ANDERIDA ADOLESCENT CARE

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION PROCEDURE

Sexual Exploitation is defined as:

"*Sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of performing, and/or others performing on them, sexual activities. Child sexual exploitation can occur through use of technology without the child's immediate recognition, for example the persuasion to post sexual images on the internet/mobile phones with no immediate payment or gain. In all cases those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources. Violence, coercion and intimidation are common, involvement in exploitative relationship being characterised in the main by the child or young person's limited availability of choice resulting from their social/economic and/or emotional vulnerability.*"

Definition developed by the National Working Group for Sexually Exploited Children and Young People.

Sexual Exploitation can be identified under different models;

- **Online Grooming** – *This is targeting someone on the internet, making contact with them through social networks/mobile phones etc on which the grooming takes place.*

- **Peer Exploitation** – *This is also known as sexual bullying, and the grooming process can be very quick, or even without a grooming process.*

- **Inappropriate Relationships** – *This usual involves one perpetrator, and is characterised by an imbalance in power, or financial/emotional control. A significant age gap could be an indicator, and the younger person may believe they are in a loving relationship.*

- **Grooming Model –** *This is when a perpetrator befriends and grooms a young person, and the relationship becomes abusive, and often forces the young person into sexual activity with friends or associates.*

- **Taking Control –** *This is when a young person's choices are constrained, and they make the 'best' of their situation by taking part in sexual activities. E.g. performing sexual acts with a landlord in order to have somewhere to live.*

- **Organised Exploitation –** *This is when young people may be passed through networks often over geographical and between towns & cities, when young people are forced into sexual activity with multiple people.*

- **Party Model –** *This takes place in a social location, such as clubs & bars, and this involves being bought drinks or given drugs throughout an evening, with sexual activity expected in return.*

Sexual Exploitation is a form of Sexual Abuse. However, there are particular features of sexual exploitation, which are:

- Older children and young people

- 'Something' being exchanged

- Usually occurs outside of the family;

- Young person not always aware of exploitation;

- Coercion, threats, bribes and violence are common

There are many signs and vulnerabilities of sexual exploitation

Vulnerabilities of someone at risk of sexual exploitation could be:

- Emotional neglect by parent/carer/family

- Breakdown of family relationships

- Sexual or physical abuse by

- parent/carer/family

- Low self-esteem

- Migrant/refugee/asylum seeker

- Isolated from peers/social networks

- Unsuitable/inappropriate accommodation/homelessness

- Lack of positive relationship with a protective/nurturing adult

- Family history of substance misuse, domestic violence, sexual abuse, mental health difficulties

- Runaways/missing young people

- Looked After Children and Children Leaving Care

- Children with learning difficulties

Signs of sexual exploitation could be:

- Staying out late

- Recurring or multiple sexually transmitted infections

- Use of the internet that causes concern

- Living independently and failing to respond to attempts by worker to keep in touch

- Evidence of drug, alcohol or substance misuse

- Multiple callers (unknown adults/older young people)

- Use of mobile phone that causes concern

- Exclusion from school or unexplained absences from or not engaged in school/college/training/work

- Expressions of despair (self-harm, overdose, eating disorder, challenging behaviour, aggression)

- Disclosure of sexual/physical assault (may be followed by withdrawal of allegation)

- Peers involved in sexual exploitation

- Reports from reliable sources (e.g. parents/carers, friends, other professionals in contact with child or young person)

- Multiple termination of pregnancies

- Getting in or out of vehicles driven by unknown adults

- Older 'boyfriend'/relationship with controlling adult, admission of abuse

- Physical/ abuse by controlling individual

- Physical injury without plausible explanation

- Emotional abuse by controlling individual

- Adults or older youths loitering outside the child's usual place of residence

- Periods of going missing overnight or longer/returning after having been missing, looking well cared for in spite of having no known home base

- Disclosure of exchanging sex for something (e.g. money, drugs, rent, alcohol)

- Reports from reliable sources that young person has been frequenting known high-risk areas or going to addresses of concern

- Unexplained amounts of money, expensive clothing or other items

Anderida take sexual exploitation very seriously and will do everything within their power to help keep young people safe and reduce harm. Anderida fully understand the importance and significance of recognising sexual exploitation, and the risks and dangers that vulnerabilities can consequent.

This includes:

- Ensuring Anderida procedures are in place and comply with LSCB procedures covering the sexual exploitation of children and young people.

- Providing Safeguarding Sexual Exploitation Training for all care and management staff.

- Ensuring training includes information about how to identify the signs of sexual exploitation and an understanding of how to gather evidence which can be used to bring prosecutions against abusers.

- Providing Advanced training on sexual exploitation to explore the needs of children and young people who have been or may be sexually exploited or are at risk of sexual exploitation and enhancing skills around one to one relationship and self-esteem work.

- Considering young people at risk, significant others when planning and commissioning local services.

- All young people & staff will be educated on the use of CEOP, (Child Exploitation and Online Protection)

- Providing net nannies on all devices accessing the homes WIFI and monitoring activity where possible.

- All staff to undertake 'outside the box' training (a programme developed by the sex education forum in conjunction with NCB)

- Either during education or within the home, young people will be encouraged to engage in the 'outside the box' programme, this focuses on CSE sex and relationships

- Ensuring self-esteem and relationship education and resources for young people in our care, to help them recognise; sexually exploitive behaviour, keep themselves safe, reduce their vulnerability, improve their resilience, and reduce their tolerance to exploitative behaviour.

- Referring to appropriate services for young person in need of support or to report concerns of sexual exploitation, local services include WISE, CATCH 22, and the 'SASSY' nurses.

- Ensuring a multi-agency approach when liaising with services to ensure the most pro-active support for the young people.

- Reporting all concerns (soft information) to the Police using the attached CSE report form.

- Using physical intervention if needed (PRICE techniques only), in order to remove devices believed to be used for communications between young people and perpetrators, or to prevent a young person leaving the home with a known abuser.

- Consistently and accurately recording all information that suggests activity with exploitive adults and peers.

- Appropriately sharing information with the young person's professional network.

- Following a robust, consistent missing person procedure (to include the Police Return Interview) in line with the young person's care plan and risk assessment.

Doing their upmost to disrupt and prevent the activities of perpetrators (to include removal of devices, following young people, who are attempting to run away, gaining intel, such as licence plates and associates/networks/hot spots, explaining to potential perpetrators that the young person is protected, and all concerns will be passed to the police).

SUPPORTING POLICIES

- Safeguarding

- Positive Holding

- Anti-bullying Policy

- Internet Policy

- Missing Person's Procedure