reasons. Among those reasons there are key indicators that should be considered when assessing young people. At the Ride Children's Home we have this policy in place.

2.1

On referral of a young person believed to be involved in CCE

- Managers to complete a new referral risk assessment to identify if the child poses any risks to current resident group.
- For young people currently placed or if an agreement is made to accept the young person staff to follow procedures already in place.
- Put a safety plan in place for every young person.
- Record the Going missing patterns.
- Challenge the young person about their behaviours.
- Talk to the young person at risk to find out if they understand the implications of their behaviours.
- If they are concerns regarding drugs and alcohol a referral to HYPE should be made as soon as possible, the social worker can make the referral.

2.2

What to do if on duty, this applies to shift leaders and support staff, also use local intelligence from cleaners, business support and handy man and family members, and other young people who are residents.

- Collect relevant information and update the Grab-Pack and state the source of that information.
- Check that the Safety Plan is up to date and review the Care Plan.
- Check on LCS in case there is new information already relating to the same issue. Upload the relevant new information on LCS.
- Inform the young person's social worker, if its during out of hours contact EDT on 020 8583 2222 or 2222 on Cisco phones.

- Record what the young person is wearing, and whom they might be meeting outside the home.
- Car number plates to be recorded and patterns of coming and going of the young person.
- Review and update the Health and Safety Risk assessment and upload this on LCS, email the copy to the social worker.
- The social worker to complete the CCE/CSE Screening tool on LCS
- Lock the back gate to ensure the young person cannot bring in strangers into the home.
- All visitors are requested to sign in visitors' book when they come into our home.
- Record phone calls and texts messages received from families members, friends and other reliable sources.

2.3

What to do when the concerns have become critical.

- Discuss with manager on duty, or report to the shift leader, and record the concern.
- The shift leader or manager should give precise directions on what to do.
- If a child has gone missing, then follow the approved missing person reporting procedure or call 101 non-emergency and 999 if you think that the child may be in danger.
- Carry out room searches when necessary and record the search in the record book.

3.0

Information sharing with internal and external agencies and the referral

We share the information with the young person's social worker, the management and the EDT or the Duty team in case the social worker is not available.

From time to time we liaise with the young person's family and friends. Staff should also contact the young person's family and friends should a young person go missing or hospitalised for whatever reason and update LCS.

Referrals should also be made when a young person's behaviour is of serious concern but at that point the social should be making referrals to the relevant panels below:

- Police
- PC Kye Cole (CCE SPOC)

- HYPE
- YOS
- MACE
- Concordia Panel

Appendix 1

County Lines

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

(Home Office, September 2018)

CCE Vulnerability Factors

- If a child or young person is looked after, has learning disabilities, substance misuse issues, or mental health problems.
- If there is neglect/abuse, exposure to or experience of violence, parental substance misuse, mental health and domestic abuse, poverty, lack of a positive relationship with a protective and nurturing adult, homelessness or insecure accommodation status
- If the child or young person is exposed to other children and young people who are known to be exploited, or exposed to or experiencing peer on peer abuse
- If the child or young person has been excluded from school and is not in education, training or employment, or is exposed to or has experienced violent crime.
- If the child or young person has been exposed to or has experienced violent crime or lived in a deprived neighbourhood.

(Contextual Safeguarding Network, Catch 22 and The Children’s Society 2019)

CCE Indicators

- Frequent missing episodes and being found out of area.
- Found with large quantities of drugs or weapons. Found with drugs inside rectum or vagina.
- Unexplained amounts of money, mobile phones, credit, clothing, jewellery, new haircuts or other items and gifts.
- Been found out of area when missing or being arrested out of area — especially for drug related offences. Multiple referrals for incidents in the same location.
- Returned from missing episodes with injuries, or dishevelled appearance.
- Change in behaviour, ie more secretive, withdrawn, or isolated from peers, or not mixing with usual friends.
- Unexplained absences from, or not engaged in school, college, training, or work.
- Increasingly disruptive, hostile or physically aggressive at home or school, including the use of sexualised language and language in relation to drug dealing and/or violence.
- Expressions around invincibility or not caring about what happens to them. Increased interest in making money.
- Reports of being taken to parties, people's houses, unknown areas, hotels, nightclubs, takeaways or out of area by unknown adults. Increasing use of drugs or alcohol.
- Fear of reprisal from gang members or violence from young people or adults.

(Contextual Safeguarding Network, Catch 22 and The Children's Society 2019)

Hounslow Multi Agency Safeguarding Panels

Concordia

Concordia is a police lead panel which sits every month to discuss child and adult gang nominals within the borough. Concordia is a multi-agency panel and practitioners should refer any young people or adults they are working with whom identify and/or are known to be a gang nominal. If you are working with a young person or adult who is discussed at this panel you will be asked to provide a written update prior to the meeting to be shared at the discussion.

To make a referral: send a protected email of the evidence that the young person or adult you are working with identifies as a gang nominal or is known to services as a gang nominal to: Sarah.Herson@met.police.uk

YOS Multi Agency Risk of Harm Panel

The Multi Agency Risk of Harm panel is a Youth Offending Lead panel which is chaired by the Head of Services for Youth Offending every month. Young people open to YOS who are risk assessed by the professional network as posing a risk to themselves or others are discussed at this panel. If you are

working with a child or young person who is discussed at this panel you will be asked to attend the panel and provide an update and if unable to attend a written update must be provided prior to the panel. Minutes and actions will be sent to you following the panel which need to be actioned and recorded in a timely fashion in accordance to the risk and panel London Procedures.

To make a referral: Social worker to complete the CCE/CSE screening tool

Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE)

MACE is a monthly panel held jointly by Police and Children's Services which has oversight of children at risk of or suffering from CCE and/or CSE. For cases where there are multiple indicators, a disclosure or evidence within the network that a child is being criminal and/or sexually exploited the practitioners must make a referral though to MACE. All cases which are referred in to MACE will be discussed at the panel and a decision made as to whether they meet the threshold for being accepted on to the MACE cohort for review. Minutes of the discussion pertaining to the child/young person and actions that were given at the panel will be recorded against the child's LCS file under case notes in the CSE workspace. Practitioners will be alerted when minutes from the panel have been disseminated and practitioner need to complete the actions given at the panel in a timely manner. Prior to any cases being reviewed by the panel, the Exploitation and Vulnerabilities Coordinator will request and update from the practitioner on the risks and outcomes for the actions that the panel previously requested. Practitioner must input this information in the MACE information form.

To make a referral: Social worker needs to complete an 87a and hold a multi-agency strategy meeting and/or discussion during which an agreement is made a multi-agency level that threshold has been met to make a referral to MASE. Following this the social worker needs to complete a CCE/CSE screening tool and MACE information and referral form on LCS. This will be screened by the Exploitation and Vulnerabilities Coordinator who will progress the referral to the Operational MASE panel.

NB: All MACE referrals for cases without a timely CCE strategy discussion/meeting will be rejected.

APPENDIX 2

Guide to Disruption Orders and Legislation

This annex sets out examples of the range of disruption measures, civil powers and criminal offences which may be used by practitioners as part of a strategy to tackle child criminal exploitation. This is not an exhaustive list and practitioners should consider the full range of powers available to them when developing effective disruption strategies. Government work on a more comprehensive toolkit of disruption measures is also being developed and will be made available to practitioners.

Disruption Measures

Child criminal exploitation may be associated with other crimes, or perpetrators may be involved in other criminal activity. In these instances there are a number of civil measures that can be used to disrupt the activities of individuals also involved with child criminal exploitation, alongside criminal and civil processes that directly address offending and other child protection procedures. The range

of formal and informal disruption measures that may be used to help tackle child criminal exploitation include:

- Obtaining orders on an identified individual (see below);
- Investigation of other crime types such as drugs or theft;
- Increased police attention on an individual (checking car tax, road worthiness of car etc);
- Increased police presence in suspected hotspots (online or offline);
- Working with internet providers to address online risks; and
- Use of licensing laws and powers to obtain guest information or close down premises associated with child exploitation.

Where applicable, an effective disruption strategy may use a range of these methods in conjunction with one another to address individual perpetrator behaviour, protect victims and address wider contexts of concern. In developing an effective disruption strategy, local partners including the police and local authorities should work together to consider the full range of powers available. Though not the focus of this guide, an effective disruption strategy will also involve work with children and young people to address the issues contributing to their vulnerability and to provide them with alternative options.

Civil Orders and other means of controlling individual behaviour

Gang Injunction a gang injunction is a civil tool that allows the police or a local authority to apply to the County Court, High Court or Youth Court for an injunction against an individual to prevent gang related violence and gang related drug dealing. By imposing a range of prohibitions and requirements on the respondent, a gang injunction aims to prevent the respondent from engaging in, or encouraging or assisting, gang related violence or gang related drug dealing activity and/or to protect the respondent from gang related violence or gang related drug dealing activity.

Child Abduction Warning Notices (CAWNs), formerly known as Harbourers' Warnings. These can be issued by the police and used with individuals over 18 to let them know (and record that they have been told) that they are not allowed to associate or contact with a named child (under 16, or under 18 if in care). CAWNs have no statutory basis in and of themselves, but are very useful in providing evidence to support the prosecution of other offences by, for example, registering that a suspect knew the child was 15, thereby taking away the age defence in criminal cases.

Sexual Harm Prevention Orders (SHPOs) can be applied for by the police or the National Crime Agency. They can be used to impose restrictions on an individual who has been convicted or cautioned of a sexual or violent offence, where there is reasonable cause to believe that the imposition of such an order is necessary to protect an individual or the wider public from harm. Restrictions can include things like limiting their internet use, preventing them from approaching or being alone with a named child and prohibiting foreign travel. Breach of the order, without reasonable excuse, is an offence punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment

Sexual Risk Orders (SROs) can also be applied for by the police or the National Crime Agency. These are similar to Sexual Harm Prevention Orders, and can include similar restrictions, but do not require an individual to have been convicted or cautioned. SROs can be issued when an individual has carried out an act of a sexual nature and there is reasonable cause to believe that such an order is necessary to protect an individual or the wider public from harm. As with SHPOs, breach of the order is an offence punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment.

Both SHPOs and SROs may be used with children under 18, but recent Home Office guidance on Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 states that the following principles should apply when considering this:

- The early consultation and participation of the youth offending team in the application process;
- That 14 to 17 year olds made subject to civil injunctions in relation to harmful sexual behaviour are offered appropriate interventions to reduce their harmful behaviour;
- That the nature and extent of that support is based on a structured assessment that takes into account the needs of the young person and the imminent risk;
- That the welfare of the child or young person is the paramount consideration, in line with local safeguarding procedures;
- That the requirements of all other orders and sentences that may already be in existence are taken into account to ensure that any requirements made by these orders do not restrict a young person's ability to complete other current orders or sentences, and the combined burden of requirements is taken into account to ensure the young person has the capacity to comply (Home Office, 2015).

Where there are concerns that a child has been trafficked as part of the child sexual exploitation (this can include movement from one area to another within England), **Slavery and Trafficking Prevention Orders (STPOs) and Slavery and Trafficking Risk Orders (STROs)** can also be considered. STPOs and STROs can be applied for by the police, the National Crime Agency or an immigration officer. These were introduced under the Modern Slavery Act (2015) and, like the SHPOs and SROs outlined above, offer a means of placing restrictions on an individual's movements and actions. A STPO can only be made against an individual who has been convicted of a slavery or human trafficking offence, while a STRO can be made against an individual who has acted in a way which means that there is a risk that they will commit a slavery or human trafficking offence. Both require reasonable belief that the individual may commit a modern slavery offence in the future and that application of the order is necessary to protect an individual or the wider public from harm.

The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is also an important mechanism in disrupting and identifying perpetrators of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery. The NRM is a framework for identifying and safeguarding victims of human trafficking or modern slavery. The NRM applies to victims of both domestic and international trafficking and is designed to facilitate relevant multiagency involvement in trafficking and modern slavery cases, ensuring that the victim receives safe accommodation, appropriate protection, support and advice. Referrals to the NRM contribute to building evidence about trafficking and modern slavery, providing a national picture and informing policy decisions and practice actions in this area.

Criminal Behaviour Orders are available following a conviction for any criminal offence in the Crown Court, Magistrates' court or youth court. They can impose restrictions on an offender who has engaged in behaviour that had caused, or was likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person if making 17 the order will help prevent them from engaging in such behaviour. If the offender is under the age of 18 when the application is made, the prosecution must ascertain the views of the local youth offending team before applying for a criminal behaviour order. Notification Orders are intended to protect the public from the risks posed by sex offenders in the UK who have been convicted or cautioned for sexual offences which have been committed overseas.

A Notification Order makes the offender subject to notification requirements in the same way as if they had been convicted in the UK for a sexual or violent offence.

Non-Molestation Orders are civil injunctions that can be issued to protect named children from abuse from an individual and any third party acting on the behalf of that individual. The order only applies to those individual(s) 'associated' with the child. It is an offence if the order is breached.

Exclusion Orders can be sought upon the application for an Interim Care Order or Emergency Protection Order. The order can be taken where there is reasonable cause to believe that if an individual is excluded from a dwelling, house or defined area in which the child lives, the child will cease to suffer, or cease to be likely to suffer, significant harm. The order cannot cover an unlimited area.

A Wardship is a civil injunction which can be used to prevent an 'undesirable association' between a child and an individual(s). A local authority can make a Wardship application to the High Court to make a named child a ward of court and to seek an injunction against a named individual(s) to prevent that person from making any contact with the child. An injunction can be used where there is reasonable cause to believe that the child is likely to suffer significant harm without the court's intervention. An example of the use of a Wardship to disrupt child sexual exploitation is the case of *BCC v Riaz et al* [2014] EWHC 4247 (Fam). In this case, Birmingham local authority took civil action in this way to protect girls under the age of 18 from being approached by men with whom they were not personally associated.

References:

Home Office 2018, accessed (by Mike Bhebhe) on 21/10/2019

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/741194/HOCountyLinesGuidanceSept2018.pdf

Updated on October 2019

By Mike Bhebhe

c/o The Ride Children's Home, Brentford, TW8 9LB