

Guidance for use of the Child Exploitation Vulnerability Tracker

Context

The Child Exploitation Vulnerability Tracker (CEVT) was originally created by the Police and utilised as a county lines tracker. This tool has been reviewed by North Lincolnshire Children's Services and is considered to be beneficial when used to enhance **referrals/assessments and statutory plans for children** who are identified to be vulnerable to/facing risks of/experiencing child exploitation.

The tracker encompasses both child sexual and child criminal exploitation.

To strengthen practice further, it is considered to be a useful tool across the child's journey including at an **early help level**. Therefore, services and partner agencies who provide early help are encouraged to utilise the tool for example, services who support children and families including across health, education and wider agencies.

Key considerations

- The tool provides an overall score and risk level of high, medium or low. This **DOES NOT** replace professional judgement, where there are concerns about the risks faced by a child and referrals to appropriate services should be made in line with the Children's Multi Agency Resilience and Safeguarding (MARS) **One Family Approach – Helping Children and Families in North Lincolnshire 2020/24**. This document meets the requirements of Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2018 by setting out the levels of need (thresholds) in North Lincolnshire, in the context of our broader system for early help and protection and fulfils the Safeguarding Partners' responsibility to publish a threshold document.
- The CEVT does not replace any process and plans, referrals also interventions should continue as per local guidance.
- The CEVT is a tool to enhance assessments, plans and strengthen the child, their parents/carers and multi agency understanding of the child's vulnerabilities.

Frequency of use

- Social workers are expected to complete a CEVT for all children aged 10 and above, who are the subject of statutory plans.
- It is recommended that the CEVT is reviewed with the child/family at key stages of their journey, for example during assessments, within plans and during reviews of plans.
- For all children discussed within the six weekly Multi Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) meetings, the CEVT will be reviewed alongside the completion of the updated MACE risk assessment. For new children's cases being discussed, the CEVT will be provided alongside the first MACE risk assessment. Therefore, updated CEVTs will be available every six weeks.
- For children and families supported within early help, the CEVT should be used to identify any vulnerabilities to exploitation at the earliest stage, allowing for assessments and plans to consider specific exploitation prevention work for the child and parents/carers. When completing an initial CEVT, it may be useful to consider the child's journey over the previous six months and then to review the tool alongside children and families, at key points of the child's plan.

Using the CEVT – demographic information

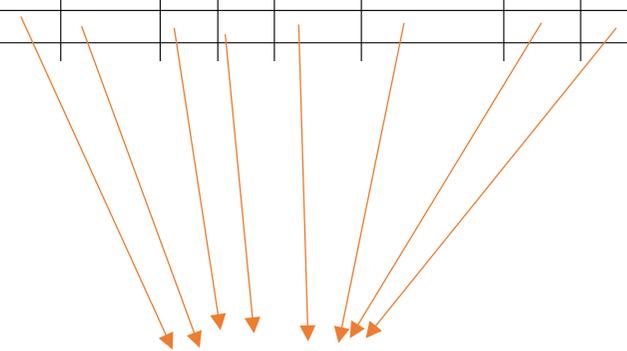
URN (Unique reference number); no action needed; the form automatically generates this. A URN is used by the Police should there be any investigations ongoing.

Force area in which the child resides (Likely to be Humberside Police force)

Force area in which any incidents/investigations are occurring (if concerns relate to county lines for example, investigations may be led by another Police area).

Score: This is calculated automatically upon completion of the CEVT (no manual action required)

Force / Area																		
Child Exploitation Vulnerability Tracker																		
URN	Status	First Name (s)	Surname	Score	Review Date	DoB	Age	Gender	Home Force	Dealing Force (s)	IC Code	PNC		BOCU	Gang	Allocation		Reference N ^o
												ID	Flag			Officer	Dept	
JOEBLO		JOE	BLOGGS	0														
				0														
				0														
				0														
				0														
				0														
				0														
				0														
				0														



Status: reflects if a child is open to a statutory service or not – drop down options available

Force / Area	
Child Exploitation Vulnerability	
URN	Status
JOEBLO	E
	Open
	Closed
	Transferred
	In Custody
	Missing

Date for the tracker to be reviewed, to consider progress/any escalation in risk.

These fields are left for the Police to complete, if they are appropriate. It is likely that these fields will only require completion should a child be discussed within the MACE meeting & therefore considered to be experiencing/facing significant risk of exploitation.

Using the CEVT – risk factors

Age Score is a manual input: refer to the tab named "scoring" to reflect the score to be added.
 Known social services/LAC/Wanted or missing are a drop down option (see below).

Age Score	Known to Social Serv	Looked After Child (L	Currently Wanted / MI:	Self Harm / Suicide	Mental Health / Learning C
			0		
			10		

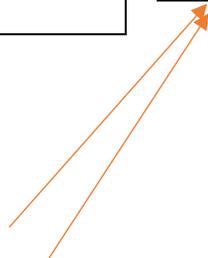
0 will always be 'No' with 5/10 being 'yes'

Victim of crime:
 This section allows for there to be an understanding of the child's experiences.

The sections are self-explanatory.

All are scored utilising the drop-down scoring option. 0 will always be 'No' with 2/5/10 being 'yes'

In relation to domestic abuse: this considers if the child themselves is a victim of domestic abuse and if they have/are experiencing this within their home environment.



	A	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG	AH	AI	AJ	AK	AL	AM	AN		
1	Force Child URN JOEBLO	Welfare						Victim of Crime						Criminal Behaviour				County Lines						
2		Age Score	Known to Social Services	Looked After Child (LAC)	Currently Wanted / Missing	Self Harm / Suicidal	Mental Health / Learning Difficulties	Drug / Alcohol Abuse	Vic of Sexual Crime	Vic of Serious Violence	Vic of Other Crime	Wit of Sexual / Serious Violent Crime	Domestic Abuse	Susp / Acc of Sexual / Serious Violence	Sus / Acc Other Crime	Sus / Acc of Possession of a Weapon	Intel Firearms / Knife	Sus / Acc PWITS	County Line Arrest	Stopped in Another Force	County Line Intel	Cuckoo-ing of Home Address		
3																								
4																								
5																								
6																								
7																								
8																								
9																								
10																								

County lines (when gangs and organised crime groups/networks exploit children to sell drugs, often across borders and use dedicated mobile phone "lines" to supply the drugs)

County lines arrest: Confirm with the Police if the child has been arrested and linked to a county line.

Stopped in another force area: An example could be that a child has been stopped by the Police in another area, and drugs found on their person.

County line intel: Any Police intelligence which details links to other adults involved in county lines activity or children who are being exploited by said adults?

Cuckoo-ing: Where drug dealers take over the home of a vulnerable person/family in order to use it as a base for county lines drug trafficking.

All are scored utilising the drop-down scoring option. 0 will always be 'No' with 2/5/10 being 'yes'

Self-harm/suicidal: Score this if there are worries in relation to self-harm/suicidal thoughts. Self-harm may include expressions of despair towards others/objects.

Mental health/learning difficulties: Score if there is a diagnosis of mental health difficulties or learning needs. Also include a status of SEN/EHCP to fully reflect a child's vulnerabilities.

Criminal behaviour:

Self-explanatory – drop down scoring to be inputted.

Notes:

- Acc (accused)
- Wit (Witness)
- Intel (Police intelligence)
- PWITS (Possession with intent to supply)

Other risk factors:

Self-explanatory, drop down options to be inputted.

NEET: Not in education, employment or training.

Attendance: Score this if there are concerns regarding the child's attendance at School.

Gang association/family: Locally, there are no defined 'gangs' however there are organised crime groups (OCG's), therefore score this if a child has links to peers or other adults who are linked themselves to OCG's. Consider also any pro-criminal families.

Missing: self-explanatory questions.

Scoring is to be inputted using the drop-down options.

All are scored utilising the drop-down scoring option. 0 will always be 'No' with 2/5/10 being 'yes'

NRM: National referral mechanism. Has a referral been made via the NRM to consider if a child has been trafficked?

LGE: London Gang Exit (Catch 22): This does not need to be answered in relation to local children, however, should be considered if there are any known links to a child travelling to London/moving from London to the local area.

Drop down options to be inputted: yes/no option.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Scoring Criteria										
2	RAG Rating										
3	0-40	Green / Low									
4	41-70	Amber / Medium									
5	71+	Red / High									
6	Average										
7	38	Average					Low				
8	20	Standard									
9	58	Average + Standard					Medium				
10	78	Average + 2xStandard					High				
11	Age Score										
12	0 - 13				10						
13	14 - 16				5						
14	17 - 18				2						
15	19 - 50				0						
16											
17											
18											
19											
20											

The RAG (Red/Amber/Green) rating reflects the level of risk.

As already detailed, professional judgement may lead to the risk score increasing or reducing based upon professional judgement. The manual scoring option offers the team around the child the opportunity to increase/reduce risk if proportionate.

The 'age score' in demographic information is a manual input, the scoring criteria provides the score per age category.