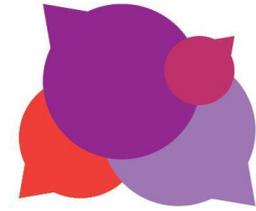# Risk Outside the Home Strategy

2022/25

North Lincolnshire
CHILDREN'S MULTI-AGENCY RESILIENCE & SAFEGUARDING BOARD

North Lincolnshire COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Supported by

Youth Justice Partnership
North Lincolnshire

Contents

Welcome and Introduction

In North Lincolnshire, our One Family Approach seeks to create **a system that works for all children, young people and families** where we work together to provide and commission integrated services for children and young people.

Our ambition is for children to be **in their families, in their schools and in their communities,** where services help early and at the lowest level, to enable children, young people and families to participate, find help online and in their networks and communities, to be resilient and stay independent.

The One Family Approach provides the framework for how we respond to the needs of all children and families in North Lincolnshire, with a focus on tackling inequalities for the most vulnerable and levelling up outcomes – safe, well, prosperous and connected. It is founded upon our North Lincolnshire culture, values and beliefs, providing a vision for a system that sees children, young people, and families as experts within their own lives. It provides a model for innovative, integrated working which builds upon strengths, find solutions in families and communities, builds resilience and confidence, and enables independence.

We have developed our response to risk outside the home within this context, and by building upon the robust multi-agency arrangements already in place for tackling the different forms of risk outside the home.

Multi-agency forums such as the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) meeting, Multi-Agency Missing Children meeting, Harmful Sexual Behaviour Panel and the Channel Panel are examples of these arrangements in practice in North Lincolnshire which reflect a long-standing partnership commitment to working together to support and protect children and young people in their families, schools and communities when they are vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families.

The North Lincolnshire approach to risk outside the home not only draws upon years of local learning and experience about 'what works', it has also been shaped heavily by the views of children, young people and families.

Taking account of emerging national themes, outcomes of research, performance data and analysis, practice wisdom, voice and experiences, the Children's Multi Agency Resilience and Safeguarding Board (MARS) Board are committed and continue to prioritise work to further develop the multi-agency approach to risk outside the home. Safeguarding the vulnerable from exploitation is also one of the key outcomes for the Community Safety Partnership.

We are committed to listening to and responding to children and young people, recognising when they need help, even when they do not have the words to tell us about what's happening, but their behaviour indicates they need support in relation to risk outside the home.

Risk Outside the Home Approach

The North Lincolnshire Risk Outside the Home approach is comprised of 3 elements:

- Practice Principles – Empowering families, taking a One Family Approach
- Providing Help – Using skills and resources to identify, assess, and intervene
- Managing Risk – Working together to reduce risk and improve outcomes

The overarching OFA practice principles are set out in the OFA practice model on the next slide.

Identifying, assessing and responding to concerns about risk outside the home should be undertaken within the context of our existing frameworks and processes, as set out in the Children's MARS policy and procedure for assessing need and providing help and the One Family Approach - Helping Children and Families in North Lincolnshire document 2020/24. A range of additional Children's MARS policy and procedures are available specifically focusing on the different forms of risk outside the home. These can be found on the policies, procedures and guidance page of the Children's MARS website.

There are a range of practice tools available to support practitioners assessing, planning and intervening to reduce risk when there are concerns about risk outside the home. These tools can be used at any point in the child's journey, including when early help is being provided, to support the practitioner and family in understanding what is going on, what needs, risks and strengths may be present, and what will make things better. The risk outside the home toolkit along with other useful resources can be found on the resources page of the Children's MARS website.

The Children's MARS Education and Training Programme, e-workbooks and upcoming courses, including those related to risk outside the home can be found on the training page of the Children's MARS website. To help share and develop best practice across teams and services, a risk outside the home practitioner's network has been established, bringing together frontline staff and managers with a passion for working with adolescents, developing family-led decision making, sharing practice about 'what works' and improving outcomes.

Most children and young people who are vulnerable to or experiencing risk outside the home do not require social work services. In many circumstances, the provision of informal early help or more formal targeted / coordinated support is sufficient to enable families to improve outcomes for themselves and their children. For some however, the level of risk and the combination or complexity of needs may mean the child is assessed to be 'in need' and requiring specialist services.

Any assessment and intervention by Children's Services due to ongoing concern or significant harm is underpinned by the North Lincolnshire Risk Analysis Framework (RAF). The RAF may be used to underpin Early Help Plans where risk and protective factors should be considered. See the Children's MARS policy and procedure for assessing need and providing help – section on Risk Analysis Framework for more information.

For some children and young people, the levels of risk or challenges building effective engagement that improves outcomes may require a radically different multi-agency approach. For these cases, a new risk outside the home meeting format has been developed, drawing upon research and shaped by local learning and consultation with practitioners, children, and families.

The full risk outside the home approach is published on the Children's MARS website

One Family Approach Practice Model

The One Family Approach practice model provides the framework for how every professional in North Lincolnshire should work with children, young people, and families.

It is based upon our North Lincolnshire culture, values and beliefs, aiming to help us achieve our ambition – to keep children **in their families, their schools and their communities.**

We do so by building upon strengths, finding solutions in families and communities, building resilience and confidence, and enabling independence.

The Practice Model is also referenced within the Helping Children and Families in North Lincolnshire document and a specific briefing regarding the Practice Model is published on the Children's MARS website.

Scope of Strategy

Our ambition is to create a system that works for all children, young people and families so they can be in their families, in their schools and in their communities. We will work collaboratively to reduce the harm from risk outside the home and this strategy sets out the priorities for partnership action to drive forward system change. To support the ongoing delivery of this strategy to tackle the different forms of risk outside the home, outcomes have been identified to orientate partnership action under the auspices of the 4 P's, as follows:

- **PREPARE:** having systems and processes in place, raising awareness and developing a responsive culture
- **PREVENT:** developing resilience, supporting positive alternatives and timely interventions
- **PROTECT:** supporting victims and survivors
- **PURSUE:** tackling offending through prosecution, disruption and law enforcement

The underpinning risk outside the home Delivery Plan is based on these four strategic aims.

Risk Outside the Home

As outlined in Working Together 2018:

As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online. These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats …

In North Lincolnshire, our Risk Outside the Home Approach includes:

- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Criminal exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines
- Serious Youth Violence
- Child Trafficking
- Modern Day Slavery
- Online abuse
- Teenage relationship abuse
- Bullying
- Child on child sexual violence and harrassment and harmful sexual behaviour
- Children vulnerable to Radicalisation

Full definitions for the above types of harm are contained within appendix 1.

As part of the scope of the strategy we will take account those who have additional needs and/or vulnerabilities in order to reduce inequalities and to improve outcomes for all children and young people, for example children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, children who go missing.

Outcomes

To support the ongoing delivery of this Strategy to tackle risk outside the home, outcomes have been identified to orientate partnership action under the auspices of the 4 P's - PREPARE, PREVENT, PROTECT and PURSUE:

PREPARE

- **Outcome:** Systems and processes are effective in supporting partnership action and practice
- **Outcome:** People are aware of risk outside the home and staff are trained, skilled and knowledgeable
- **Outcome:** The views and experiences of children, young people and families inform, influence and shape practice, services and strategy

PREVENT

- **Outcome:** Risk outside the home is addressed at the earliest point resulting in prevention of escalation
- **Outcome:** As a result of new approaches to working with young people and families and managing risk, young people have enhanced resilience and protective factors

PROTECT

- **Outcome:** Those vulnerable to and who have experienced risk outside the home receive support through accessible pathways including transitioning to services to adults
- **Outcome:** Those vulnerable to becoming perpetrators and those who are perpetrators receive support to reduce impacts

PURSUE

- **Outcome:** Offending is tackled and minimised through prosecution, disruption and law enforcement

In the following four slides, we have articulated specific partnership action and system change to reflect the needs identified against the outcomes and how we intend to address them. This will be underpinned by a more detailed delivery plan.

Prepare

Outcome	Partnership Action and System Change
Systems and processes are effective in supporting partnership action and practice leading to better outcomes	Review and refine systems and processes in schools to ensure they are robust and responsive to be able to meet the needs of children who are vulnerable to or experiencing all types of risk outside the home
	Review and refine policies and procedures across all the risk outside the home vulnerabilities
	Proactively respond to national reports and research relevant to risk outside the home to shape and influence our local practice and service delivery
	Further develop performance data and reporting mechanisms to contribute to the development of the performance framework and profile to ensure they feature all types of risk outside the home
People are aware of risk outside the home and staff are trained, skilled and knowledgeable	Build in specific communications relating to risk outside the home into the Children's MARS communication and stakeholder engagement planner
	Seek assurance that agencies including schools are accessing education, training and CPD in relation to risk outside the home
	Through the Children's MARS arrangements, facilitate and promote access to education, training, awareness raising and resources in relation to all types of risk outside the home
	Develop and/or utilise mechanisms to understand the impact on practice of education, training, awareness raising and resources in relation to all types of risk outside the home
The views and experiences of children, young people and families inform, influence and shape practice, services and strategy	The views and experiences of children, young people and families are listened to and taken account of by all agencies at all points across the system and pathway and key themes are routinely reported through relevant partnerships and governance arrangements ('you said we did')
	Scope, develop and implement an Experts by Experience Framework as part of our co-production approach to working with young people and families as experts in their own lives

Prevent

Outcome	Partnership Action and System Change
Risk outside the home is addressed at the earliest point resulting in prevention of escalation	Further develop and deliver awareness raising, education programmes and more resources for children, young people and families themselves
	Seek assurance that individuals, agencies and organisations are recognising and utilising critical moments to effect change and that recording systems evidence interactions, impacts and outcomes
	Review and refine the local risk outside the home approach
As a result of new approaches to working with young people and families and managing risk, young people have enhanced resilience and protective factors	Review and strengthen the contribution of the local youth offer to prevent harm from risk outside the home through the engagement of providers in the broader partnership tackling risk outside the home, including the voluntary and community sector

Protect

Outcome	Partnership Action and System Change
Those vulnerable to and who have experienced risk outside the home receive support through accessible pathways including transitioning to services to adults	Review systems and processes to strengthen transitions across the breadth of risk outside the homeincluding across services to adults to look at developing more preventative and holistic ways of engaging young people/adults as part of the transition
Those vulnerable to becoming perpetrators and those who are perpetrators receive support to reduce impacts	Develop early help interventions to address teenage perpetrator behaviours and teenage relationship abuse

Pursue

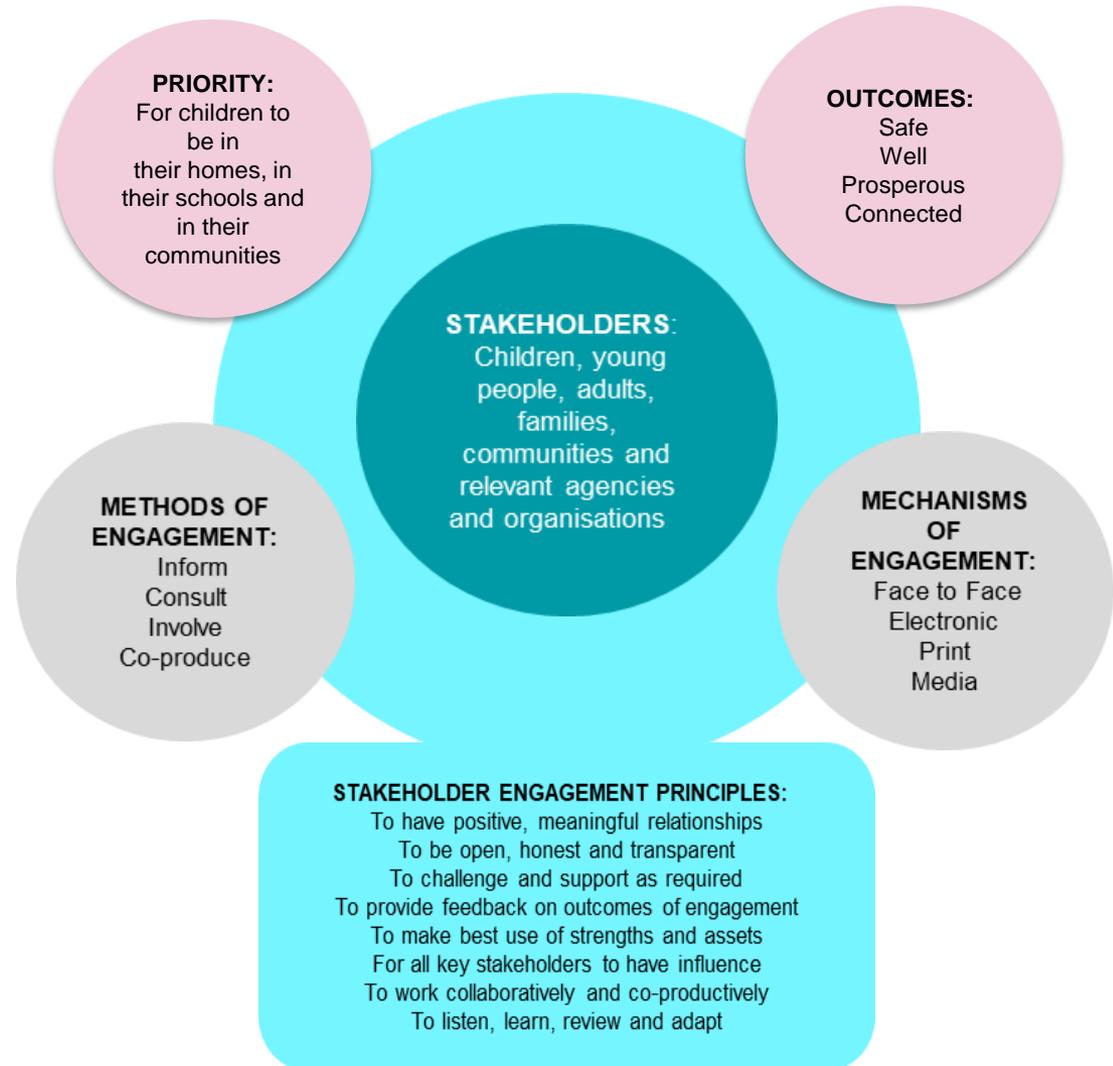| Outcome	Partnership Action and System Change
Offending is tackled and minimised through prosecution, disruption and law enforcement	Identify and proactively respond to emerging harmful places, spaces, hotspots and groups through a collaborative, partnership approach

Voice and Engagement

We will listen to the views and experiences of children, young people, adults, families and communities, work to build on their strengths and help them find solutions leading to better outcomes (safe, well, prosperous and connected).

Children, young people, adults, families and communities are at the heart of all we do. By making use of their strengths, assets, views and experiences and by engaging with and working together as partners and with other key stakeholders across the partnership (including the voluntary and community sector), we will co-produce local services and support which meet needs and helps to achieve our priority, leading to better outcomes.

This will be underpinned in our stakeholder engagement statement which clarifies our commitment and mechanisms for engagement at an individual, service and strategic level.

We will do this along with children, young people, adults, families and communities themselves, key partners and stakeholders including the Council, the Clinical Commissioning Group, education providers, health providers, police and the voluntary and community sector.

PRIORITY:
For children to be in their homes, in their schools and in their communities

OUTCOMES:
Safe
Well
Prosperous
Connected

STAKEHOLDERS:
Children, young people, adults, families, communities and relevant agencies and organisations

METHODS OF ENGAGEMENT:
Inform
Consult
Involve
Co-produce

MECHANISMS OF ENGAGEMENT:
Face to Face
Electronic
Print
Media

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PRINCIPLES:
To have positive, meaningful relationships
To be open, honest and transparent
To challenge and support as required
To provide feedback on outcomes of engagement
To make best use of strengths and assets
For all key stakeholders to have influence
To work collaboratively and co-productively
To listen, learn, review and adapt

Monitoring and Evaluation

A more detailed Delivery Plan has been developed to orientate partnership action articulated in this strategy. The implementation of the Delivery Plan is led through the Risk Outside the Home Strategy Group and associated groups and workstreams.

The Risk Outside the Home Strategy Group monitors progress against the Delivery Plan, including the effectiveness of multi-agency work in respect of safeguarding children and young people who may be at risk from outside their families or who have suffered harm as a result. The Risk Outside the Home Strategy Group provides partnership challenge and support as required.

All agencies have a responsibility to audit their practice and ensure the effectiveness of their arrangements in respect of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in respect of tackling risk outside the home. The Children's MARS Board will monitor compliance through its scrutiny and assurance framework, including the Joint Safeguarding Self-Assessment (section 11) process, Practice Learning Line of Sight events and assurance events as well as performance management information and most importantly talking to children, young people and families about their experiences and views to further enhance individual planning, service development and strategic direction.
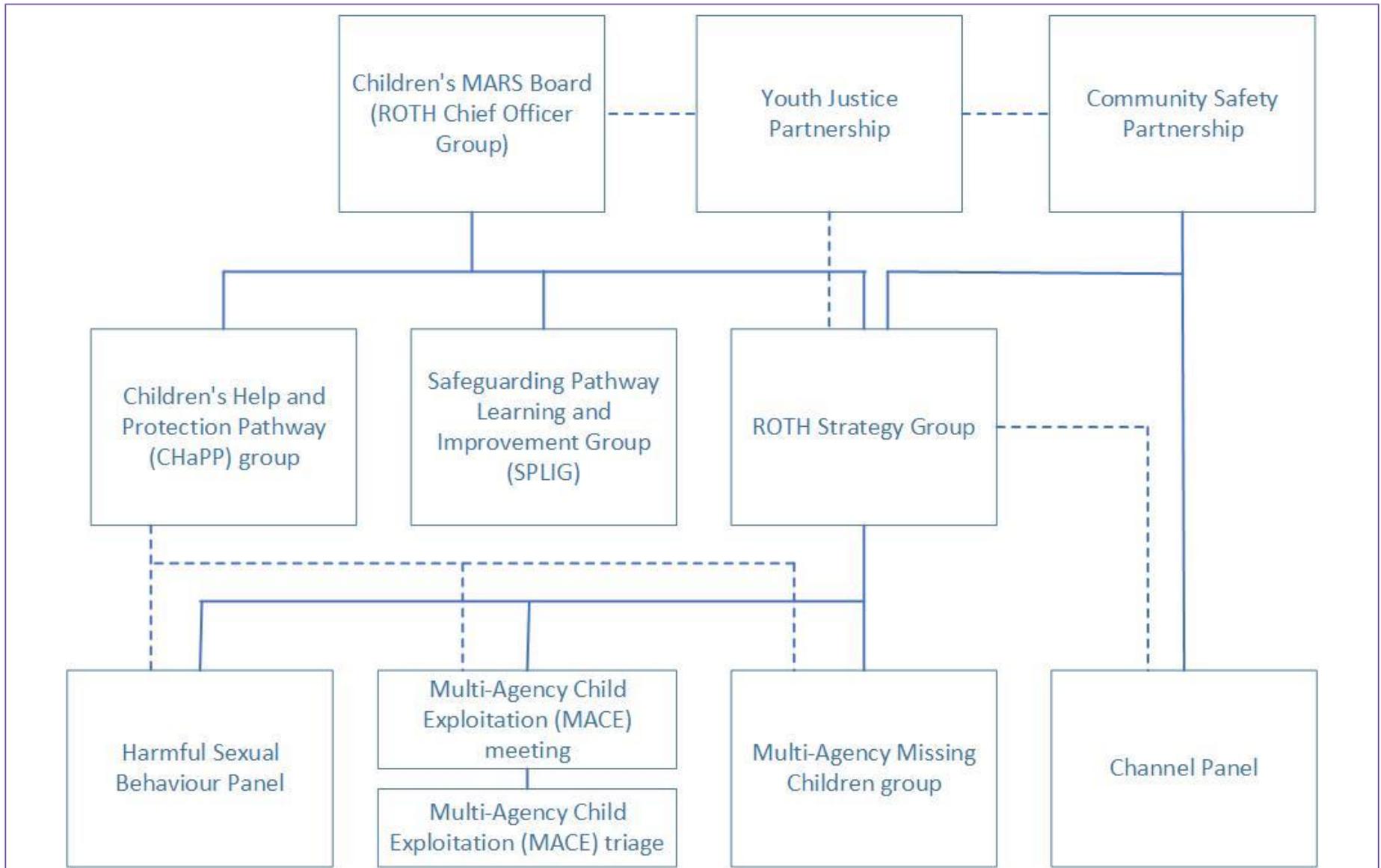
As part of the Children's MARS Board function to monitor and oversee work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people, the Children's MARS Board will keep the implementation of this Strategy and accompanying Delivery Plan under review.

Through exceptions reporting, progress against this Strategy will be reported into the Children's MARS Board on a quarterly basis. The chair of the Risk Outside the Home Strategy Group will be invited to attend the Children's MARS Board as required. This Strategy will be subject to an annual review and reported through the Children's MARS Board Annual Report and Community Safety Partnership Board partnership and governance processes.

North Lincolnshire's Risk Outside the Home Strategy sits under the auspices of the Children's MARS Board and is jointly owned by the Community Safety Partnership Board. The Risk Outside the Home Chief Officer group is subsumed within the responsibilities of the Children's MARS Board consisting of three safeguarding partners (Director of Children and Families, North Lincolnshire Council, Director of Nursing and Quality, Clinical Commissioning Group and Chief Superintendent/South Bank Divisional Commander, Humberside Police), along with key education representatives as core group members and other lead officers/representatives who attend the board.

The Risk Outside the Home Partnership and Accountability Framework is outlined on the next slide. Further detail relating to the role and functions of the partnership subgroups as set out in the Partnership and Accountability Framework are detailed within the Children's MARS Memorandum of Understanding.

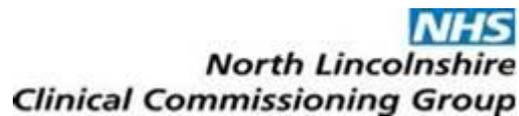# Partnership and Accountability Framework

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Appendix 1: Definitions

Assessment of Risk Outside the Home	As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online. These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats, including: exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines; trafficking; online abuse; teenage relationship abuse; sexual exploitation and the influences of extremism leading to radicalisation. Extremist groups make use of the internet to radicalise and recruit and to promote extremist materials. Any potential harmful effects to individuals identified as vulnerable to extremist ideologies or being drawn into terrorism should also be considered. Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2018
Child Criminal Exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines	Working Together 2018 says that: As set out in the Serious Violence Strategy, published by the Home Office, Child Criminal Exploitation is where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into any criminal activity in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or • for the financial or other advantage of the perpetrator or facilitator and/or • through violence or the threat of violence. 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.
County Lines	Working Together 2018 says that: As set out in the Serious Violence Strategy, published by the Home Office, 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. County lines activity and the associated violence, drug dealing and exploitation has a devastating impact on young people, vulnerable adults and local communities.
Serious Youth Violence	As set out in the Serious Violence Strategy, published by the Home Office, Serious Youth Violence involves young persons between the ages of 16-25 and is concerned with specific types of crime such as homicide, knife crime, gun crime and areas of criminality where serious violence or its threat is inherent, such as in gangs and county lines drug dealing. It also includes emerging crime threats faced in some areas of the county such as the use of corrosive substances as a weapon. For further information, see Serious Violence Strategy, Home Office, June 2018

Appendix 1: Definitions

Child Sexual Exploitation	As set out in Working Together: *Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.*
Child Trafficking	Article 3 of the Palermo Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime to the UN Convention (2000) (ratified by the UK on 6 February 2006) defines trafficking as: a) 'trafficking of persons' shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs. b) the consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) have been used; c) the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered 'trafficking in persons' even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article; d) 'child' shall mean any person under eighteen years of age. For further information, see Children's MARS guidance on safeguarding children who may have been trafficked

Appendix 1: Definitions

Modern Day Slavery	Modern day slavery encompasses: • Human trafficking • Slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour The Modern Slavery Act (MSA) 2015 Statutory Guidance makes it clear that 'Some people may not be victims of human trafficking but still be victims of modern slavery if they have been subject to slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour.' The MSA 2015 Statutory Guidance also sets out the following definitions: • Slavery - The 1926 Slavery Convention defines slavery as 'the status or condition of a person over whom any or all of the powers attaching to the right of ownership are exercised • Servitude - Servitude is an 'aggravated' form of forced or compulsory labour. The fundamental distinguishing feature between servitude and forced or compulsory labour is in the victim feeling that their condition is permanent and that the situation is unlikely to change. • Forced and/or Compulsory Labour - UN Convention No. 29 concerning forced or compulsory labour defines 'forced or compulsory labour' as 'all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily' The concept of ownership is what makes slavery distinct. For example, a member of a county lines gang sells a child to another gang. The child is not involved in this decision and has no choice in the matter. By treating the child as if they were property that could be sold, the threshold of slavery would be met. For further information, see Children's MARS guidance on safeguarding children who may have been trafficked
Online abuse	Online abuse is any type of abuse that happens on the internet. It can happen across any device that's connected to the web, like computers, tablets and mobile phones. And it can happen anywhere online, including: • social media • text messages and messaging apps • emails • online chats • online gaming • live-streaming sites. Children can be at risk of online abuse from people they know or from strangers. It might be part of other abuse which is taking place offline, like bullying or grooming. Or the abuse might only happen online. Further information can be found on the Online abuse page of the NSPCC website

Appendix 1: Definitions

Teenage Relationship Abuse	Teenage relationship abuse is not a term that is defined by the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, or elsewhere in law, but if the victim and perpetrator are at least 16 years old abuse in their relationship will come under the statutory definition of domestic abuse set out in the Domestic Abuse Act. Whilst young people under the age of 16 can experience behaviours which encompass domestic abuse, these would be considered child abuse. These can include a wide range of incidents or patterns of incidents of controlling or coercive behaviour, violence or abuse between teenagers (and may involve children younger than 13) who are, or have been, in an intimate relationship. This abuse can encompass, but is not limited to, psychological, physical, sexual, economic or emotional abuse. For teenagers in particular, this abuse can often occur through technology. For instance, technology may be used to harass and control victims, including social media, or location-based tracking apps such as Find My Friends. Young people's lives are often heavily online-based and perpetrators of abuse may exploit this, demanding access to passwords or monitoring online activity. Young people may also experience intimate image abuse within their relationships, including threats to expose intimate images. For further information see, Domestic Abuse Draft Statutory Guidance Framework
Bullying	Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally. Bullying can take many forms (for instance, cyber-bullying via text messages, social media or gaming, which can include the use of images and video) and is often motivated by prejudice against particular groups, for example on grounds of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, special educational needs or disabilities, or because a child is adopted, in care or has caring responsibilities. It might be motivated by actual differences between children, or perceived differences. Many experts say that bullying involves an imbalance of power between the perpetrator and the victim. This could involve perpetrators of bullying having control over the relationship which makes it difficult for those they bully to defend themselves. The imbalance of power can manifest itself in several ways, it may be physical, psychological (knowing what upsets someone), derive from an intellectual imbalance, or by having access to the support of a group, or the capacity to socially isolate. It can result in the intimidation of a person or persons through the threat of violence or by isolating them either physically or online For further information see, Preventing and tackling bullying, DfE, July 2017
Radicalisation	Radicalisation is defined as the process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism and, in some cases, to then participate in terrorist groups. 'Extremism is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas' For further information, see Prevent Strategy, HM Government, June 2011

Appendix 1: Definitions

Child on child sexual violence and harrassment	Sexual violence and sexual harassment can occur between two children of any age and sex. It can occur through a group of children sexually assaulting or sexually harassing a single child or group of children. Sexual violence and sexual harassment exist on a continuum and may overlap; they can occur online and face to face (both physically and verbally) and are never acceptable. When referring to sexual violence in this advice, we do so in the context of child on child sexual violence.
	
	When referring to sexual violence we are referring to sexual offences under the Sexual Offences Act 200314 as described below:
	• Rape: A person (A) commits an offence of rape if: he intentionally penetrates the vagina, anus or mouth of another person (B) with his penis, B does not consent to the penetration and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.
	• Assault by Penetration: A person (A) commits an offence if: s/he intentionally penetrates the vagina or anus of another person (B) with a part of her/his body or anything else, the penetration is sexual, B does not consent to the penetration and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.
	• Sexual Assault: A person (A) commits an offence of sexual assault if: s/he intentionally touches another person (B), the touching is sexual, B does not consent to the touching and A does not reasonably believe that B consents. (Schools should be aware that sexual assault covers a very wide range of behaviour so a single act of kissing someone without consent or touching someone's bottom/breasts/genitalia without consent, can still constitute sexual assault.)
	• Causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent: A person (A) commits an offence if: s/he intentionally causes another person (B) to engage in an activity, the activity is sexual, B does not consent to engaging in the activity, and A does not reasonably believe that B consents. (This could include forcing someone to strip, touch themselves sexually, or to engage in sexual activity with a third party.)
	
	When referring to sexual harassment we mean 'unwanted conduct of a sexual nature' that can occur online and offline. When we reference sexual harassment, we do so in the context of child on child sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is likely to: violate a child's dignity, and/or make them feel intimidated, degraded or humiliated and/or create a hostile, offensive or sexualised environment. Whilst not intended to be an exhaustive list, sexual harassment can include:
	• sexual comments, such as: telling sexual stories, making lewd comments, making sexual remarks about clothes and appearance and calling someone sexualised names
	• sexual "jokes" or taunting
	• physical behaviour, such as: deliberately brushing against someone, interfering with someone's clothes (schools and colleges should be considering when any of this crosses a line into sexual violence - it is important to talk to and consider the experience of the victim) and displaying pictures, photos or drawings of a sexual nature
	• online sexual harassment. This may be standalone, or part of a wider pattern of sexual harassment and/or sexual violence. It may include:
	    ○ - consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images and/or videos. As set out in UKCIS Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people (which provides detailed advice for schools and colleges) taking and sharing nude photographs of U18s is a criminal offence
	    ○ sharing of unwanted explicit content
	    ○ upskirting (is a criminal offence)
	    ○ sexualised online bullying
	    ○ unwanted sexual comments and messages, including, on social media
	    ○ sexual exploitation; coercion and threats
	
	For further information, see Sexual violence and harrassment between children in schools and colleges, DfE, September 2021

Appendix 1: Definitions

Harmful sexual behaviour	Children's sexual behaviour exists on a wide continuum, from normal and developmentally expected to inappropriate, problematic, abusive and violent. Problematic, abusive and violent sexual behaviour is developmentally inappropriate and may cause developmental damage. A useful umbrella term is "harmful sexual behaviour" (HSB). The term has been widely adopted in child protection. HSB can occur online and/or face to face and can also occur simultaneously between the two. HSB should be considered in a child protection context. When considering HSB, ages and the stages of development of the children are critical factors. Sexual behaviour between children can be considered harmful if one of the children is much older, particularly if there is more than two years' difference or if one of the children is pre-pubescent and the other is not. However, a younger child can abuse an older child, particularly if they have power over them, for example, if the older child is disabled or smaller in stature. For further information, see Sexual violence and harrassment between children in schools and colleges, DfE, September 2021