

7 Minute Briefing

Practice Learning Line of Sight Event – Children who are at risk of, or who are experiencing sexual and/or criminal exploitation



1 Background

North Lincolnshire Children's MARS Board hold Practice Learning Line of Sight events three times a year across different themes. This is part of our [Scrutiny and Assurance Framework](#).

After a process of single agency case audits, line of sight panels meet with practitioners to discuss a small number of cases. We identify areas of best practice also learning and further improvement relating to multi agency practice then agree actions

7 Further information

- [Child Sexual Exploitation: Definition and guide for practitioners, local leaders and decision makers working to protect children](#)
- [Child Criminal Exploitation: Definition and guide for practitioners, local leaders and decision makers working to protect children](#)
- ['Time to Listen' – a joined up response to child sexual exploitation and missing children \(2016\) Ofsted](#)
- [Protecting Children from criminal exploitation, human trafficking and modern slavery: an addendum \(2018\) Ofsted](#)
- ['It was hard to escape' Safeguarding children at risk from criminal exploitation \(2020\) The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel](#)

6 Reflect on the learning

To inform your practice you can

- Discuss child sexual or criminal exploitation with your supervisor in the context of collaborative working across agencies
- Take a look at the [Change the Narrative: Appropriate Language relating to Child Exploitation](#)
- [Access further information and resources by joining the Contextual Safeguarding Network](#)
- [Access Children's MARS Board training on child exploitation](#)

2 Why it matters?

The Children's MARS Board decided to focus on this theme as the Ofsted reports 'Time to listen' – a joined up response to child sexual exploitation and missing children (2016) and 'Protecting children from criminal exploitation, human trafficking and modern slavery: an addendum (2018) concluded that amongst other aspects:

Preventing and responding to child criminal exploitation and sexual exploitation are big challenges for agencies and professionals nationally and locally. It can be done, but agencies must ensure that they have the building blocks in place to work effectively and quickly.

The Children's MARS Board wanted to be assured that multi agency practice is effective in identifying and responding to the risk of child exploitation.

3 Good practice

- Partnership working, the child's voice and knowledgeable practitioners who understand child exploitation, contextual safeguarding and places and spaces within the community
- Consistency of practitioners involved using relational and trauma informed practice and working at a pace which is helpful and empowering for the young person
- Engagement with parents as safeguarding partners which has made a difference to their child's life
- Persistent and resilient workers who 'hold their nerve' when risks are contextual

4 Key learning

- Ongoing training and awareness raising about appropriate professional language to describe children who are vulnerable to, at risk from or experiencing exploitation
- Further equip practitioners to do more of 'what works'
- Continue development of the local approach to working with families as experts
- Continue strategic multi-agency locality-based work to target and further transform harmful locations, places and spaces
- Contextual safeguarding development work to continue



5 Top actions

- Further training and awareness raising to include the use of appropriate professional language
- Continue to develop more resources including for use during early help
- Further development of the local approach to working with families as experts
- Continued strategic approach to transform places and spaces i.e. contexts including within the community, businesses and other locations
- Contextual safeguarding development work to include the revision of practices, forms, processes and systems including the use of national research and resources