

Wiltshire Families and Children's Service

CSE and Missing Children (Emerald) Team Practice Standards

This practice guidance supports the Wiltshire Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership (SVPP) and has been reviewed in line with the Government guidance which was updated in 2017 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-sexual-exploitation-definition-and-guide-for-practitioners>

The guidance also sits within the wider Wiltshire Families and Children's Service Quality and Practice Standards.



Practice
Standards.docx

3 Operating Model (CSE)

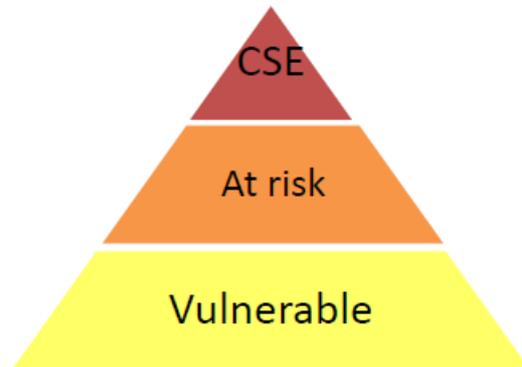
- 1.1 All young people the Emerald Team work with must also be open to the relevant team within the Families and Children's Service.
- 1.2 Emerald Team workers will be allocated to the young person as a co-worker. Case responsibility will remain with the relevant social work team unless it is agreed in exceptional circumstances for the Emerald Team to hold case responsibility; this will be agreed by a Young People's Service Team Leader.
- 1.3 The young people must be supported by a multi-agency plan (i.e. Support/CIN/LAC/CP) that explains in detail the role and remit of Emerald Team workers involved in the plan.
- 1.4 Emerald Team involvement with a young person will be coordinated by an Emerald Team worker and involve discussion and communication with the multi-agency team.
- 1.5 The Emerald Team worker on receipt of a completed CSE screen, will, in consultation with the Family Key/Social Worker, devise an intervention plan with the young person. This will then be regularly reviewed in line with the Family and Children's Service practice standards.

2 Referrals to Emerald

- 2.1 Any CSE referral to Emerald Team must be as a result of a completed/ongoing relevant assessment (i.e. Support/Single Assessment) alongside the completion of a CSE Screen which indicates the child being sexually exploited and abused as defined in the link below:

<http://www.wiltshirescb.org.uk/child-sexual-exploitation-professionals/>

- a) Those being sexually abused and assaulted
- b) Those at risk of CSE
- c) Those who are vulnerable to CSE



- 2.2 All CSE screens are reviewed by the Emerald Team within 5 working days. This includes discussion with multi-agency partners at the weekly team meeting. The level of risk indicated in the referral will also be discussed and reviewed to determine whether a worker will be allocated.
- 2.3 Where the agreed level of risk is CSE, the case will be allocated to an Emerald Team worker to offer a direct intervention. Where the agreed level of risk is At Risk, a discussion will be had, with the case holder, around what support can be offered (e.g. direct intervention vs. consultation). Where the agreed level of risk is Vulnerable, Emerald Team will have no further involvement, however may provide advice and signposting to other services where necessary (e.g. Motiv8).
- 2.4 For children who are LAC and who are placed in Wiltshire by another LA and where CSE has been raised as a concern, a CSE screen will need to be completed by the placing local authority. These will be discussed on a case-by-case basis with respect to what support, advice and guidance can be offered.
- 2.5 For Wiltshire LAC children placed out of area in another local authority, a CSE screen will need to be completed and will be discussed on a case-by-case basis with respect to what support, advice and guidance can be offered.
- 2.6 The Emerald Team are available for telephone consultations to support professionals with CSE concerns prior to a referral being made, and ongoing (if required) through any open intervention.

3 Case responsibility

- 3.1 Case responsibility for all young people open to Emerald Team will remain with the Families and Children's Service teams.
- 3.2 Family Key/Social workers will be responsible for the completion of all CP/LAC/CIN/Support processes including convening strategy meetings, undertaking Section 47 investigations, Support/CIN/CP/LAC reports for meetings and reviews

- 3.3 Where Emerald Team offer direct intervention, Emerald Team Workers are responsible for creating intervention plans that will form part of the CP/LAC/CIN/Support plan for the young person.
- 3.4 The intervention plan can include direct work, assertive outreach support, support for parents, support with health screening, liaison with other agencies such as YOT, education providers, drug and alcohol support, Victim support, preparation for trials, and any other support in the context of CSE and the young person's needs. The plan will be child focused, with clear targets and outcomes which include the young person's views.
- 3.5 For young people who are assessed as requiring consultation, Emerald Team workers will provide advice, guidance, signposting and direct working resources for the professional involved. The case will then be closed to Emerald Team. However, should concerns/risks increase, a further CSE screen would need to be completed to enable a re-referral.
- 3.6 Following allocation, Emerald Team worker will contact the key professional within 5 working days to arrange initial contact with the young person; this ideally would be a joint visit with the relevant key professional.
- 3.7 For young people requiring direct intervention, Emerald Team workers will aim to meet with each young person on a regular basis (e.g. fortnightly) based on the young person's risk and needs. Emerald Team workers will monitor risk and progress, and complete further CSE screens to measure risk reduction outcomes.
- 3.8 For young people where there are barriers to engagement, Emerald Team workers will attempt to engage the young person in a variety of ways. Following several attempts, workers will discuss the action going forward with their manager within monthly supervision. It is acknowledged that due to the nature of CSE and the grooming process, it may take some time for the young person to feel able to disclose or accept support.

4 Strategy Meetings

- 4.1 Strategy meetings are requested through the MASH (EDS out of hours).
- 4.2 For any strategy discussion that has CSE concerns, a member of the Emerald Team is automatically invited.
- 4.3 Any Joint Investigation (Section 47) agreed at a strategy discussion, where CSE concerns are at the centre, should be carried out by Emerald Team Social Workers in partnership with Emerald Police where possible.

5 Multi-agency Working

- 5.1 Emerald Team have a Family Therapist from CAMHS embedded in the team, who works in partnership with LAC young people and CSE cases where appropriate.

- 5.2 Emerald Team include other agencies within the team meetings, for example the LAC nurses, YOT, Police, to ensure a multi-agency approach and to promote information sharing.
- 5.3 Emerald team are co-located with Wiltshire Police and work closely together to safeguard and protect young people and reduce the risk of CSE.
- 5.4 The Emerald Team now sit within the developing Young People's Service, which also includes Wiltshire Youth Offending Team and No Wrong Door, a specialist adolescent service for young people at risk of family breakdown.
- 5.5 It is noted that in line with service development towards the Young People's service, Emerald Team workers may accept referrals where alongside CSE concern, there are criminal exploitation (CCE) concerns. These young people will be worked with as above and alongside YOT colleagues who can provide multi-agency support within this field.

Missing Children

- 1 Missing fits in with the overall Emerald Operating model described above, but works specifically on the following:**
 - 1.1 Emerald team have two dedicated Missing Children and CSE Coordinators whose responsibility it is to review, monitor and record all missing incidents.
 - 1.2 Police missing children incident reports are received into the Emerald team on a daily basis.
 - 1.3 Missing incidents are recorded on Families and Children's Services case recording system following receipt. If it relates to a Wiltshire Child open to Children's Services then information is shared with Social Worker/Family Key worker supporting the child and request for a missing return interview to be completed within 72hrs. If it relates to a Wiltshire Child who is not open to Children's Services then a missing return interview is offered by one of the Missing Children coordinators. If it relates to a child placed in Wiltshire from another authority then discussion will be held with the responsible authority to ensure missing return interview is completed.
 - 1.4 Missing Children Coordinators review all missing incidents and are able to recommend CSE screens, professional meetings and strategy discussions.
 - 1.5 Missing Children quarterly reports are produced providing data on completion of return interviews, top missing young people and any themes and trends.
 - 1.6 Top missing young people are discussed at weekly Emerald Team meetings to ensure information is shared with multi agency colleagues. Information is also shared with the Criminal Exploitation Analyst and VACS Panel, which can assist with mapping exercises and supports the strategic oversight of missing, CSE and CCE.

- 1.7 The missing co-ordinators work in line with the Statutory Guidance on children who run away or go missing from home or care (DfE January 2014) and Swindon and Wiltshire Children Missing from Home and Care Protocol (2019).