



NWG Network

Child Exploitation Forum

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NWG Network

Who are we?

National networking charity of 14,500 members from across the sectors working together to tackle exploitation at a local and national level
Originally a CSE charity now a Child Exploitation Charity

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NWG Network

Our membership offer

Training, practitioner forums and webinars

Sharing Resources and learning through our knowledge hub

Exploitation Response Unit

Surgeries and reviews

Developing guidance, reports and resources in collaboration with key partners

Campaigns



Child Exploitation Context

- “ There is an increasing number of teenagers experiencing a conveyor belt of familial vulnerability, conflict, exclusion, exploitation, care and custody.”
- “Half of Black children in the UK are now growing up in poverty”
- “When compared to their peers, children in residential care are at least 13 times more likely to be criminalised.”
- “60% of children who offend have communication difficulties. Of this group, around half have poor or very poor communication skills “

(Commission Young Lives - A new partnership with families)

**COMMISSION
YOUNG LIVES**

Of the 80,850 children in care in England in the year ending March 2021

- 23%. were over the age of 16
- 39% were aged 10-15

“Out of Harms Way”

**COMMISSION
YOUNG LIVES**

Child Exploitation Some Current Themes

Models of exploitation changing

Gender bias, Adultification and Language

Contextual and Transitional Safeguarding and Working With Parents/Foster Carers as Safeguarding Partners

Missing and RHIs



Contextual and Transitional Safeguarding

Missing
Benchmarking Tool

BRIDGING THE GAP
TRANSITIONAL SAFEGUARDING
AND THE ROLE OF SOCIAL WORK WITH ADULTS



A knowledge briefing

CONTEXTUAL Safeguarding

- Recognising abuse outside the family home
- Addresses contexts assessment and intervention
- Encourages wider partnership working

TRANSITIONAL Safeguarding *"Perpetrators target vulnerability not age"* – Newcastle slogan

- Transition into independence and adulthood
- Capacity not chronological
- Reunification with families

- NWG and Childrens Society Missing Benchmarking Tool

Extra Familial Harm - Families as Safeguarding Partners

**COMMISSION
YOUNG LIVES**

A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH FAMILIES

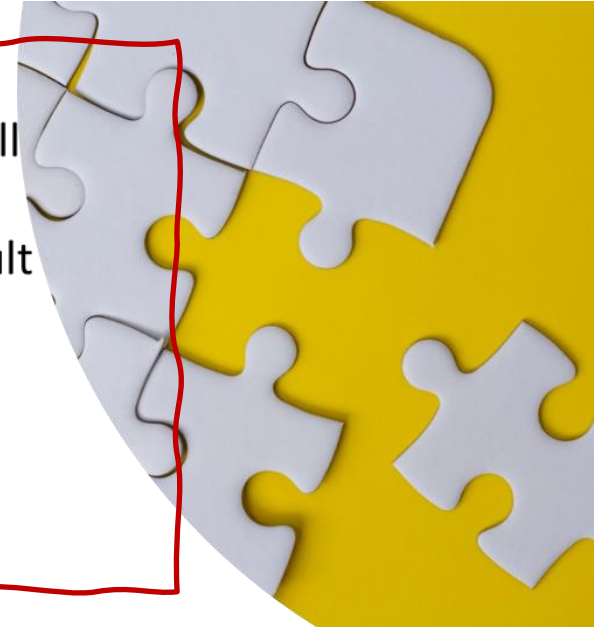
Supporting families to keep teenagers safe from gangs, exploitation and abuse

**It was hard
to escape**

Safeguarding children at risk
from criminal exploitation

“If we continue to leave families without interventions to help their teenagers stay safe and progress, systems will continue to fail in their responsibilities to protect many teenagers at risk. We need to ensure that our default position is not to ignore, side-line or blame parents and families, often our most important assets in protecting children. “

- Parental engagement is nearly always a protective factor
- Parents and extended family members need effective support in helping them manage risk from outside the home. This is skilled work and requires building good relationships with parents.





TAKING THE LEARNING FROM CSE INTO WIDER EXPLOITATION

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) said there was “a flawed assumption” that child sexual exploitation was “on the wane”, with councils and police forces denying the scale of the problem, despite evidence to the contrary

- Underestimating the extent of CSE
- Less known about the prevalence now than in 2015
- Reports of CSE decreased
- Widened response to child exploitation could be diluting the issue
- Children being seen as “at risk” when they are being exploited
- Failing to keep pace
- CSE downplayed

Resources and Reports

Barnardos – “From Pillar to Post How to achieve greater stability in the care system”

EIF “Trauma-informed care: Understanding the use of trauma-informed approaches within children’s social care”

Independent review of Children’s Social Care

Principles for Social Work in Children’s Social Care: Supporting young people’s online safety and experiences and resources

YGAM training

Knowledge Hub

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