



Cardiff Local Safeguarding Children Board

Children & Young People Abused Through Sexual Exploitation

Protocol & Procedure

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Children Who Are At Risk Of Abuse Through Sexual Exploitation

Definition

Child sexual exploitation is the coercion or manipulation of children and young people into taking part in sexual activities. It is a form of sexual abuse involving an exchange of some form of payment which can include money, mobile phones and other items, drugs, alcohol, a place to stay, 'protection' or affection. The vulnerability of the young person and grooming process employed by perpetrators renders them powerless to recognise the exploitative nature of relationships and unable to give informed consent.

Background

"Children abused through prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation should be treated primarily as the victims of abuse, and their needs require careful assessment. They are likely to be in need of welfare services and, in many cases, protection under the Children Act 1989". (NAW, "Safeguarding Children: Working Together Under The Children Act (2004)).

Children under the age of 16 will always be dealt with as actual or potential victims. From 16 -18 consideration may be given, in very limited circumstances and where all other options have failed, to the use of criminal justice action.

This protocol has been drawn up by a multi-agency group in accordance with:

- Home Office/Department of Health/NAW guidance " Safeguarding Children involved in Prostitution (May 2000)
- DOH/NAW "The Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families" (2000)
- DOH "The Children Act" (1989)
- DOH "The Data Protection Act" (1998)
- DOH/NAW "The Human Rights" Act (2000)
- All-Wales Child Protection Procedures
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Safeguarding Children: Working Together Under The Children Act 2004
- The All Wales Protocol "Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children Abused through Sexual Exploitation"

1. Introduction

- 1.1 All involved professionals must avoid any action, which serves to stigmatise the child, or reinforce their involvement in sexual exploitation. This includes not using the term "child prostitute", which reinforces a negative identity for the child and does not recognise that they are victims of abuse. Therefore the term "children abused through sexual exploitation" will be used.
- 1.2 Sexual exploitation of children is not new. Largely hidden, it goes on throughout the UK. There are no figures for how many children are involved, either nationally or in Cardiff. It affects both boys and girls, although the dynamics of the problem may differ.
- 1.3 In some areas, sexual exploitation of children takes place openly on the streets, but also, and perhaps more often, it is covert, carried on in for example private accommodation, clubs, massage parlours. In Cardiff there is some obvious street activity.
- 1.4 There are a wide range of offences for which adults who abuse children through sexual exploitation can be convicted, including causing or inciting a child to engage in sexual activity, causing a child to watch a sexual act, arranging or facilitating a child sex offence, abuse of children through prostitution or pornography (paying, causing, inciting or controlling). This list is not exhaustive and further details can be found in **Appendix 3**.
- 1.5 Children who are abused through sexual exploitation come from many different backgrounds and environments. They may be living at home, they may be looked after by the Social Services Department, they may be street homeless or living in hostels, or children/young people who have entered the country as unrecognised asylum seekers or involved in human trafficking. Research had indicated that, whilst a significant proportion have been in residential or foster care, many have not. Many come from families with severe problems, including experience of abuse, but this is not necessarily the case. The most common factors are vulnerability and low self-esteem. In some cases children may be drawn into sexual exploitation by peers who are already involved.
- 1.6 Practice and research has identified that children, particularly girls, who are abused through sexual exploitation, have sometimes been coerced into this by an older man, who poses as their boyfriend. These girls may well owe these men a debt either from alcohol or drugs or they may have been brought into the country through human trafficking. A similar situation may occur with young people who are seeking asylum. They are therefore physically and emotionally dependent upon him and this may be re-enforced by the use of alcohol and drugs. Over time, access to friends and family becomes curtailed and the child becomes alienated from statutory services.
- 1.7 Developing the necessary trust to provide services to such children and assist their exit from sexual exploitation can take considerable time and may best be undertaken by non-statutory agencies, with the support of statutory agencies. In some circumstances, an exit from sexual exploitation cannot be achieved, but the level of harm may be reduced by the provision of a basic level of advice and contact from a supportive agency.

- 1.8 The protocol will be available through the key agencies' Designated Officers for Children Abused through Sexual Exploitation.
- 1.9 This protocol uses the terms "boys", "girls" and "children" in line with the Children Act 1989 and applies to all children up to the age of eighteen. This protocol refers to the abuser as "he" throughout. However, acknowledgement has to be given that women are also involved.

2. Principles

- 2.1 All children involved in prostitution are being sexually exploited and are sexually, physically and emotionally at risk, both in the short and long term.
- 2.2 The vast majority of these children do not make informed choices to enter or remain in a situation where they are victims of sexual exploitation, but do so from coercion, enticement, manipulation or desperation, because they can see no alternatives. Children under the age of 18 years may be subject to sexual exploitation which covers a range of activity, including buying the sexual services of a child, causing or encouraging or facilitating sexual exploitation, controlling the sexual activity of a child involved in prostitution or pornography.
- 2.3 The primary law enforcement effort must be against adults coercers (so called "pimps") and adult sexual abusers (so called "punters/clients") and those who groom for sexual gratification.
- 2.4 For any intervention to be effective, it is essential that all involved agencies, both statutory and voluntary, work closely together to share information and plan a response. In order to facilitate this, lead officers should be nominated from the key agencies, whose role is to:-
- Form part of the membership of Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Group when there are suspicions that a child is involved in sexual exploitation.
 - Provide advice for members of their own agency and other professionals in the area.
 - Provide a forum with other designated officers for gathering local statistics and local and national information, which can be used to inform strategies to prevent the entry of children into prostitution and assist those already involved to exit.
- 2.5 All children at risk of being abused through sexual exploitation are children in need of services under The Children Act 1989. They are also children in need of protection. Normally, however, use of the formal Child Protection Procedures will not be appropriate unless:-
- 2.6
- The child is at immediate risk of significant harm
 - There is concern that the sexual exploitation is actively encouraged by the child's parent(s)/carer(s)
 - There is concern that the sexual exploitation is facilitated by the child's parent(s)/carer(s) failing to protect
 - There is a concern that a related or unrelated adult in a position of trust or responsibility to the child, is organising or encouraging the sexual exploitation

The younger the child, the more likely it is that use of Child Protection Procedures will be instigated.

- 2.7 Any response must address each child's individual circumstances, including consideration of issues of gender, race, culture, religion, sexuality and sexual orientation. Many children abused through sexual exploitation have difficulty distinguishing between their own choices around sex and sexuality and the sexual activities into which they are coerced. This potential confusion needs to be clearly understood by any support service. Sensitivity is required when working with boys

who are involved in male sexual exploitation. Whether or not they identify themselves as gay, they need to understand that it is sexual exploitation which is the focus of concern, not homosexuality.

Allegations of harm from underage sexual activity

- 2.8 Cases of underage sexual activity which present cause for concern are likely to raise difficult issues and should be handled particularly sensitively.
- 2.9 A child under 13 is not legally capable of consenting to sexual activity. Any offence under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 involving a child under 13 is very serious and should be taken to indicate a risk of significant harm to the child.
- 2.10 Cases involving under 13s should always be discussed with a nominated child protection lead organisation. Under the Sexual Offences Act, penetrative sex with a child under 13 is classed as rape. Where the allegation concerns penetrative sex, or other intimate sexual activity occurs, there would always be reasonable cause to suspect that a child, whether girl or boy, is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm. There should be a presumption that the case will be reported to Social Services and that a strategy discussion will be held in accordance with section 5 below. This should involve Children's Services, Police and relevant agencies, to discuss appropriate next steps with the professional. All cases involving under 13s should be fully documented including detailed reasons where a decision is taken not to share information.
- 2.11 Sexual activity with a child under 16 is also an offence. Where it is consensual it may be less serious than if the child were under 13 but may nevertheless have serious consequences for the welfare of the young person. Consideration should be given in every case of sexual activity involving a child aged 13-15 as to whether there should be a discussion with other agencies and whether a referral should be made to Children's Services. The professional should make this assessment using the considerations below. Within this age range, the younger the child, the stronger the presumption must be that sexual activity will be a matter of concern. Cases of concern should be discussed with the nominated child protection lead and subsequently with other agencies if required. Where confidentiality needs to be preserved a discussion can still take place as long as it does not identify the child (directly or indirectly). Where there is reasonable cause to suspect that significant harm to a child has occurred or might occur, there would be a presumption that the case is reported to Children's Services and a strategy discussion should be held to discuss appropriate next steps. Again, all cases should be carefully documented including where a decision is taken not to share information.
- 2.12 The considerations in the following checklist should be taken into account when assessing the extent to which a child (or other children) may be suffering or at risk of harm, and therefore the need to hold a strategy discussion in order to share information:
- The age of the child. Sexual activity at a young age is a very strong indicator that there are risks to the welfare of the child (whether boy or girl) and, possibly, others;
 - The level of maturity and understanding of the child;
 - What is known about the child's living circumstances or background;
 - Age imbalance, in particular where there is a significant age difference;

- Overt aggression or power imbalance;
- Coercion or bribery;
- Familial child sex offences;
- Behaviour of the child, i.e. withdrawn, anxious;
- The misuse of substances as a disinhibitor;
- Whether the child's own behaviour, because of the misuse of substances, places him/her at risk so that s/he is unable to make an informed choice about any activity;
- Whether any attempts to secure secrecy have been made by the sexual partner, beyond what would be considered usual in a teenage relationship;
- Whether the child denies, minimises or accepts concerns;
- Whether the methods used are consistent with grooming; and
- Whether the sexual partner/s is/are known by one of the agencies.

2.13 In cases of concern, when sufficient information is known about the sexual partner/s the agency concerned should check with other agencies, including the Police, to establish whatever information is known about that person/s. The Police should normally share the required information without beginning a full investigation if the agency making the check requests this.

2.14 Sexual activity involving a 16 or 17 year old, though unlikely to involve an offence, may still involve harm or the risk of harm. Professionals should still bear in mind the relevant considerations and processes in assessing that risk, and should share information as appropriate. It is an offence for a person to have a sexual relationship with a 16 or 17 year old if they hold a position of trust or authority in relation to them.

2.15 Children at risk of sexual exploitation will often be in high risk situations and isolated from protective, nurturing adults. They will need to be enabled to express their wishes and feelings to make sense of their particular circumstances and contribute to decisions that affect them. Of particular relevance is the impact of those who may have groomed and conditioned children, in order to coerce and abuse them. Children may also be under very strong pressure, intimidated, afraid and/or dependent on the exploiter/s because of substance misuse. Children may therefore reject offers of help and support; interventions need to be designed to address this.

2.16 Working with children and young people at significant risk of or abused through sexual exploitation

By the point in a child or young person's life where they are significantly at risk of or are already abused through sexual exploitation, they are subject to a complex pattern of life experiences which impact negatively on each dimension of their life. Because of this they can present to agencies such as the Police as 'streetwise' or as 'problematic' rather than in need of support. Information, training, tools for risk identification, protocols and procedures and tools for assessment lead to a plan of intervention. Intervention, support and action should be based upon the child or young person's needs and be delivered by a trusted worker in conjunction with a protective network of appropriate agencies.

Working with children and young people for whom sexual exploitation is an issue requires a holistic approach through investment of time and resources in long term intervention. An important aspect of the work can be maintaining contact and being available to children and young people until they reach a point where they are ready

to think about their situations and accept support. The process and effort spent by a worker on relationship building can be an important factor in bringing them to that point. These windows of opportunity, when they present, should be fully capitalised upon, with the right kind of support being made available at the time that it is required by the young person. This can only be achieved through the cooperation and joint working of an established network of appropriate agencies.

Establishing a positive trusting relationship with such vulnerable children and young people takes time. A relationship needs to be developed which offers something tangible to the child or young person. At the same time it is important to acknowledge that workers are not providing a friendship and that there are inescapable power differentials. Change needs to happen at a pace that is set by the young person and which provides real choices and promotes a sense of positive control for the young person. Working with children and young people who are exposed to risk situations and experiences of sexual exploitation requires an approach that is non-judgemental and where staff are 'unshockable'. There is a need to be consistently honest and to listen to and respect the views of children and young people:

- intervention should begin with relationship building, and assessment of risks and vulnerabilities with the child or young person
- honest discussions and inclusion in assessment and planning processes will assist the child or young person in feeling included, and create a sense of ownership and connection with the plan
- the plan should address each of the identified areas of risk

Workers need to be realistic about expectations and to understand that this is long term, intensive work, where progress will go backwards as well as forwards.

If the child is in a residential unit, the staff should be asked to take positive action to clarify and record any concerns and minimise the child's involvement in sexual exploitation. If suspicions are confirmed the following steps should be taken:

- treating the child as a victim of exploitation, not a troublemaker or criminal
- ensuring that all relevant information is recorded in the child's care plan and file – concerning adults and identifying information e.g. appearance, street names, cars registration details etc, telephone activity, the child's patterns of going missing etc – together with decisions and clear directions for action
- making every effort to dissuade the child from leaving to engage in sexual exploitation by talking to them, involving them in alternative activities, and ensuring they have the resources to attend those activities, including escorting where necessary
- ensuring that the child is aware of the legal issues involved, for example that those exploiting them are committing a range of offences
- monitoring telephone calls, text messages and letters by preventing the child from receiving some incoming calls, being present when phone calls are made, confiscating a mobile phone which is being used inappropriately, opening some letters in the presence of the child and withholding letters if necessary; reasons for intercepting letters and calls (for example, that they relate to a dangerous adult) should be included in the care plan
- monitoring callers to the home, or adults collecting children by car. This may involve turning visitors away, or passing information directly to the Police,

monitoring any suspicious activity in the vicinity of the home and informing the Police

- using appropriate methods, in accordance with relevant guidance, to prevent the child leaving home to engage in sexual exploitation (these should be recorded in the care plan)
- where these efforts fail, and the child leaves, staff need to decide whether to follow them and continue to encourage them to return
- if they will not return, staff should inform the local Police that the child is missing and pass on all relevant information
- liaising with outreach agencies, so they can look out for a child who has gone missing
- offering sensitive and welcoming responses to children returning home

If the child is in foster care, the social worker and fostering link worker should meet with the foster carer to decide which of the above steps could reasonably be taken by the foster carer as part of the multi-agency plan.

The child's behaviour and attitude may be extremely challenging, and carers and staff will require ongoing support, advice and training in knowing how to respond. These needs must be considered and resources identified, either by the manager of the residential unit, or the fostering link worker.

3. Recognition and Assessment of Information

(See flow chart page 14)

3.1 Early concerns, or substantial suspicions that a child is being abused through sexual exploitation may be noted by any professional. In the first instance, it is unlikely this will be a social worker. Staff in every agency working with young people should know to whom in their agency, they can go to, in order to share their concerns, and then how to make a referral to Social Services.

3.2 Unsubstantiated allegations that a child may be being abused through sexual exploitation should be treated with caution, but should be noted. None of the following indicators, whether singly or together should be viewed as conclusive proof, but any of them may be suggestive of the possibility. They can alert professionals to difficulties that particular children are experiencing which may include abuse through sexual exploitation. Some of the indicators may be noted more readily if the child is looked after by Social Services, but they apply equally to children living at home.

- Physical symptoms e.g. sexually transmitted infections, or bruising suggestive of physical or sexual assault.
- Reports from reliable sources, suggesting that a child is being abused through sexual exploitation.
- Reports that the child has been seen in places known to be used for prostitution.
- Repeatedly consorting with unknown men outside of the usual range of social or family contacts and/or other children known to be abused through sexual exploitation.
- Phone calls or letters from men outside of the usual range of social or family contacts.
- Accounts of social activities with no plausible explanation of the source of necessary income.
- Acquisition of expensive clothes/mobile phones/other expensive possessions without plausible explanation.
- Frequent reports of staying out overnight.
- Episodes of running away/going missing.
- Preoccupation with secrecy around the use of the Internet, telephone/video, cameras.
- Persistent absconding from placement, or return without plausible explanation - proper explanations need to be sought in every instance in accordance with Cardiff's protocol for "Children Absent Without Authority Who Are Looked After"
- Returning from running away/going missing looking well cared for, despite having no known base.
- Unusually long absconding from placement with no known base
- Pattern of street homelessness
- Having keys to premises other than those known about
- Persistent unexplained absence from school
- Low self image
- History of sexual abuse
- Pregnancy
- History of neglectful and/or emotionally abusive care
- Substance, drug, alcohol abuse

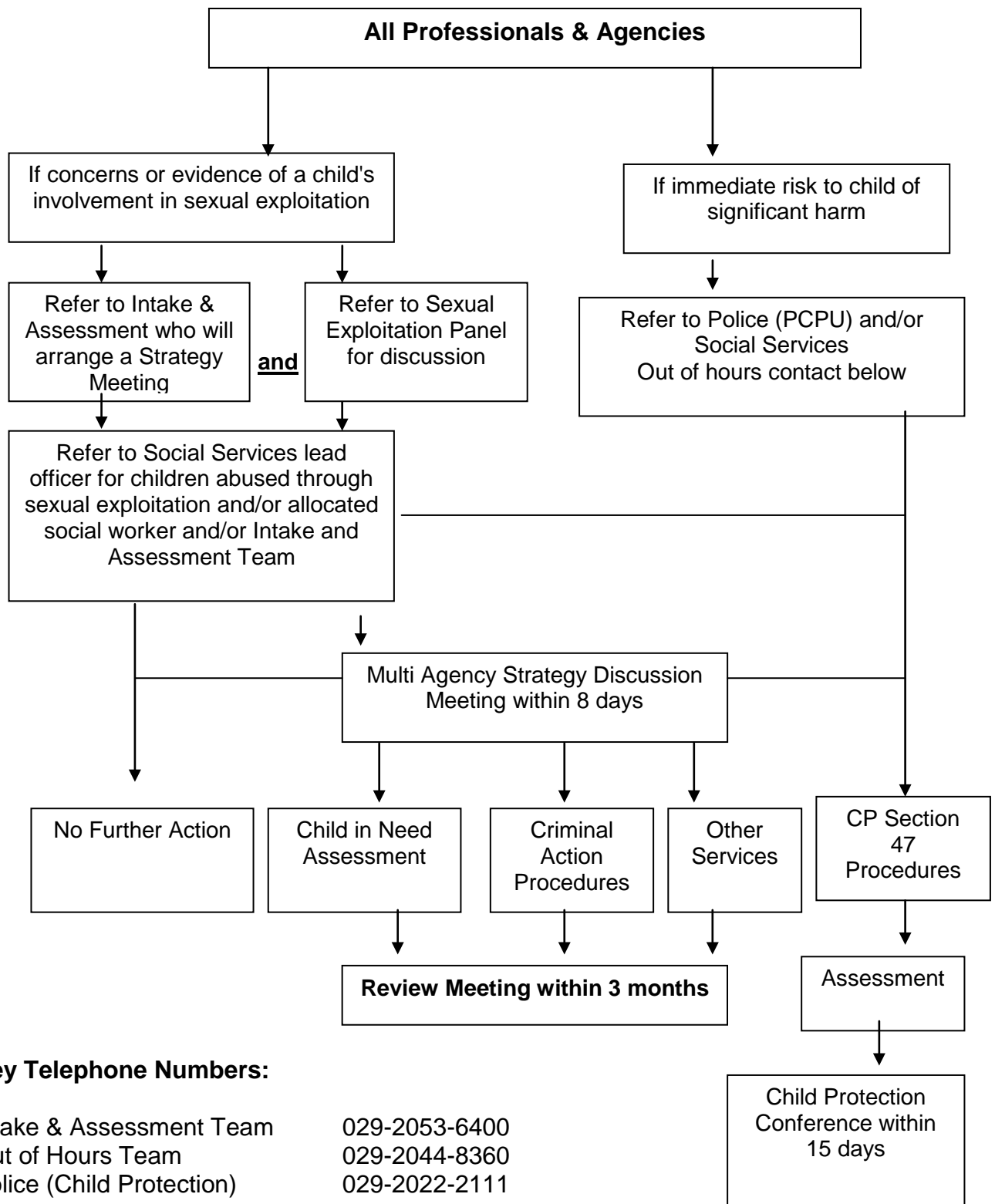
- Other expressions of despair/self harm including statement of intent to harm self, severe sleep disturbance, self-harming through cutting or overdose, eating disorder, intensive acting out, having many sexual partners.
 - Vulnerable children could also be identified in the MAPPP/MARAC process or human trafficking.
- 3.4 A sexual exploitation risk assessment framework (SERAF), which is contained in the All Wales Protocol *Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children who are at Risk of Abuse through Sexual Exploitation*, is included in this protocol at Appendix 1. The SERAF enables safeguarding actions to be linked to evidence of risk, thereby facilitating both preventative action and appropriate interventions and is intended to inform appropriate responses in relation to children and young people's safeguarding needs.
- 3.5 Any staff member who is concerned that a child or young person may be involved in abuse through sexual exploitation, or is at risk of becoming involved, should discuss their concern with the nominated lead officer for Children Abused through Sexual Exploitation in their agency.
- 3.6 Where there is concern that the child may be at risk of immediate harm, a referral must be made to Social Services or the police following All-Wales Child Protection Procedures.
- 3.7 Where there are early or unclear suspicions regarding a child who has an allocated social worker, the concerns should be shared with the social worker and consideration given to holding a Multi Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting.
- 3.8 Where there are early, or unclear suspicions regarding a child who is not known to Social Services, a discussion should be held with the Social Services Lead Officer for Children Abused through Sexual Exploitation and consideration given to holding a Multi Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting.
- 3.9 Where there is reliable evidence that the child is being abused through sexual exploitation, a Multi- Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting must be held within 8 working days of referral.
- 3.10 Where possible, the young person will be informed that they are considered to be at risk and that the agency will work with them to ensure that their safety is restored.
- 3.11 In all cases a referral should be made to the Intake & Assessment Team.
- 3.12 An Information Sharing form should also be completed and forwarded to the Sexual Exploitation Panel Mailbox.
- 3.13 Cardiff has an identified multi-agency panel of professionals who meet monthly to discuss their concerns about children abused through sexual exploitation. This process runs alongside Child Protection process and strategy meetings and should not be seen to replace the Child Protection procedures.

Representatives from the following agencies are on the Panel:-

- Youth Offending Services
- Youth Service

- Health
- Housing
- Education
- Police
- HANR Outreach Team
- City centre team
- Residential Services
- Leaving care and related services
- Intake & Assessment
- EDT
- Safeguarding Unit
- Streetlife/Safer Wales

Procedural Framework



4. Referral Procedure

What Everyone Should Do

If any person has knowledge, concerns or suspicions that a child is suspected of being abused through sexual exploitation or other forms of commercial sexual exploitation, it is their responsibility to ensure that the concerns or suspicions are referred to Children's Services' Intake & Assessment Team, or out of normal office hours, at weekends and on Bank Holidays to the Emergency Duty Team.

Referrals should be made to Children's Services as soon as a problem, suspicion or concern becomes apparent, and certainly within 24 hours. Referrals may be made by telephone, in person, by letter or by fax.

The Duty Social Worker taking the referral should be given the following information:

- the reason for the concerns
- the full name, address and date of birth (or age) of the child
- the names, addresses and dates of birth/ages of family members, along with any other names which they use or are known by
- the names of all those with parental responsibility
- the names of other professionals involved with the family, including the name of the child's school and General Practitioner
- any information affecting the safety of staff.
- an Information Sharing form should also be completed and forwarded to the Safeguarding Unit's LSCB mailbox.

People working for other agencies, i.e. outreach and voluntary agencies, leisure and lifelong learning, youth offending, housing, should follow their own Department//Agency Procedures. People working for one of these organisations as an employee, volunteer or management committee member cannot remain anonymous when making referrals. However, members of the public may remain anonymous if they wish to.

The roles and responsibilities of referral are expanded upon in Section 2 of the All Wales Child Protection Procedures. Whilst having regard to the overriding principle that children under the age of 16 will always be dealt with as actual or potential victims. From 16 – 18 consideration may be given, in very limited circumstances and where all other options have failed, to the use of criminal justice action. It is therefore vital that referrals are made to Children's Services' Intake & Assessment Team/Emergency Duty Team, and not to the Police.

5. Disclosure of Information

5.1 Confidentiality and the Sharing of Information

This is the advice from the Association of Chief Police Officers of England, Wales and Northern Ireland regarding consent and sharing information.

The success of interagency co-operation in the protection of children is rooted in the exchange and sharing of relevant information. Rules of confidentiality are **not** intended to prevent the sharing of information, the purpose of which is to protect children.

The overriding duty to share all relevant information applies both to the investigative process as well as to child protection conferences.

In **all** cases where child abuse is alleged or suspected, there is a duty to share all relevant information. In all such situations the protection of the child must take precedence. It is vital to the decision making process that professionals contribute all the relevant information held on their records.

Those in receipt of information obtained through any part of the child protection process must treat it with strict confidence. They should not disclose such information for any purpose other than the protection of children without the expressed consent of the professionals or any family member who provided it. If there is any doubt about sharing information this should be shared with the chair in advance of the conference.

5.2 Consent:

Many of the Data Protection issues surrounding the disclosure can be avoided if the informed consent of the individual has been sought and obtained. Consent must be freely given after the alternatives and consequences are made clear to the person from whom permission is being sought. If the data is classified as sensitive data the consent must be explicit. In this case the specific detail of the processing should be explained, the particular types of data to be processed, the purpose of the processing and any special aspects of the processing which may affect the individual, e.g. disclosures.

5.3 Public Interest

If informed consent has not been sought or sought and withheld the agency must consider if there is an overriding public interest of justification for the disclosure. In making this decision the following questions should be considered:

- Is the disclosure necessary for the prevention or detection of crime, prevention of disorder, to protect public safety, or protect the rights and freedoms of others?
- Is the disclosure necessary for the protection of young or other vulnerable people?
- What risks to others are posed by this individual?
- What is the vulnerability of those who may be at risk?
- What will be the impact of the disclosure on the offender?

- Is the disclosure proportionate to the intended aim?
- Is there an equally effective but less intrusive alternative means of achieving that aim?

6. Multi-Agency Strategy Discussion / Meeting

- 6.1 This must take place whenever there is a referral to Social Services from a professional or family member, where there is substantial evidence that a child is being abused through sexual exploitation. Information should be shared between the key agencies wherever possible within 24 hours via a Strategy Discussion.
- 6.2 It may also be agreed that a Strategy Meeting is necessary to agree on a response. At the end of the Strategy Meeting agreement must be reached about what information is shared and with whom and what action, if any, is necessary.
- 6.3 The meetings will be chaired by a Children's Services Manager/delegated Children's Services Officer. The Chair should always inform the Social Services Delegated Officer about a meeting taking place, even if s/he is unable to attend.
- 6.4 Membership of the meeting will be:-
- The referrer, if a professional
 - Delegated Officer from Child Abuse Investigation Unit
 - Delegated Officer from Education or nominee
 - Delegated Officer from Health or nominee
 - Social Worker
 - Any other relevant person, e.g. fostering link worker, foster carer, residential worker, Y.O.T., Genito-Urinary Medicine Doctor and/or Health Advisor; youth worker, voluntary agency worker, GP, Probation Officers and CAFCASS Cymru. Normally, the child and parent would not be invited to this initial meeting. However, this can be considered in circumstances where there is sufficient information to indicate that this would be appropriate and safe.
- 6.5 The purpose of the meeting is to:-
- Share and clarify information
 - Establish the exact nature of the concerns
 - Agree on actions and make recommendations to address the concerns
 - There may be a need to consider a MAPPP or MARAC meeting.
- 6.6 The following factors will be taken into account:-
- The child's perception and interpretation of their involvement
 - The child's age and level of maturity, taking account of any learning difficulties
 - Patterns and frequency of any behaviour causing concern
 - Identify the role of adults involved
 - Role of parents/carers and other significant adults in the child's life
 - Age and level of maturity of any other participants
 - Nature of the sexual activity; could it be considered age appropriate?
 - Where the sexual activity is taking place
 - Who is controlling the sexual activity
 - The actual and potential physical and emotional effects
 - Whether any physical injuries have been caused
 - Existence of any drug, alcohol or substance misuse and its significance for the child's behaviour

- Child's previous experience of abuse
- Likely reaction of parent(s)
- Likely reaction of other agencies
- That there is justification for criminal action against the child
- That there is insufficient information at this stage, but concerns remain and further work is required to clarify them.

6.7 Plans must specify who is responsible for undertaking the work

- 6.8 Unless no further action is agreed, or child protection procedures are invoked, a date for a review meeting will be agreed to take place no later than three months after the initial meeting.
- 6.9 Where a child is identified as vulnerable to abuse through sexual exploitation a key professional must be nominated to befriend, support and enable the child to represent his/her views about the planned work. This is most likely to be a worker from an outreach agency.
- 6.10 The meeting must consider what information to give parent(s)/carer(s) and young person at this point, and who should provide this. Parent(s)/carer(s) should usually be notified of concerns regarding their children and what action is being considered in response. Any exception to this must be recorded and reasons given.
- 6.11 The meeting should strive to work by consensus. Any disagreements should be noted and if they cannot be resolved should be raised within the relevant management structures. Time scales should be attached to actions as appropriate.
- 6.12 A record of the meeting should be circulated to all attending, who must ensure that it is held securely within their agency (see 5.1).

7. Role of Children's Services

7.1 All Children

- 7.1.1 In accordance with their statutory responsibilities under the Children Act 1989, Children's Services hold the lead responsibility for responding to children abused through sexual exploitation. However, decisions on what action to take, other than emergency action, should only be taken following discussion within a Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting.
- 7.1.2 On receipt of a referral, consideration must be given at once to whether the child is at immediate risk of significant harm, and if so, usual child protection procedures should apply, whether the case is known, allocated or not known. Whenever possible, a discussion should be held with the Children's Services Designated Officer for Children Abused through Sexual Exploitation during this time, but action should not be delayed if s/he is not available.
- 7.1.3 If, following emergency action, it is clear that the matter needs to be dealt with as child protection, usual child protection procedures will continue to apply. The Children's Services Designated Officer should be invited to any child protection conference and consideration given to inviting any other person listed in Section 5.4. If it is not clear, or child protection procedures are not considered appropriate, a Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion meeting should be convened as in Section 5.
- 7.1.4 If situations where emergency action is not required, a Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting should be convened as in Section 4.
- 7.1.5 Following the Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting, if child protection procedures are not appropriate, but there is sufficient information to confirm concerns, a Core Assessment will be undertaken.
- 7.1.6 When a case is already allocated, concerns may be presented by another professional but may also be identified directly by the social worker. In a situation like this, a great deal of information may already be known and a child in need assessment already completed, but this will require re-evaluation in the light of the concerns being presented. A discussion should be held with the relevant Service Manager/Team Manager and the Children's Services Designated Officer for Children Abused through Sexual Exploitation and consideration given to the need for a Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting as above.
- 7.1.7 The assessment must consider what resources may be appropriate and available. This may include:
- Use of accommodation (Section 20, Children Act 1989)
 - Application to Court for a Care or Supervision Order (Section 31, Children Act 1989)
 - Application for Secure Order (Section 25, Children Act 1989)
 - Provision of counselling and health services
 - Provision of advice, support and monitoring (Section 17, Children Act 1989)
 - Opportunities to access leisure, employment and housing
 - Direct provision of family support services
 - Application for Child Safety order.

- 7.1.8 The outcome of the assessment should be discussed within the review Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting and a Support Plan put in place. Whenever possible, the parent(s)/carer(s) and child should be invited to this meeting.
- 7.1.9 It has to be recognised that devising an effective Support Plan and “exit strategy” for the child is not an easy task, and may require professionals to be extremely persistent in continuing to offer support and services. It may be that the direct service is being provided by a non-Children’s Services professional. However, the case should remain allocated to a social worker whilst a Support Plan is in place, in order to act as a point of contact for the child, family and professionals and to co-ordinate the plans.
- 7.1.10 Consideration has to be given to how to support and advise the parent(s)/carer(s).
- 7.2 Concerns arising in Cardiff regarding children from outside the catchment area of the City and County of Cardiff**
- 7.2.1 If a referral is received regarding a child being involved in sexual exploitation who resides in another local authority, initial enquiries should be undertaken by Children’s Services Intake and Assessment Team. Immediate action may be required, in accordance with Section 47 of the Children Act 1989. If not, a referral should be made to the relevant home authority.
- 7.2.2 If the child needs to be returned to her/his home authority, clear arrangements should be made, either with the relevant Children’s Services or the child’s parent(s), for the child to be escorted back by a responsible adult. It may be necessary to consider accommodating the child overnight whilst arrangements are put in place. Wherever possible, this should take place after discussion with the home authority, including discussion of financial responsibility. If the child is to be found accommodation, attention must be given to identifying an appropriate placement, so as not to exacerbate the risk to the child, or present a risk to other children.
- 7.2.3 It is not appropriate to offer the child a travel warrant to return home unescorted.
- 7.3 Concerns regarding a Cardiff Child arising in a catchment area of another Local Authority**
- 7.3.1 If a referral is received regarding a Cardiff child being involved in sexual exploitation outside the Local Authority, these procedures apply.
- 7.3.2 If the child has run away and has been located by Police or Social Services elsewhere, discussions must be held with the relevant local authority regarding how to keep the child safe whilst arrangements can be made to have the child collected, either by a social worker or a parent/carers. (If it is clear that the parent/carers is not implicated in the child’s sexual exploitation.)
- 7.3.3 The local authority should be asked specifically not merely to offer the child financial assistance to return unaccompanied to Cardiff.

7.4 Children Looked After

Looked after children will be placed in foster care, residential care, a secure unit, residential school or at home under the Placement with Parent Regulations.

- 7.4.1 When a referral is received regarding a child looked after, the allocated social worker must inform his/her Service Manager/Team Manager and the Children's Services Designated Officer.
- 7.4.2 A Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting will be considered in accordance with the above procedures. In addition, the following factors will be considered:-
- Risks to any other children in the placement
 - Whether the child should remain in his/her present placement
 - The feasibility of controlling the child's movements and the likely effects of doing so.
- 7.4.3 As above, a Support Plan should be drawn up, which will form part of the overall Care Plan for the child.
- 7.4.4. The Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting should consider the appropriateness and method of informing the child's parent(s)/carer(s). Unless a decision is taken not to invite parent(s)/carer(s) and the reasons for not inviting them being recorded, then parent(s)/carer(s) must be informed of all significant matters. Any decision otherwise should be recorded on file, with supporting reasons.
- 7.4.5 Following the Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting, the child's social worker should develop a strategy for managing the situation, in conjunction with the child's parent(s)/carer(s). This should be shared with the child, written down and held by the social worker and the parent(s)/carer(s). A balance has to be found between the need for assertive action and the need not to unduly increase the likelihood of the child running away, in response to the action being taken, and possibly placing themselves at even greater risk. In some circumstances it may be necessary to discuss with the Police the most appropriate protective action.
- 7.4.6 Active work should be undertaken with the child to address issues of self-esteem, relationships, sexuality, sexual relationships and health.
- 7.4.7 Behaviour of other children in the placement should be monitored, to identify if extortion, discrimination or bullying is causing, or reinforcing, the sexual exploitation behaviour.
- 7.4.8 If the child is in a residential unit, the Social Worker should meet with the registered manager to decide which of the following steps can reasonably be taken by staff/parents. The staff should be asked to take positive action to clarify suspicions and minimise the risk of a child being abused through sexual exploitation, in line with national minimum standards for residential care (Children's Homes Regulations) if suspicions are confirmed. These steps may include any of the following:-

- Monitoring telephone calls and letters by preventing the child from receiving incoming calls, being present when telephone calls are made, confiscating a mobile telephone which is being used inappropriately, opening some letters in the presence of the child and withholding letters if necessary, including in the Care Plan why and which letters and calls are being intercepted.
- Monitoring callers to the home, or adults collecting children by car. This may involve turning visitors away, or passing information direct to the Police, monitoring any suspicious activity in the vicinity of the home and informing the Police.
- Making every effort to dissuade the child from leaving to engage in prostitution by talking to them, involving them in alternative activities and ensuring they have the resources to attend, including escorting where necessary.
- Using physical control where appropriate in accordance with SSI Guidance, to prevent the child leaving home to engage in prostitution.
- Where these efforts fail, and the child leaves, staff need to decide whether to follow them and continue to encourage them to return.
- If they will not return, staff should inform the local Police and pass on information, such as descriptions and car registration numbers.
- Liaising with outreach agencies, so they can look out for a child who has gone missing.
- Offering sensitive and welcoming responses to children returning home.
- Ensuring that the child is aware of the legal issues involved, including advice that staff cannot safeguard money which is reasonably suspected to have been gained through prostitution. When staff do acquire such money, they must retain it and seek legal advice.
- Treating the child as a victim of exploitation, not a criminal.
- Ensuring that relevant information and decisions are recorded in the child's Care Plan, along with clear directions for action.

7.4.9 If the child is in foster care, the social worker and fostering link worker should meet with the foster carer to decide which of the above steps could reasonably be taken by the foster carer/parent(s) if appropriate. This needs to take place in consultation with the Fostering Team Manager and in line with national minimum standards for foster care.

7.4.10 Involvement of children being abused through sexual exploitation can evoke strong feelings in carers and staff, which can include anger and revulsion. They must avoid any rejection of the child, or use of sexual insults or innuendo.

7.4.11 The child's behaviour and attitude may be extremely challenging and carers and staff will require ongoing support, advice and training in knowing how to

respond. These needs must be considered and resources identified, either by the manager of the residential unit, or the fostering link worker.

7.4.12 Staff and carers should be aware of their own position in relation to the child, e.g. male carers or staff may be viewed with suspicion or contempt. This may be further influenced by the person's race, age or build.

7.4.13 The professionals involved must be mindful of the child's human rights and any action taken must be proportionate to the perceived risk.

7.5 Involvement of Groups of Children Looked After

7.5.1 Where there is knowledge, or strong suspicion, that children are involved together, or are being controlled by the same person, particularly when that person is a child, there will need to be additional planning, including serious consideration of the use of child protection procedures.

7.5.2 A Multi-Agency Strategy Discussion/Meeting should be convened. This will need to ensure that there are no inconsistencies between individual children's Care Plans.

7.5.3 Where the placement is in another authority, or children from other authorities are involved, that authority's Child Protection Co-ordinator (or equivalent) must be contacted, to discuss which authority is to take overall responsibility for convening the meeting and to co-ordinate the response.

7.6 Cardiff Leaving Care and Related Services

7.6.1 Young people aged 18 years and over entitled to Aftercare Services

The supplementary guidance 'Safeguarding children involved in prostitution (2000)' applies to all children and young people under the age of 18 years. However reference is made to a duty of care towards older young people leaving care under the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 with regard to the safeguarding guidance.

In cases where a young person entitled to receive services under the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 is assessed as at medium or high risk of abuse through sexual exploitation, the associated actions above should be followed.

The pathway planning should specifically identify their vulnerability to sexual exploitation, and address the factors known to impede successful recovery from sexual exploitation e.g. homelessness, poverty, lack of educational and employment opportunities and lack of supportive social contacts.

In relation to Category 1 and Category 2 cases, information and awareness raising actions should be included in the pathway planning process. Risk should be assessed and addressed as part of existing processes on an ongoing basis.

Similarly, where young people are assessed as Category 3 or Category 4 cases, work to reduce risk of sexual exploitation should be included in the pathway plan and regularly reviewed. As for children and young people under the age of 18,

liaison between social services and the Police Public Protection Unit is also required in addressing the protection of the young person.

7.6.2 Young people aged 18 years and over

A young person who has been subject to the complex pattern of life experiences including sophisticated grooming and priming processes that have brought them to a point where they are at risk of, or are abused through, sexual exploitation, does not stop needing support and protection when they reach the age of 18 years. They remain a vulnerable young person with ongoing needs. A person's vulnerability will depend on their circumstances and environment, and each case must be judged on its merits. Consideration should be given to referral through local Protection of Vulnerable Adults (POVA) arrangements.

A vulnerable adult can be defined as a person 18 years old or over whom:

- is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and
- is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or is unable to protect him or herself from significant harm or serious exploitation.

This definition of vulnerable adult may include a person who:

- has a physical or sensory disability; including people who are physically frail or have a chronic illness;
- has a mental illness, including dementia;
- has a learning disability;
- is old and frail;
- misuses drugs or alcohol;
- has social or emotional problems, or whose behaviour challenges services.

8. Role of the Police

- 8.1 Police play a leading role in the detection and investigation of crime around the abuse of children who are being abused through sexual exploitation. This role must be undertaken in accordance with the principle of multi-agency co-operation outlined in this protocol.
- 8.2 Police may become aware of children being abused through sexual exploitation through normal police work on the streets and in other criminal investigations.
- 8.3 Initial responses to the discovery of a child who is at immediate risk of being abused through sexual exploitation, must be to remove them from the source of risk, and ensure that any necessary evidence is secured. This must be followed by referral to Social Services. Following this, a Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting must be convened.
- 8.4 If there are suspicions that a child is being abused through sexual exploitation, but there is no immediate or direct evidence, the Police officer noting the concern should refer to the Child Abuse Investigation Unit, who hold the Police Lead Officer role for children abused through sexual exploitation a multi-agency strategy/discussion planning meeting can then be considered.
- 8.4.1 Criminal action in respect of the child will not be instigated until the matter has been discussed within a Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Planning Meeting and then only in very limited circumstances, when it is established that all attempts at diversion have failed. Particular attention should be paid to the following:-
- The age and vulnerability of the child
 - The return to prostitution must be considered genuinely voluntary, with no evidence of physical, mental or emotional concerns
 - The child has been told and understands that criminal proceedings may take place and the implications of this for them now and in the future.

The Assistant Chief Police Officers have access to further guidance from the Home Office, regarding what criminal action is available.

- 8.5 If the matter reaches the point of referral to the Youth Offending Team, this provides a further opportunity for positive intervention.
- 8.6 The priority for the Police is the investigation and prosecution of offenders who have been involved in abusing the child through sexual exploitation.
- 8.7 All interviews with the child as an actual or potential victim, should be conducted, as far as possible, in accordance with the appropriate guidance. However, flexibility needs to be applied, as it may take a number of interviews before the child is able to make, or complete a statement. Where more than one statement is required liaison between the police and Crown Prosecution Service is essential.
- 8.8 If the child has made a statement and/or is a potential witness, careful consideration must be given, as early as possible, to the need for witness protection and witness support, in accordance with the Guidance in Achieving Best Evidence: The Interviewing of vulnerable and intimidated persons (including children) involved in criminal proceedings.

9. Role of Health Staff

- 9.1 The Home Office/Department of Health Guidance on Children involved in Prostitution, notes:

"Because of the universal nature of most health provisions, health professionals may often be the first to be aware that a child may be involved, or be at risk of becoming involved in prostitution. Children involved in prostitution are likely to need a range of services, including advice and counselling for harm minimisation, health promotion, advice on sexually transmitted diseases and HIV.

Health professionals who come into contact with children who they suspect may be involved in prostitution, have a crucial role in providing holistic support for the physical and mental health of these children".

- 9.2 The role of the health professional in relation to children abused through sexual exploitation is in the prevention, recognition and referral stages, and not to investigate suspected or reported incidents of abuse. However, the Health professional may become involved in the investigative stage after inter-agency discussions.
- 9.3 Where there is concern that a child may be at risk of immediate harm, a referral must be made to Social Services or the police, following the All-Wales Child Protection Procedures.
- 9.4 Health, education, counselling, sexual health and medical intervention should be provided to the young person where indicated. This includes identification of immediate and ongoing health needs, both physical and emotional: any contact with a child is an opportunity to address health needs as these can be neglected for various different reasons.
- 9.5 The Fraser Guidelines (superseding the Gillick Guidelines) should assist professional judgement in cases where contraception advice is sought.
- 9.6 Where suspicions arise regarding a child, a discussion with the Lead Officer for Children Abused through Sexual Exploitation should be sought. Concerns may then be taken to a Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting to determine and agree action to address the issues.
- 9.7 Concerns about issues of confidentiality that arise in relation to children, should be discussed with the Lead Officer for Children Abused through Sexual Exploitation.
- 9.8 Clear and accurate records should be kept about concerns and contacts in relation to these children.
- 9.9 Health staff may be required to liaise with other agencies, monitoring the situation of the child following referral and, in some instances, carry out specific aspects of the action/care plan, as agreed at the Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting. Any contact with a child provides an opportunity to discuss a broad area of issues. This could be facilitated via midwives,

obstetricians and gynaecologists, Genitary Urinary Medicine Clinic, Family Planning Clinic, Paediatrician (including Colposcopy Clinic), Child Protection medicals, staff on Accident and Emergency Department, Health Visitor, School Nurse, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service personnel, Adult Mental Health Service etc. All Health professionals have a role to play in the referral stage, ongoing assessment and, if appropriate, investigation.

- 9.10 For the purposes of audit, systems for monitoring and recording will be necessary.
- 9.11 Referral Procedure – see page 15.

10. Role Of Schools & Lifelong Learning Service

10.1 The role of Education staff in relation to children abused through sexual exploitation is in the *prevention, recognition and referral* stages.

10.2 The procedures for Education staff remain the same as those used in cases of child protection, although in this circumstance, young people can also be referred as Children in Need (of protection and support).

10.3 Prevention

10.3.1 Schools are concerned with the personal and social development of pupils, and provide opportunities in which pupils can develop their personal and social skills, make informed choices, develop a healthy lifestyle and learn to keep themselves and others safe.

10.3.2 Schools have a Personal, Social and Health Education programme for pupils, taught by teachers. These cover topics such as sex education, drug education, safety, food and nutrition, mental health and health-related exercise. Although there is no statutory curriculum, sensitive subjects, such as sexual exploitation and abuse, may be raised within the PSHE curriculum, and resource information be made available.

10.4 Recognition

10.4.1 School staff can identify concerns about pupils in their daily contact at school. Awareness of indicators already highlighted in this protocol, will assist in this task

10.4.2 Education Welfare Officers, in their assessment and ongoing work with young people and their families, can help to identify specific areas of concern. This can also take place during their regular consultation with school staff.

10.4.3 The exchange of information with other agencies can build a wider picture of what may be happening to a young person.

10.4.4 Effective record keeping will assist information given out, as well as information received, and will be key for Education staff to contribute to this area of child protection/support planning work.

10.5 Referral Procedure (see page 15)

10.5.1 School staff will pass on concerns to the school designated Co-ordinator for Child Protection, who will refer to the Lead Officer in the LEA of the Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Group. This would be appropriate in cases of cumulative concerns over time. Please refer to contact list.

10.5.2 In cases of immediate safety needs, or substantial evidence of a young person being involved in sexual exploitation, the Designated Co-ordinator should make *direct* contact with Children Services' Intake & Assessment Team.

- 10.5.3 The designated Co-ordinator, or other relevant member of staff will be expected to attend the Multi-Agency Strategy /Discussion Meetings held with Children Services, and contribute relevant information.
- 10.5.4 Where the young person is already known to an Education Welfare Officer that officer would also be expected to attend the Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting and contribute to protection and/or support planning as necessary.
- 10.5.5 Education Staff will be required to liaise with other agencies, monitor the situation for the young person following referral and carry out specific aspects of the case plan, as agreed at the Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Meeting.

11. Role Of Culture, Leisure & Parks Service Area

- 11.1 The role of staff within this service area is primarily one of recognition and referral.
- 11.2 Library staff, park rangers and leisure centre staff will all have some contact with children and young people and as such should be made aware of procedures relating to child protection.
- 11.3 The Play Service has ongoing regular contact with many vulnerable children and young people across Cardiff. Workers within the Play Service are regarded by many children and young people as trusted third parties and as such they deal with a large amount of personal information relating to the children/young people. In the normal course of their work staff may identify patterns of behaviour or may deal with direct disclosure information.
- 11.4 If any member of staff has knowledge, concerns or suspicions that a child is suspected of being subject to sexual exploitation, it is his/her responsibility to ensure that the concerns or suspicions are referred to his/her nominated officer, Children's Services' Intake and Assessment Team, or, out of hours at weekends and on Bank Holidays, to the Emergency Duty Team. Contact numbers are provided in the Appendix to this document.
- 11.5 Referrals should be made to either the nominated officer or Children's Services' Intake and Assessment Team as soon as a problem, suspicion or concern becomes apparent and certainly within 24 hours using the Multi-Agency Referral Form (see Appendix for details). Referrals may be made by telephone, in person, by letter or by fax but must be followed up with completion of the Multi-Agency Referral Form.
- 11.6 The roles and responsibilities of referral are expanded upon in Section 2 of the All Wales Child Protection Procedures. Whilst having regard to the overriding principle that children under the age of 16 will always be dealt with as actual or potential victim, where the young person is between the ages of 16 and 18 consideration may be given, in very limited circumstances and where all other options have failed, to use the Criminal Justice System. It is therefore vital that referrals are made to Children's Services' Intake and Assessment Team (or EDT) and not the Police.

12. Role Of Probation Service

- 12.1 The Probation Service has involvement with, or statutory responsibility for, supervising a wide range of offenders largely deriving from its work in criminal courts.
- 12.2 In discharging all statutory responsibilities the Probation Service is required to contribute to the protection of the public through the assessment and management of risk.
- 12.3 The Probation Service does not have a primary responsibility for the welfare of children but contributes as a consequence of statutory involvement with adults, including its engagement with those who have committed certain offences against children. In addition, Services will have responsibility for cases with an active child protection focus because of the supervision of a perpetrator within a family context involving child victims.
- 12.4 Beyond this primary focus, as outlined above, the Service has statutory and supervisory responsibilities which involve contact with families and staff must therefore be alert to the possible indications of concern in relation to the wellbeing of children. Such concerns must be referred to the Social Services Department and may trigger the child protection process or a response to general welfare needs. After making a child protection referral, follow-up liaison with Social Services would be pursued and any actions requested in the interest of inter-agency work carried out.
- 12.5 The Probation Service may become suspicious or concerned that children are being abused through sexual exploitation. Such concerns should be passed through to the South Wales Police respective Child Protection Teams who hold the police lead officer role for children abused through sexual exploitation. Should a Multi-Agency/Strategy/ Discussion Planning Meeting be held, then appropriate representation or contribution should be made by the Probation Service.
- 12.6 Following investigation, should a decision through a child protection conference be made to register then the South Wales Area, Cardiff and the Vale Division Public Protection Policy – Registration and Review Procedures must be followed. Established procedures and a review submitted at agreed intervals must take place.
- 12.7 Clear and accurate records must be maintained in such cases at all times.
- 12.8 During the period of registration or the duration of probation supervision, the Probation Service must discharge any agreed element of the child protection plan, including membership of core groups, promptly record contact and contribute to any review child protection conferences which may be convened.
- 12.9 Referral Procedure – see page 15.

13. Role of Housing & Neighbourhood Renewal

- 13.1 Housing Services primary role within the context of this Protocol is one of recognition and referral. Officers (Housing Officers, Finance Officers Technical Officers etc.) within HANR, on becoming aware of a child, will refer the case to Children's Services' Intake and Assessment Team.

HANR Outreach Team

As part of the HUB service (Homeless vulnerable persons service) the HANR Outreach team works with vulnerable people of any age who don't, can't or won't engage with traditional services. Outreach agencies are often the first point of contact and are able to build a level of trust with clients as they are not perceived as formal 'authority' figures. Due to the outreach service being undertaken primarily in the city centre, the team is uniquely placed to monitor the activities of children who place themselves at risk as well as being able to monitor adults who may cause them harm. To this end the team works closely with child protection services, South Wales Police, British Transport Police, local businesses and others in order to minimise harm and refer to appropriate services.

The team currently works in partnership with voluntary sector services such as the rough sleeper intervention team, The Nightbus and Streetlife.

The Housing & Safety Unit

- 13.2 The Housing & Safety Unit plays a leading role in the Council's Housing Service's multi-agency work with Police, Probation, Children's Services and Registered Social Landlords. The Unit is able to provide advice and assistance in dealing with complex and sensitive housing issues across all forms of tenure. The Unit is not able to provide services directly but can signpost professionals to the most appropriate point of access to services such as homelessness, tenant support and/or resettlement etc.
- 13.3 Officers of the Housing & Safety Unit attend Multi Agency Strategy/Discussions Meetings held with Children's Services. The Housing & Safety Unit Manager will be the lead officer for this Protocol.

14. Role of Safer Wales / StreetLife project

14.1 Aim:
StreetLife is committed to protect children, young people and adults from prostitution, abuse and sexual exploitation.

14.2 Working to Support Adults:
An 'evening outreach' service is delivered within the 'red light' area of Cardiff, providing condoms, health advice and beverages. Outreach provides an opportunity for trusted relationships to be developed with sex workers, where support needs for change can be explored. A direct referral route is in place for any woman choosing to exit street sex work; with the aim of offering access to the many services within Cardiff; drug and alcohol; information on housing issues and counselling etc.

14.3 Working to Protect Children:

Safer Wales considers any child or young person under 18 involved in prostitution as victims of abuse and exploitation. Understanding Legislation, StreetLife works closely with Children's Services and the Police.

Prevention:

StreetLife has a dedicated Children's and Young Person's Worker (YWP), young people are given an opportunity to be supported by the YPW who will attempt to explain the complexities of the grooming process. In addition, early 'evening outreach' targets areas within Cardiff, where it is believed young people may be at risk.

15. Role Of CAF/CASS Cymru

- 15.1 CAF/CASS CYMRU looks after the interests of children involved in Family Proceedings in Wales and on occasion can be called upon to fulfil this role within cases that originate in Courts in England. CAF/CASS CYMRU practitioners, who hold the generic title of Family Court Advisors, work with children and their families, and then advise the Court on what course of action they consider would be in the children's best interests. CAF/CASS CYMRU contributes to securing high quality and safe outcomes for each individual child.
- 15.2 Family Court Advisors may at times be required to act in cases where the subject of the proceedings is a child who has previously been domiciled in a country other than the United Kingdom and where the Applicant with whom the child has been placed is described as a "Relative" or "Member of the Extended Family". Examples of the associated Court Proceedings would be where an Application has been made to the Court for a Residence Order, Special Guardianship Order or an Adoption Order. Family Court Advisors should be particularly vigilant in such cases, especially when assessing the background, wishes and feelings of the child involved and the status of those making the application. Similarly, the Family Court Advisor should be mindful that child trafficking is not solely confined to children entering the United Kingdom from another country.
- 15.3 Cafcass (England) has worked collaboratively with colleagues in the Border & Immigration Agency to produce:- "Guidance for the BIA and Cafcass Protocol in Cases Before the Family Courts – November 2007". CYMRU CYMRU has followed that initiative and is currently formulating its own protocol with the Border & Immigration Agency.

16 Training

- 16.1 Each agency should give consideration to arranging appropriate training on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children who are at risk of abuse through sexual exploitation.

Appendices

- 1. Sexual Exploitation Risk Assessment Framework (SERAF)**
- 2. Lead Officers in Key Agencies and members of Multi Agency Strategy/Discussion Group**
- 3. Extract from Home Office/Department of Health Guidance – The Criminal Law**
- 4. Support Services Directory**
- 5. Court Orders**
- 6. Children & Young People's Sexual Harm/Safeguarding Panel Information Sharing Form**
- 7. References**

Appendix 1:

Sexual Exploitation Risk Assessment Framework (SERAF)

SERAF Category of risk	Indicators of risk	Description	Associated actions
Category 1 Not at risk	No risk indicators but may have one or more vulnerabilities present.	A child or young person who may be 'in need' but who is not currently at risk of being groomed for sexual exploitation.	Educate to stay safe. Review risk following any significant change in circumstances.
Category 2 Mild risk	Multiple vulnerabilities. One or two risk indicators may also be present.	A vulnerable child or young person who may be at risk of being groomed for sexual exploitation.	<p>Consider multi-agency meeting to share information and agree a plan to address risk and/or need.</p> <p>Work on risk awareness and staying safe should be undertaken with this child/young person.</p> <p>Review risk following any significant change in circumstances.</p>
Category 3 Moderate risk	Multiple vulnerabilities and risk indicators present.	A child or young person who may be targeted for opportunistic abuse through exchange of sex for drugs, accommodation (overnight stays) and goods etc.	<p>Convene multi-agency meeting under protocol for sexually exploited children and young people to ensure effective exchange of information with multi-agency colleagues and agree safety plan. At least one review meeting to be convened.</p> <p>Work should be undertaken with this child/young person around risk reduction and keeping safe.</p>
Category 4 Significant risk	Multiple vulnerabilities and risk indicators. One or more significant risk indicators also likely.	Indication that a child or young person is at significant risk of or is already being sexually exploited. Sexual exploitation is likely to be habitual, often self-denied and coercion/control is implicit.	<p>Convene multi-agency meeting under protocol for sexually exploited children and young people to ensure effective exchange of information with multi-agency colleagues and agree safety plan, including regular review meetings.</p> <p>Protection plan should include long-term intensive direct work with the child or young person.</p>
Moderate or Significant risk	As above.	Young person aged 18 years or above.	Where a young person is aged 18 years or over the associated action in relation to Moderate and Significant risk: sexual exploitation should be addressed as an issue in relation to this young person through the Pathway or other work plan; liaison between Social Services and Police Public Protection Unit to address the young person's protection.

Appendix 2:

Designated Officers in Key Agencies and members of Multi-Agency Strategy/Discussion Group

1. Child Protection Unit Trowbridge Centre Greenway Road Trowbridge Cardiff	Service Manager Safeguarding unit	029 20 774600
Global Link Dunleavy Drive	Service Manager Intake & Assessment	029 20 536400
2. Police	Child Abuse Investigation Unit	029 20 527272
3. Health Child & Young People's Safeguarding Team Lansdowne Hospital Sanatorium Road Canton Cardiff	Lead Nurse Child Protection	029 20 932625/ 029 20 932628
4. Education Schools Services County Hall Atlantic Wharf Cardiff	Achievement & Inclusion Officer	029 20 872708
5. Leisure & Life Long Learning, County Hall Atlantic Wharf Cardiff	Play Development Manager	029 20 873909
6. National Probation Service, South Wales Area	The Assistant Chief Probation Officer	029 20 785008
7. Cardiff County Council Housing Advice & Neighbourhood Renewal	Housing Safety & Unit Manager	029 20 537249

Appendix 3:

Extract from Home Office/DOH Guidance ***THE CRIMINAL LAW***

Soliciting Offences

The Street Offences Act 1959 applies to women and girls: Section 1 makes it an offence for a woman who is a "Common Prostitute" (i.e. who regularly operates as a prostitute) to solicit or loiter in a public place for the purposes of prostitution. The penalty is a fine. The normal way of providing the persistent element of the offence is the issue of an informal "prostitutes' caution". *These are not the same as police cautions under HO 18/1994, or reprimands and final warnings under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.* Section 2 of the Act provides an avenue of appeal against a wrongly issued caution.

Section 32 of the Sex Offenders Act 1956 sets out an offence for men or boys who persistently solicit or importune in a public place. There are no special arrangements for providing persistence. The penalty is a maximum of 6 months imprisonment if tried summarily, or 2 years on indictment. Apart from the activities of men soliciting for homosexual purposes, men who solicit on behalf of prostitutes can be prosecuted under this section, as can men who seek sexual services from under age children.

Offences which may be committed by coercers and abusers of children

(Reference to the 1956 Act are to the Sexual Offences Act 1956)

a) Sexual offences (Sexual Offences Act 2003)

The Act creates four main categories of offences:

- **Sexual activity with the victim** (i.e. there is intentional touching and the touching is sexual), with a subsection adding an aggravating feature that the touching involves penetration;
- **Cause or incite the victim to engage in sexual activity;**
- **Engage in sexual activity where, to obtain sexual gratification, the victim is present or can observe;**
- **Purpose of sexual gratification, to cause the victim to watch sexual activity or to look at an image of it.**

Depending on the characteristics of the defendant and of the victim, each offence is then sub-categorised, giving an indication of the seriousness of the offence:

- The victim is under 16 (strict liability of the child is under 13);
- The victim is under 18 and the defendant is in a position of trust; the victim, regardless of age, is unable to refuse because of a reason related to a mental disorder;
- The victim purports to agree to the activity but (s)he has a mental disorder so that the defendant knows or should know that "agreement" is obtained by means of inducement, threat or a deception;
- The victim has a mental disorder and the defendant is involved in the care of the victim. In addition, Section 13 applies to defendants under 18 in order to make teenage sexual activity illegal.

The purpose is to make it clear to the Court on the face of the charge what exactly has happened, rather than to bring charges under the broader categories of the old law.

Investigating Officers need to gather information under the following areas to establish what offence has or may have been committed:

Consent	What consent and how was it obtained?
Age	How old was the victim at the time?
Sexual Act	Does this act constitute sexual activity under the definition below?
Trust	Was the defendant in a position of trust?

Definition of “Sexual Activity”

Section 78 Subsection (a) covers activity that a reasonable person would always consider to be sexual because of its nature, such as sexual intercourse. Subsection (b) covers activity that the reasonable person would consider, because of its nature, may or may not be sexual, depending on the circumstances or intentions of the person carrying, of the person carrying it out, or both.

An example of activity that would fall under Subsection (b) might be digital penetration of a woman's vagina. In many cases this would be sexual, but where a doctor in his surgery performs digital penetration, the circumstances would indicate that this act was being carried out for medical reasons. If, however, the digital penetration took place following a consultation by a patient for a chest complaint, the reasonable person would probably conclude that looking at the nature of the act, the circumstances in which it took place, and what appears to be the purpose of the doctor, the act was sexual.

If, from looking at the nature of the activity, it would not appear to the reasonable person that the activity might be sexual, then it does not meet the criteria contained in either Subsection (a) or Subsection (b), even if a particular individual may obtain sexual gratification from carrying out the activity. This excludes from the scope of this Act rare situations where someone derives sexual gratification from an obscure fetish (for example removing a person's shoes) that no reasonable person would consider to be sexual by nature. The meaning of “sexual” follows the current law on the meaning of “indecent” in the definition of “indecent assault”.

Definition of “Touching”

It covers all physical contact, including touching with any part of the body, with anything else and through anything, for example through clothing.

b) Prostitution related offences

- S.30 1956 Act - Offence for a man knowingly to live on the earnings of (female) prostitution. Max penalty - either way (e/w) offence, 7 years imprisonment.
- S.31 1956 Act - Offence for a woman for purposes of gain to exercise control over a (female) prostitute. Max penalty e/w offence 7 years.
- S.24 1956 Act - Offence for a person to detain a woman in a brothel or other premises. Max penalty - indictable, 2 years' imprisonment.
- S.25/26 1956 Act - permitting girls under 13/16 to use premises for intercourse. Max penalty - less than 13 indictable, life, less than 16 e/w offence, 2 years imprisonment.
- S.33, 34, 35, 36 of 1956 Act - Brothel keeping offences: Max penalty - summary offence 3 months imprisonment or level 3 fine or both first offence, 6 months imprisonment or level 4 fine or both subsequently.

c) Procurement offences

- Sections 2,3,22,23,24,28 of 1956 Act - Procurement of women by threats, false pretences, procuring a girl under 21 to become a prostitute or have unlawful sexual intercourse in any part of the world, detention of a woman in a brothel, causing or encouraging prostitution of girls under 16. Max penalty - all indictable - 2 years.

d) Abduction offences

- Kidnapping - "the taking away of one person by another by force or fraud without the consent of the person so taken or carried away and without lawful excuse", unlimited penalty.
- S. 17 of 1956 Act - Abduction of a woman by force for the sake of her property: Max penalty - indictable, 14 years' imprisonment.
- S.20, 21 of 1956 Act - Abduction of girl under 16/18 from parent or guardian. Max penalty - indictable, 2 years.

e) Offences of violence (Short of homicide)

- Attempted murder, max penalty - life imprisonment
- S.18 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 - wounding or inflicting gbh. Max penalty 5 years imprisonment
- S.20 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 - wounding or inflicting gbh. Max penalty - 5 years imprisonment
- S.47 of the Offences against the Person Act 1861 - assault occasioning actual bodily harm. Max penalty - 5 years imprisonment
- Common assault (assault and battery) Max penalty - 6 months imprisonment and/or level 5 fine (currently £5,000)

f) Other measures which might be used against users/abusers

Sex Offender Order - introduced in the Crime and Disorder Act, may be obtained by the police applying for an order if the individual has a previous conviction for a sexual offence (i.e. one of those listed in Schedule 1 to the Sex Offenders Act, 1997) and if his present actions are such as to give the police concern that an order is necessary to protect the public from serious harm from him will attract an obligation to comply with the requirements of Part 1 of the Sex Offenders Act 1997. Breach of order attracts max. penalty of 5 years.

Offences of harassment and putting people in fear of violence contrary to the Protection from Harassment Act 1997. "Harassment" involves proving a "course of conduct". Max. penalty 6 months imprisonment and/or level 5 fine (currently £5,000)

Anti-social Behaviour Orders (which came into effect in April 1999) introduced in the Crime and Disorder Act to combat threatening and disruptive behaviour, which cause people harassment, alarm and distress. Local authorities and Chief Officers of Police, in consultation with one another, can seek an Order from the Courts to protect the community from the actions of an individual or individuals who cause harassment, alarm or distress to neighbours or the community through anti-social behaviour. The Order will be prohibitive; i.e. it would prevent the defendant from doing anything specified in the Order and remain in force for a minimum of two years.

If that person then breached the Order, he/she would be guilty of a criminal offence, which will carry stiff penalties.

Appendix 4: Support Services Directory

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City & County of Cardiff Children's Services

Intake and Assessment Team

When a referral is received with concerns about a child who may be sexually exploited, the following action will be taken

- Discussion will take place with the referrer to gather as much information and details as possible.
- Checks will be made with the Department Client Records System to check on any history.
- Discussion with Cardiff Police Child Protection Unit, to include:
 - 1) whether or not the parent(s)/carer(s) of the child is/are to be informed
 - 2) whether or not to obtain permission from the parent(s)/carer(s) to undertake enquiries with other agencies.
- In both instances, to ascertain whether any of the above action will place the child at further risk of significant harm and/or whether this will impact on the police investigation.
- A decision will be made within 24 hours about what course of action will be taken, ie S17 or S47, based on the available evidence.
- The enquiries/discussion may show that a child is "in need" (S17) with no concerns that the child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. (A Core Assessment may be needed.)
- A Section 47 investigation will be undertaken if the child is at risk of suffering or likely to suffer significant harm.
- A strategy meeting will be held to plan the course of action following the procedures laid down in "Safeguarding Children: Working Together Under The Children Act 2004".

Cardiff Leaving Care and Related Services

Cardiff Leaving Care and Related Services in line with the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 and the Children First Programme will on the young person's 16th birthday take case accountability for all looked after children. They will complete a needs/risk assessment and within three months prepare a Pathway Plan. A major aspect of this plan will focus on primary health care and emotional and sexual health. This Plan will highlight areas of concern, identify what needs to be done, who is responsible and set a time scale for action. The Pathway Plan will be reviewed every six months.

Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service (Children's Centre, St David's Hospital)

Children and young people who have been maltreated can be referred to the Post Abuse Service. This is a specialist service provided by the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service. Therapeutic interventions, advice and consultation are provided by experienced Child and Adolescent Mental Health professionals. The Post Abuse Service is managed by a Consultant Clinical Child Psychologist and Post Abuse Co-ordinator, Senior Social Work Practitioner/Family Therapist.

Referrals are received from involved professionals. Many of the children and young people will be looked after by the Local Authority and often living with foster carers, in residential care or in support living situations. The initial response is normally to arrange a meeting with the professional network and carers and then develop an appropriate plan.

B. Police

The police do not supply support services. However, officers at Cardiff Child Abuse Investigation can advise on the services available within the Cardiff Police area.

The Police Child Abuse Investigation Unit can be contacted on telephone number 029-2022-2111.

C. Cardiff & Vale NHS Trust

Ymddiriedolaeth Gig Caerdydd A'r Fro

FAMILY PLANNING AND CYTOLOGY CLINICS

(No appointment needed unless attending for IUD/Coil insertion or Implant insertion/removal)

DAY	CLINIC	TEL.NO	TIME
Monday	Roath Clinic, Albany Road, Roath, CF24 3FR	20461177	09.00 - 11.30
	Park View Health Centre, Treseder Way, Ely	20560752	09.00 - 11.30
	Gabalfa Clinic, 213 North Road, Gabalfa	20619504	1.30 - 4.00
	CRI GUM Youth Clinic, Glossop Road, Roath	20335207	2.00 - 4.30
	Roath Clinic, Albany Road, Roath, CF24 3FR	20461177	5.30 - 7.30
	St David's Hospital, Cowbridge Road East, Canton	20536625	5.30 - 7.30
	Broad Street Clinic, 130 Broad Street, Barry	01446 746722	5.30 - 7.30
Tuesday	Llanrumney Clinic, Ball Road, Llanrumney	20797776	9.00 - 11.30
	Barry Further Education College, Colcot Road, Barry	01446 743519	12.00 - 1.00
	Colcot Shop, 1 Winston Road, Barry	01446 748757	3.00 - 4.15
	Roath Clinic, Albany Road, Roath, CF24 3FR	20461177	5.30 - 7.30
Wednesday	Splott Clinic, South Park Road, Splott	20462160	9.00 - 11.30
	Butetown Health Centre, Loudoun Square, CF10 3AT	20488026	1.30 - 4.00
	Trowbridge Health Centre, Abergele Road, CF3 1YH	20791011 20702396	1.30 - 4.00 3.30 - 6.00
	Penarth Health Centre, Stanwell Road, Penarth	20874810	5.30 - 7.30
	University College (term time only), Students' Health Centre, 47 Park Place	20747747	5.30 - 7.30
	UHW, Suite 2, Outpatients' Department		
Thursday	Broad Street Clinic, 130 Broad Street, Barry	01446 746722	9.00 - 11.30
	Grangetown Health Centre, Cambridge Street, CF11 7DJ	20232324	1.30 - 4.00
	Park View Health Centre, Treseder Way, Ely	20560752	3.30 - 6.00
	Broad Street Clinic, 130 Broad Street, Barry	01446 746722	3.30 - 6.00
	Roath Clinic, Albany Road, Roath, CF24 3FR	20461177	5.30 - 7.30
Friday	St David's Hospital, Cowbridge Road East, Canton	20536625	9.00 - 11.30
	Llantwit Major Clinic, Boverton Road, Llantwit Major	01446 791170	9.00 - 11.30
	Llantwit Major Youth Clinic, Boverton Road, Llantwit		1.00 - 2.00

	Major St Mellons Community Education Centre, Crickhowell Road, St Mellons, CF3 0EF Roath Clinic, Albany Road* – <i>Family Planning Clinic alternate Fridays by appointment only.</i> St David's Hospital, Cowbridge Road East, Canton Psychosexual Counselling (By Referral only), Park View Health Centre, Treseder Way, Ely, CF5 5NU	01446 791170 20778667 20461177 20536625 20932735	1.30 - 4.00 1.30 - 4.00 3.30 - 6.00 2.00 - 4.30
Saturday	St David's Hospital, Cowbridge Road East, Canton	20536625	10.00 - 3.30
<p>* Clinics every fortnight – please ring to find out dates.</p> <p>To obtain a smear, visit your GP or one of the Cardiff & Vale NHS Trust Clinics instead.</p> <p><u>PATIENTS REGISTERED WITH A GP IN CARDIFF MAY ACCESS EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION VIA THEIR GP'S OUT OF HOURS SERVICE. ALSO, YOUNG PEOPLE'S ADVICE CENTRE, 10.00 – 4.00 SATURDAYS. TEL: 20871447.</u></p>			

An Outreach Worker is available to work with female sex workers. Her project is a HIV/safer drug use project using the harm reduction approach. She provides condoms, lube, dental dams and needle exchange, and offers information, referral to other agencies and support. She is based at the Community Addiction Unit at the Cardiff Royal Infirmary buildings. She also does street outreach at least once a week and visits massage parlours etc.

Telephone: 029-2046-1742

Fax: 029-21046-1768

E-mail: coles60@ntlworld.com

D. Outreach and Voluntary Agencies

Grass Roots

City Centre Youth Project
58 Charles Street, Cardiff CF10 2GG
Tel: (029) 20231700
Fax: (029) 20387143

Grassroots offers a wide range of services to young people aged 16 to 24 in the city centre, although those who use Grassroots are drawn from across the city and beyond. Grassroots endeavours to instil optimism, promote self-awareness and self-worth in young people who often see themselves in a negative light. Training and experience in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere is available in the areas of music, video, computers, graphics and various other events and activities. This can lead to qualifications or a progression to other more advanced facilities.

We are open 10.00 till 5.30 - Monday, Thursday and Friday and 10.00 till 9.00 Tuesday and Wednesday.

Voices From Care (Cymru)

25, Windsor Place,
Cardiff
CF10 3BZ
Tel: 029 20398214
Fax: 029 20665760

ADVICE AND SUPPORT WORK SERVICE

The Advice and Support Service will give help with any problem. There are probably three main groups of people who come to us for advice and support. These are:

- Children and young people under the age of 18 who are still in care, or perhaps living at home (having spent some time in foster care or residential care). These children and young people approach Voices From Care (Cymru) often about decisions being made about their lives, contact with the family, bullying issues and other issues regarding where they live and social work involvement.
- Young people aged 16-25 who are getting ready to leave care or have just left care. Issues raised might be about getting education, housing, homelessness, money/benefits and other issues regarding where they live and social work involvement.
- People aged 25+ might contact us about seeing their Social Services file, housing and legal advice.

These are just some examples. The service is very friendly and we try to keep close contact to get issues sorted. Advice and Support workers will listen to problems, tell people what their options are in dealing with a problem, help people to contact and see other agencies if needed.

Voices From Care (Cymru) has a 100% confidentiality policy, which means we will not tell anyone else you have told us. We are very strict about keeping this policy. If a problem or issue may be better resolved by sharing it with someone, for example a doctor, social worker or Police, Voices From Care (Cymru) will encourage you to do this and we will support you all the way. We are very much about working with you. We believe that with a little bit of advice and support from people who understand what you are going through, you are the best person to get your problems sorted.

4 Winds User Led Resource/Drop-In Centre

65 Clare Road, Grangetown

Cardiff CF11 6QP

Tel: (029) 20388144

Fax: (029) 20388151

Drop-in providing services and information on mental health issues

Opening Times

Monday	2pm - 7.30pm
Tuesday	2pm - 7.30pm
Thursday	2pm - 7.30pm
Friday	1pm - 5.00pm
Saturday	1pm - 5.00pm
Sunday	1pm - 5.00pm

Women only:

Wednesday	1.00pm -5.00pm
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The 4Winds is a user-led resource/drop-in centre providing a welcoming meeting place, services and information on mental health issues.

If you would like to drop in or would like to get involved, please come along to one of the opening days or ring for a chat.

Staff are always available when the centre is open. There are always at least 2 staff present during opening times. (*Note we do not usually close for Bank Holidays.*)

You do not need a referral – anyone can just come in and find themselves welcome.

It is a place to relax, make a cup of tea, chat and meet people with similar experiences.

While prepared food is not provided, the kitchen is fully equipped and anyone is welcome to cook. On Sundays, basic foodstuffs are provided so you can get yourself a snack.

Daily charges for tea and coffee: 50p, Sundays – 60p (the 60p on Sundays includes food).

Confidentiality

- We keep very limited written records of information voluntarily given. No one has to give us information in order to use the centre.

Access: Wheelchair access for ground floor only

Inroads
Street Drugs Project
43 Lower Cathedral Road
Riverside
Cardiff CF11 6LW
Tel: (029) 20407407
Fax: (029) 20235136
E-mail: inroads@net.nfl.com

Opening Hours

9.30 to 5.00 Monday and Wednesday to Friday

9.30 to 5.00 Tuesday (including needle exchange).

Drop In 12.00 to 4.00 Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Appointments can be made between 10.00 and 4.00 Monday to Friday, with late appointments on request.

Women only appointments at Drop In on Thursday from 12.00 to 4.00.

Needle exchange at Tresilian Way Sunday 2.00 to 3.00.

Inroads offers a dedicated young people space (under 18's only) providing information on all drug-related issues. Evening hours to be confirmed.

Services we offer:

Acupuncture	Monday 11.00
	Thursday 11.00
	Friday 11.00

Reflexology	Fortnightly on Wednesday by appointment.
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Salvation Army Hostel
Ty Gobaith
240 Bute Street
Butetown
CARDIFF CF10 5TY
Telephone: (029) 20480187
Fax: (029) 20480708

Accommodation is hotel emergency provision. The three-floor hostel comprises 54 single rooms all with power points and hand basins. There is a communal dining room and lounge/coffee rooms. Laundry facilities are available at cost price (first wash free). There are also 12 resettlement flats and 38 direct access beds. Cardiff County Council has 16 nomination rights. Service user's contribution is £22.34 for the hostel and £9.14 for RSU.

Greenfarm Hostel

Greenfarm Lane

Ely

CARDIFF CF5 4RS

Telephone: (029) 20598288

Fax: (029) 20598288

E-mail: Homelessness@cardiff.gov.uk

Accommodation is emergency accommodation whilst homelessness applications are being assessed, followed by transfer to one of Cardiff County Council's leased properties as soon as possible. The Hostel is staffed 24 hours per day. Cardiff County Council Homelessness Section has nomination rights for this Hostel. Referral is through Homelessness Case Officer only and the service user's contribution is £9.87.

Cardiff County Council – Tresillian House

Tresillian Way

Butetown

CARDIFF CF10 5DE

Telephone: (029) 20231018

Fax: (029) 20665506

E-mail: Tresillian@cardiff.gov.uk (available soon)

This accommodation is staffed 24 hours per day. It is direct access/emergency provision. The two-floor Hostel comprises four cluster flats of five beds each. One cluster is set aside for women only. Service users have their own bedroom but share a kitchen, bathroom and toilet. Laundry facilities, breakfast and evening meal are provided.

Accommodation is open to any person who is single and homeless in Cardiff and willing to co-operate with staff in moving towards planned resettlement. The Hostel is also actively working with those with alcohol-related problems. Average length of stay is four months, although there is no limit. Service user's contribution is £20.

The Big Issue Cymru

55 Charles Street,

Cardiff, CF10 4ED

Tel: (029) 20255670

Fax: (029) 20255673

Advertising: (029) 20255672

Editorial/Newsdesk: (029) 20337788

The Big Issue Cymru is a non-profit making organisation that gives homeless people and those in the process of resettlement the opportunity to earn a regular, legitimate income, and escape the poverty-trap imposed by their situation. Through selling the *Big Issue Cymru* magazine, vendors can earn an independent income – they keep 50% of the cover price.

We aim to provide advice, information and support to vendors. Help is available with referrals to emergency and supported accommodation providers. We can also refer people to specialist agencies dealing with drug and alcohol problems.

Vendors and other homeless people can take an active part in the project through Vendors Workshop – contributions by homeless people are regularly published in the unedited *Vendors Verbal* section of the magazine, which relates their views and experiences. Writing and training workshops are held to help any potential contributors to produce material and develop their skill, with opportunities for further training.

The distribution office is open Monday – Friday 9.00 am – 5.15 pm, Saturday 9.00 am – 5.15 pm and Sunday 10.00am – 4.00pm.

Cardiff MIND Ltd
20 City Road, Roath
Cardiff, CF24 3DL

Tel: (029) 20402040

Fax: (029) 20402041

Cardiff MIND Ltd provides accommodation and support for women and men with problems affecting their mental health.

Cardiff Mind exists so that people with mental health problems are able to take control of their own lives.

Activities of the Association

1. Housing Provision and Support

Cardiff Mind provides accommodation and support services to both men and women in registered hostels, shared houses and self contained flats. We also provide floating support to tenants living in their own homes in the community.

Continuing Care Project

The Continuing Care Project's aim is to provide a high standard of housing and a high degree of support to people who have spent 30-40 years in psychiatric hospitals.

2. Cardiff Women in MIND

Cardiff Women in MIND seeks to offer support and information to women in order to enable them to make informed choices about their own lives, thus helping women to develop and assert their sense of self-worth.

On this basis we aim to provide services to women in all sections of the community in Cardiff.

3 Mind Works

This project enables people with mental health problems to access supported voluntary work placements and work experience with employers from all sectors in and around Cardiff.

Contact: Mindworks – Details as Cardiff Women in Mind

Cardiff Women's Aid
16 Moira Terrace, Adamsdown
Cardiff, CF24 0EJ
Tel: (029) 20460574 (admin)
(029) 20460566 (helpline)
Fax: (029) 20484097

Age Group and Gender Accepted

Women (and their children) fleeing domestic abuse. Male children 16 and over may not come into the refuge.

Accommodation Type

3 direct access refuges, 13 rooms including 2 single rooms for women without children.

2nd stage, 4 rooms, including 1 single room for a woman without children.

Outreach and floating support scheme for women in Council or Housing Association tenancies.

Access Organisation

24 hour via the Information Centre 9.00am – 4.30pm Monday – Friday (029) 20460566

On call service outside office hours for emergency temporary accommodation.

Advice & Information for Women fleeing domestic violence.

Homelessness

Welfare

Legal Protection

Referral Agencies

Free Counselling Service

Via the Information Centre 9.00am – 4.30pm Monday to Friday

Cardiff Women's Aid operates as a Direct Access organisation, to provide information/advice and a temporary safe place for women and children who have suffered, mental/physical or sexual abuse by their partners. We work with the ethos of self-help and support, to enable women to make their own choices.

Cardiff Women's Aid – Aims & Objectives

To provide temporary refuge on request, for women and their children who have suffered mental, physical or sexual abuse.

To encourage women to determine their own futures and to help them achieve them, whether this involves returning home or starting a new life elsewhere.

To recognise and care for the emotional and educational needs of the children in refuge.

To offer support, advice and help to any women who ask for it, whether or not they are resident. Also, to offer support and aftercare to any women and children who have left the refuge.

To educate and inform the public, the media, Police, Courts, Social Services and other authorities with respect to the abuse of women, mindful of the fact that this is a result of the general position of women in our society.

Cardiff YMCA Housing Association

The Walk, Roath, Cardiff CF24 3AG

Tel: (029) 20465250

Fax: (029) 20471826

The Walk Hostel

This is a 71-room hostel providing temporary accommodation with support to single men and women.

Each resident has his/her own single room with wash basin. Separate bathrooms, showers and toilets are shared with other residents. The ground floor has rooms that are adapted for use by people with physical disabilities or mobility problems. Two meals a day are provided in a communal dining room. There is 24-hour staff cover.

The personal contribution towards rent is a service charge of around £20 per week.

All residents are allocated a support worker who will assist with move-on housing and benefits and offer advice and support on a range of personal issues.

Self referrals are accepted from anyone in housing need. To apply for accommodation, either telephone, call in, or ask a worker at another agency to help. All applicants complete an application form and are then interviewed by hostel staff.

The Ambassador YMCA Hostel

2-4 Oakfield Street,

Cardiff, CF24 3RD

Tel: (029) 20462701

Fax: (029) 20462701

The Ambassador Hostel

The Ambassador is a board and lodge hostel managed by Cardiff YMCA Housing Association.

The hostel has 36 rooms and caters for homeless families, single people and couples. There is no access for people with mobility problems as many of the rooms are on different levels and there is a flight of steps into the dining room.

Residents each have their own room. Bathrooms and toilets are separate and shared with other residents. Two meals a day are provided. There is 24-hour staff cover.

The personal contribution towards rent is a service charge of around £20 per week.

Accommodation at the hostel is accessed exclusively by Cardiff County Council Homelessness Department although the final decision to accept referrals lies with the hostel staff, who interview each referral.

Residents are allocated a support worker who will assist with a range of support issues such as benefits, housing advice and personal difficulties.

Taff Housing Association
Alexandra House, 307-315 Cowbridge Road East, Canton
Cardiff, CF5 1DJ
Cardiff CF11 9TH
Tel: (029) 2025 9100
Fax: (029)2025 9199

Ty Seren
Tel: (029) 20497379
Fax: (029) 20497379

Ty Enfys
Tel: (029) 20494729
Fax: (029) 20494729

Ty Haul
Tel: (029) 20374249
Fax: (029) 20374249

What the Taff Housing Association Offers:

Ty Enfys provides temporary accommodation for young women who are pregnant and young mothers who have just had a baby. The aim is to prepare for independent living and move-on within 12 months.

Ty Seren provides temporary accommodation for young women. The aim is to prepare for independent living and move-on within 9 months.

Both projects are staffed 24 hours a day.

Ty Haul provides second-stage temporary accommodation to young women who no longer require the 24-hour support offered at Ty Seren, but who are not yet ready for totally independent living.

Everyone who stays in the projects has an Individual Support Plan.

Support is given on:

- tenancy
- health
- leisure
- education/training
- finance
- employment
- life skills
- move-on
- parenting

How women can apply:

- Call in to complete an application form
- Telephone to make an appointment
- The appointment will last about 1 ½ hours
- A detailed support assessment will then be carried out
- Applicants will be told the result of their application within 14 days

BAWSO

Black Association of Women Step Out

109 St Mary Street, Cardiff, CF10 1DX

Tel: (029) 20343154

Fax: (029) 20345636

BAWSO is an all Wales Women's Aid that offers advice, information and a safe place to stay for women and children from visible minority communities who are suffering physical, mental, sexual and emotional abuse.

We operate an open door policy.

The advice office is open from Monday to Friday from 9.30am. to 4.30pm.

There is a 24 hour Helpline.

Seren Supported Housing Scheme

BAWSO Ltd. 109 St. Mary's Street, Cardiff. CF10 1DX

Tel. (029) 20343154

Fax. (029) 20640644

BARNARDO'S 46 Marlborough Road, Roath, Cardiff. CF2 5BZ

Tel. (029) 20497531

Fax. (029) 20453083

The Seren Scheme is a partnership between BAWSO Women's Aid, Barnardo's Marlborough Road Project and Taff Housing Association. The Scheme provides supported housing association accommodation to young black women between the ages of 16 – 21 who can no longer live at home due to abuse from a family member or partner.

Cardiff Housing Link

Ty Derwen Newport Road

Roath CARDIFF

Tel: (029) 20646060

Fax: (029) 2066610

E-mail: chl@uwha.co.uk

This three-floor hostel comprises 17 single rooms. There is a secure, self-contained, female-only floor. Facilities include communal dining room, lounge and bathrooms. Residents provide and prepare their own meals except breakfast, which is provided. There is 24-hour staffing cover.

The Hostel is for single homeless people who have problems with drugs, alcohol, mental health and for women dealing with domestic violence. Cardiff Housing Link operates a strict Dry Rule Policy.

Tai Trothwy – Cardiff Move-On

4-5 Dock Chambers Bute Street

Butetown

CARDIFF CF10 5AG

Tel. (029) 20453030

The office is open from 9.00 to 4.30 Monday to Friday and there is an on-call service for service users outside office hours. We offer assessment and support for vulnerable single people and single parents moving into housing association tenancies, or for existing tenants of housing associations. The support offered is primarily around housing-related issues. Support is normally offered for up to 18 months although extended support can be offered if no alternative is available.

‘TRIANGLE WALES’

TAI TROTHWY

Janner House

48-50 Richmond Road Roath

CARDIFF CF24 3AT

Tel. (029) 20440110

Fax. (029) 2440116

The Triangle Wales office is open from 9.00 to 5.00 Monday to Friday. There is an emergencies-only on call service outside these hours. Supported accommodation in the form of self-contained bedsits is offered for vulnerable young people who are lesbian, gay or bisexual and who need support with emotional and practical issues before moving on to independent accommodation. Support is normally through weekly key working meetings – there is no “daily cover”. Referral is by completed application form from above, followed by an assessment interview.

Foundation Housing/Tai Sylfaen The Young People's Project

Dowlais Court, Vale Road, Splott, Cardiff, CF24 2LS

Cwrt Dowlais, Heol Vale, Sblot, Caerdydd, CF24 2LS

Tel: (029) 20460107

Fax: (029) 20460108

The Young People's Project
Are You

- Aged between 16 and 25?
- Homeless, threatened with homelessness or living in unsuitable accommodation?
- Not able to cope with living on your own?
- About to live on your own for the first time and worried about how you may cope?
- Living in Care and expecting to be leaving soon to live on your own?

The Young People's Project may be able to help you. We are an organisation set up to house and support 16-25 year old single men and women who are having difficulties coping living on their own or who may never have lived on their own.

Church Army – Homeless Young People's Services Cardiff

Ty Bronna – Tel (029) 20556929

Admission Criteria:

- Single male and female
- Aged between 16 and 21 years
- Homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, living in unsuitable accommodation or leaving care
- Eligible for statutory benefits or supported by an income
- Prepared/willing to subscribe to the policies and procedures of the project
- Able to benefit from support provided
- Willing to sign and comply with the license agreement

Aims:

Church Army established its projects working with homelessness based on the Christian principles of hope, justice and love. The service offered being relevant to the needs of homeless young people within a person-centred support, education and development programme.

PROGRAMMES:

DC @ Ty Bronna

- Safe and secure accommodation (13 units)
- Practical and emotional support
- Independent living skills
- 24-hour high level of support provided
- Needs-led tailor-made support packages
- Community liaison
- Training and education support

Breaking the Barriers (Based ad DC @ Ty Bronna)

- Living skills
- Training
- Personal development skills
- Leisure development

Ty Danescourt

- Safe and secure accommodation (6

Ty Carlile

- Four supported accommodation units

- units)
- Practical and emotional support
- Medium support
- Living skills development
- Community Integration
- Training and education support
- ICT training

- Ongoing life skills training
- Practical and emotional support
- Community integration
- Resettlement work

Amber Project

- Support and information
- Counselling
- Drop-in service/activities
- Informal group work

DC2 & DC2 Xtra

- Floating support provided to 5 units
- Benefits advocacy
- Debt management
- Community orientation
- Minimal long-term support for those living independently

DC Club Network

- City centre outreach work in nightclub culture
- Advice and support for people in crisis

Llamau Limited
Suite B1 Canton House
435-451 Cowbridge Road East, Cardiff, CF5 1JH
Tel: (029) 2023 9585 Fax: (029) 2038 8740
e.mail: ajc@llamaucardiff.freearg.co.uk

240 Holton Road, Barry. CF63 4HS
Tel: 01446 748852 Fax: 01446 733707
e.mail: sa@llamauvale.freearg.co.uk

Llamau Limited aims to deliver holistic, innovative and proactive services to young people in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan who are homeless or who are leaving care to enable them to establish themselves as fully participating members of the communities in which they wish to live. Llamau provides a comprehensive range of housing and support services including advice, mediation, access to the private rented sector, direct access, shared housing and floating support. Llamau has also developed its own unique Learning for Life programme, a stimulating pre-vocational programme of learning that will empower young people and assist them to deal with those issues which may hamper and hinder their ability to reach their full potential and move them nearer to sustainable employment, training or education.

Cardiff Projects

H.O.P.s (Housing Options Project)

Tel: (029) 2037 2100

HOPS provides advice, assistance, information and advocacy on a wide range of benefit and housing issues to 16 – 21 year olds

TRIDEG

Tel: (029) 2066 5692 or (029) 2023 9585

A young persons Direct Access Project in a shared house offering five units of accommodation, one unit of accommodation is reserved for daily emergency access and is cleared next day in partnership with Social Services into the most appropriate resource.

A second unit is available on a short term (5 days) basis. The three remaining units are used to accommodate young people for up to 28 days whilst planning and assessment are undertaken by Llamau support workers and Social Services. Trideg is staffed overnight by project workers with daily support provided by dedicated support workers.

LLANDAFF ROAD

Tel: (029) 2039 4530 or (029) 2023 9585

A specialist high needs non engagers project working with offenders and care leavers offering five independent one bed flats. The house is staffed overnight by project workers with daily support provided by dedicated support workers.

NETWORK PROJECT

Tel: (029) 20239585

A high needs floating support project with 18 units of accommodation dispersed throughout Cardiff which offers young people an opportunity to try independent living before committing themselves to a permanent tenancy.

Vale Of Glamorgan Projects

TY JOHN ROWLEY

Tel: 01446 746445 or 01446 748852 Fax: 01446 733707

A six bedspace shared house in Barry offering supported accommodation to young offenders, care leavers and those young people wishing to refer themselves.

SPECTRUM

Tel: 01446 748852 Fax: 01446 733707

A floating support project for care leavers with 12 units of accommodation dispersed throughout Barry in partnership with Newydd Housing Association and Social Services.

JIGSO

Tel: 01446 748852 Fax: 01446 733707

An innovative private sector project which aims to evaluate rooflessness and provide solutions that bypass the need for a direct access hostel in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Llamau Women's Service

4 Ninian Park Road

Riverside

CARDIFF

Tel: (029) 2037 7122 Fax: (029) 2064 4100

Llamau Women's Services has 31 bed spaces – 28 in Cardiff (Canton, Roath, Grangetown, St Mellons and Butetown) and the remainder in Newport. The bed spaces are a mixture of bedsits, 1-bedroomed self-contained flats, shared house facilities and 1 x 24 hour supported house in Cardiff. The scheme will accommodate females without dependent children and is able to accommodate females with additional support needs, e.g. mental health, abuse, self harm. Support is through a key worker system 1 to 3 hours weekly. The maximum stay is 2 years and move-on provision is through other supporting agencies, private landlords, Council Housing or Housing Associations.

Trothwy Housing Association

Area Office, Ground Floor Offices

4 Dock Chambers, Bute Street

Cardiff CF1 6AG

Tel: (029) 20453030 Ext. 1

Fax: (029) 20451797

Trothwy Housing Association provides 53 bedspaces in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, the aim of the Association is to provide good quality affordable housing and appropriate care and support for vulnerable people.

Cardiff Projects

The aim of these projects is to provide accommodation to ex-offenders and those deemed to be at risk of offending. The projects provide temporary accommodation and support to enable people to move on to more appropriate long-term housing. In total these projects provide 4 flats and 1 bedsit in a static project in Roath and 16 dispersed flats throughout Cardiff. The majority of the referrals for these projects originate from South Glamorgan Probation Service, however referrals are considered from other associated agencies, i.e. drug and alcohol agencies. The projects are staffed during office hours (9am – 5pm) and a 24 hour emergency on-call service is provided. These projects are open to males and females aged 17 to 65.

Vale of Glamorgan Projects: Holton Road

The aim of this project is to offer accommodation to offenders, ex-offenders and those deemed to be at risk of offending. The projects provide temporary accommodation and support to enable people to move on to more appropriate long term housing. In total these projects provide 5 self-contained flats, 6 bedsits with shared facilities and 4 floating support units. Both projects are located on Holton Road with easy access to all local and community facilities for floating support in the Barry area. The majority of the referrals for these projects originate from south Glamorgan Probation Service, however referrals are considered from other associated agencies, i.e. drug and alcohol agencies. The projects are staffed during office hours (9am – 5pm) and a 24 hour emergency on-call service is provided. The projects are open to males and females aged 17 to 64.

Ffynnon Project

This scheme is a floating support scheme which provides support to clients with drug and alcohol problems. The support is offered to tenants in their own homes, which eliminates the need for the tenant to move on when the support is no longer required. The scheme offers 12 self contained flats provided by Partner Housing Associations. These bedspaces are located throughout Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, where local and community facilities are within easy access. Referrals to the scheme are from drug agencies, alcohol agencies and self referrals if a link is established with a drug or alcohol agency. This project is open to males and females aged 18 – 65, with or without dependents.

Cardiff Action for the Single Homeless (CASH)

The Huggard Centre, Tresillian Way, Cardiff, CF10 5JZ

Tel: 029 2034 9980

Fax: (029) 2034 9981 or (029) 2023 0283

E. mail: info@c-a-s-h.org.uk Website: www.c-a-s-h.org.uk

Day Centre

The day centre is open throughout the day and evening, 7 days a week. Services include a free meal of soup and bread and sandwiches (subject to availability) for those without money and simple cooked meals at cost price for those who can pay. There are washing and showering facilities, laundry and drying rooms and a free clothing store. There is a television and lounge area for those who wish to use the Centre for companionship as well as for warmth and shelter. Staff are on hand to provide encouragement and support, welfare rights, resettlement and housing advice. A doctor is available once a week.

There is also regular access to a Community Psychiatric Nurse, Community Nurse Practitioner, Social Worker, members of the Community Drug Team and Chiropodist..

The Hostel (Open 5 pm to 10 am)

The Emergency Bed Hostel comprises 20 bedrooms with 2 shared lounges, being let directly to people calling in from the streets. The unit is staffed 24 hours a day. Although the consumption of alcohol/unprescribed drugs and violence on the premises is forbidden our "open door" policy means that we aim to turn no one away. Our doors are open 7 days a week.

Both buildings have disabled person access.

Access

CASH has no waiting list and allocations to the bed unit are made on a first come first served basis.

Supported Houses (10 shared houses)

CASH has 7 shared houses providing short and long term supported accommodation for those wishing to lead a more settled life, leading where appropriate to independent accommodation. Support continues to be provided as required.

User Development Programme

The aims of the User Development Programme are to motivate our service users and encourage long term goals. Via education/training/social skills etc.

Wallich Clifford Community
Administration and General Enquiries Tel (029) 20668464
E-mail: community@wallichclifford.net
Web site: www.wallichclifford.com

Sir Julian Hodge Centre

52 Broadway
CARDIFF CF24 1NG
Tel: (029) 20495219

The Sir Julian Hodge Centre is a Direct Access Hostel for homeless people over the age of 18. The hostel is “wet” so residents can drink on the premises.

Residents have their own rooms, some of which have self-catering facilities. There are 3 communal living rooms, one of which is a designated “dry” area. Laundry and catering facilities are available at a small cost and people with dogs can be accepted into the project.

The project is staffed 24 hours a day. Support on a wide range of issues is available, including: training and education, substance misuse, physical and mental health problems and resettling into a more independent tenancy.

The Community House Team

Tel: (029) 20495419

The Community House Team aims to support people over the age of 16 who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless, who need support with issues around mental health and substance misuse.

The Community House Team provides accommodation in shared houses where each resident has his/her own room and shares a kitchen, living room and bathroom. One house has only female clients. The Community House Team operates an emergency on-call service 24 hours a day.

In addition to the shared houses, the Community House Team provides tenancy support in 7 flats for people who are in need of some support before achieving totally independent living.

Self-referrals are not accepted. Agencies can contact the telephone number above for more information and a referral form.

The Nightshelter

Tel: (029) 20399739

The Nightshelter provides accommodation on a night-by-night basis for people who cannot access other accommodation, particularly those sleeping rough or leading street-based lifestyles.

The Nighshelter is a warm and friendly environment and can:

- Provide a safe place to stay from 8 pm to 9.30 am

- Provide food and facilities, including: a washing machine and tumble dryer and shower, as well as clothes and sleeping bags where available
- Help people access other services they may need, such as: health care, specialist substance misuse agencies and veterinary care for pets
- Assist residents access appropriate, longer-term housing and support

The Breakfast Run

Tel: (029) 20399739

In partnership with the HANR Outreach Team, the Breakfast Run provides a hot breakfast and drinks to people who are sleeping rough in Cardiff.

The Breakfast Run operates every day of the year and helps rough sleepers to access accommodation and other essential services, such as primary health care.

The Shoreline Project

Tel: (029) 20640265

The Shoreline Project provides a longer-term home to homeless people over the age of 18 who have experienced the lifestyle of rough sleeping and street drinking.

Shoreline provides high quality accommodation in a secure and supportive environment. The accommodation includes:

- Self-contained flats with a shared communal area
- Shared houses where residents have a room of their own, but share a communal kitchen, living room and bathroom.

The project is “wet”, which means that there is no restriction on drinking. Options, including controlled drinking, reduced drinking or stopping drinking, will be supported but the project is also designed to support those for whom this is not an option, either in the long or short-term.

Shoreline accepts self-referrals and referrals from other agencies. There is a small waiting list for the project.

The Riverside Project

Tel: (029) 20667920

The Riverside Project provides temporary accommodation for homeless people over the age of 16 who have a history of, or who are at risk of, offending and who are committed to education, training or voluntary work. Accommodation is a shared house for 8 people.

To get a place on the Riverside Project residents must demonstrate a commitment to training, education or voluntary work.

Support includes:

- Help to access training and education
- In-house training and support to develop independent living skills
- Support to find a more permanent home and resettlement support.

All referrals must come from an agency. For more information and a referral form you can telephone the Riverside team on the number above.

E. Education

Education Departments are concerned both with the problems social circumstances may cause to a child's ability or opportunity to benefit from education, and the fact that when a child does not receive an adequate education this can compound their experience of long term social harm.

Very often children involved in prostitution are not attending school and it is important that the Education Department is involved in any inter-agency planning for such children to examine what obstacles or deficits there may be in the current education arrangements and to enable appropriate education to be arranged.

For children who do attend school, there may be important relationships with teacher, which can be built upon to help the child break away from her/his sexually exploitative activities.

The Education Welfare Services has a particular role in helping children to achieve adequate education. All schools in Cardiff have access to Education Welfare services, including Independent and Voluntary Aided Schools. Where an issue concerns child protection, as in sexual exploitation, the Education Welfare Service is always available. There are also specialist services for pregnant schoolgirls and schoolgirl mothers, home tuition and special needs support, which may help to ensure or enhance a child's education opportunity in cases where sexual exploitation is a concern.

Education's role does not necessarily stop at school leaving age. Children who have missed out on education may need opportunities to help them to make up for what they have previously "lost" and may also simply need educational opportunity to assist in obtaining employment. Children who have been sexually exploited may also need assistance in accessing Colleges of Further Education and advice available through, **Careers Wales 53 Charles Street Cardiff (Tel. (029) 20906700).**

The City and County of Cardiff Education Welfare Service is a contact point for advice and referral about educational services for all children whether they are in or out of school.

Contact Number:

Education Welfare Services Room 19

Mynachdy Centre

Cefn Road

Mynachdy

Cardiff CF14 3HS Tel: (029) 20629854 Fax: (029) 20520410

F Culture, Leisure and Parks

Culture, Leisure and Parks was established on 1 April 2006, bringing together the sections Culture, Sports, Leisure and Parks.

It delivers services in a wide range of areas:

- Bereavement Services
- Children's Play
- Community Centre Management
- Leisure and Sports Centres
- Library Information Services
- Parks Development and Operations
- Outdoor Leisure Management
- Customer and Service Development
- Sports and Physical Activity Development
- New Theatre
- St David's Hall
- Arts Development/Arts Active

Approximately 9 million customer will make use of one or more of our services annually. It is, therefore, probably the most forward facing of all Council Services with a strong need for customer focus.

The Service Area delivers to the policy theme "A Creative and Exciting City" and supports and contributes to the VITALITY pillar of the Cardiff Vision. The Service Area will have an important role to play in the physical, social health and wellbeing and economic regeneration of Cardiff (providing input and support to another Service Area).

The principle Policy Theme and Pillars are:-

- A Healthy City
- A Bright and Safe City
- A Clean and Attractive City
- Sustainability

The new Service Area, with functions from Children's Play to Bereavement Services, has the unique ability to make a positive contribution to the life of every citizen of Cardiff through health improvement, wellbeing, social and cultural enrichment.

If information comes to light regarding the sexual exploitation of children and young people, it would be usual for information to be passed to the Lead Officer, although on occasions staff may contact Intake & Assessment in line with Child Protection Procedures.

G. Cardiff Youth Offending Team

The Cardiff City and Council Youth Offending Team is a multi-agency partnership that takes its mandate from the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act and powers of the Criminal Court (sentencing Act) 2000 and Home Office and Youth Justice Board Management Guidance. The YOT Management Group accepts responsibility for discharging these duties on behalf of the Chief Executive of the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff. The YOT is also a part of the Community Safety with a remit in respect of prevention of crime and protection of the public.

The YOT may become aware of children who are being abused through sexual exploitation who are on a Prevention Programme, Final Warning Programme, Referral Order or subject to Statutory Supervision or in custody and through its links with Social Inclusion Projects including the YIP (Youth inclusion Project)

The practitioners in the YOT represent several agencies, including Police, Education, Drug and Alcohol Agencies, Training providers, C.A.H.M.S. and are working within the Policies and Procedures and protocols of their host agency as well as the YOT.

If the YOT is aware of children being abused through sexual exploitation then this will be passed on to the Designated Person in Children's Services for assessment and either a planned or emergency response within the criteria of the multi-agency strategy. The YOT will through its risk assessment procedures share information with particular reference to the data protection and which all partner agencies are bound to.

The duty to investigate rests with the Children's Services Duty Systems, but the YOT will assist with information from the Responsible Officer and participate in the multi-agency strategy meeting where relevant. In respect of legislation under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 such as Child Safety Order (Section 11) Parenting Orders (Section 8) Anti Social Behaviour Orders Sex Offenders Orders Section (2, 3 and 4) Child Curfew Orders (Section 14) the YOT will work within existing Social Services procedures for Child Protection (See Appendix 5).

The Team will also refer and participate in the MAPPA and MARAC processes in terms of risk management. If a young person is a victim where there has been a prosecution the Youth Offending Team may provide support from their Victim Liaison Co-ordinator.

H. HANR Outreach Team

The HANR Outreach Team works within the HUB service (homeless vulnerable person's service). They work with people of any age and work in partnership with a range of statutory and voluntary services and local businesses, namely the Police, Rough Sleeper Intervention Team, The Nightbus, Streetlife and Hostel Services.

Telephone number: 2087 1223

Freephone number: 0800 100 132

Address: Marland House, 11-15 Central Square, Cardiff

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Appendix 5: Court Orders

Child Safety Orders

The aim of the new order is to protect children aged under 10 who are at risk of becoming involved in crime and may require a child being at home at certain times or to stay away from certain places or people.

Parenting Order

The main is to support parents to control the behaviour of their children and will require parents to attend counselling guidance sessions.

Anti-social behaviour

An application for an order under this section may be made by a relevant Authority i.e. the council for that area or any chief officer of police, any part of whose police area is within that area if it appears to them that any person aged 12 or over has acted in an anti-social manner i.e. a manner that is likely to cause harassment or alarm to one or more persons not of the same household as her/himself.

Notification Order

This is a new Order which can be made, on application by a Chief Officer of Police, in respect of individuals who have been convicted, cautioned etc abroad for sexual offences equivalent to the sexual offences listed in Schedule 3 of the 2003 Act. The effect of the Order is to make such offenders subject to the notification requirements of Part 2 of the 2003 Act as if they had been convicted, cautioned etc in the United Kingdom of a relevant offence.

Sex Offences Prevention Order (SOPO)

This Order replaces both the Sex Offender Order and the Restraining Order. Therefore, a Sex Offences Prevention Order can be made on application by a Chief Officer of Police in respect of a convicted sex offender or by a Court at conviction. The SOPO is also an improvement on the existing Orders. A Conditional Discharge cannot be received as punishment for breach of a SOPO. It will be possible to make a SOPO in respect of an offender convicted, cautioned etc of certain violent offences listed in Schedule 5 where such an Order is necessary to protect the public from serious sexual harm.

Foreign Travel Orders

This is a new Order which will enable the Courts, in certain circumstances and on application by a Chief Officer of Police, to prohibit those convicted of sexual offences against children aged under 16 from travelling overseas where there is evidence that they intend to cause serious sexual harm to children in a foreign country.

Risk of Sexual Harm Order (RSHO)

This is a new Order, similar to the SOPO, which aims to restrict the activities of those involved in grooming children for sexual activity. A previous conviction, caution etc for a sexual offence is not a prerequisite in applying for a Risk of Sexual Harm Order.

Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 also includes two other important new provisions

1. Schedule 4 provides for a procedure to remove the notification requirements from offenders convicted of buggery and indecency between men where the Secretary of State is satisfied that the offence involved consensual sexual activity with a person aged 16 or over.
2. Sections 94 and 95 provide a power for the Police (and national policing organisations) to verify that the details offenders have notified to the Police are correct. This is done by comparing these details against the information offenders may have supplied to the Department for Work and Pensions, the United Kingdom Passport Service and the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency.

Local Child Curfew Schemes

A local authority subject to required consultation and when it considers it necessary to do so for the purpose of monitoring order, may make a local child curfew scheme – so as to enable the local authority to give notice imposing a ‘child curfew’.

A ban on children under 15 being in a public place within a specific area during specific hours between 9pm and 6am unless they are under the effective control of a parent or responsible person aged 18 or over for a period not exceeding 90 days.

City and County of Cardiff, Children's Services Department

Procedure for Child Safety Orders (ChSO)

Legal Requirement: Crime and Disorder Act 1988 (C & DA '98)

Sections 11-13

Home Office Draft Guidance 13 November 1998;

Children Act 1989, Section 1, 31, Part III and Schedule 2

PROVISIONS OF THE C&DA 1998

Section 11

A ChSO may be made only within the Family Proceedings Court on application by a local authority. It is available on children under the age of 10, its effect being to place the child for a period of up to three months, and in exceptional cases 12 months, under the supervision of a "responsible officer".

Section 11 (3) stipulates the conditions for a ChSO to be:

- (a) that the child has committed an act which, if he had been aged 10 or over, would have constituted an offence;
- (b) that a child safety order is necessary for the purpose of preventing the commission by the child of such an act as is mentioned in paragraph (a) above;
- (c) that the child has contravened a ban imposed by a curfew notice; and
- (d) that the child has acted in a manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household as himself.

Section 11 (5) specifies the requirements that become imposed on the making of a ChSO as being in the interests of:

- (a) securing that the child receives appropriate care, protection and support and is subject to proper control: or
- (b) preventing any repetition of the kind of behaviour which led to the child safety order being made

Section 11 (8) defines the "responsible officer" as being:

- (a) a social worker of a local authority social services department; and
- (b) a member of a youth offending team

PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

- 1 The ChSO is a new form of intervention available to local authority social services departments to help in dealing with children in need. As such it supplements the range of orders available under The Children Act 1989 (see appendix 5 for full list of these powers). Once an application is lodged by the local authority for an order it becomes a family proceedings matter under section 8(4) of that Act. The court may, therefore, make orders under the Children Act of its own volition. In reaching

its decision on which, if any order should be made when an application is before it, the family proceedings court is guided by the two fundamental provisions of the Children Act:

- (a) the child's welfare shall be the court's paramount consideration (Section 1{1});
- (b) the underlying principle of "no order" (Section 1{5})

REFERRAL ROUTES

- 2 Although lodged within an Act targeted at preventing offending the circumstances of children who may be candidates for a ChSO are likely to come to the notice of a range of social welfare agencies: schools; Housing Departments/Agencies; Health Authorities, Trusts, GPs; Police; Social Services; Voluntary and Community Workers; or from parental self referral.
- 3 The pro-active intentions of the C & DA'98 to prevent offending and reduce the extent of crime and disorder in local communities may necessitate a more active identification of children whose behaviour requires attention at an early stage to prevent escalation into offending or other forms of anti-social behaviour. The potential use of ChSO and other routes for reducing the risk factors for children in need will form part of the strategic planning associated with: Crime and Disorder Strategies; Behavioural Support Plans; Children's Services Plans; Children First; Early Years and Child Care Plans; Education Development Plans.
- 4 Over and above the ways in which such plans will seek to reduce the underlying risk factors associated with offending and other anti-social behaviour, there are likely to be individual children whose needs require specific and focussed attention. In such circumstances social welfare agencies will make referral in the normal way to local Social Services District Offices. Where this occurs the existing procedural and assessment procedures for dealing with Children in Need should be followed.
- 5 Once this process has been commenced the child will become subject to assessment, planning and review within the usual parameters of Social Services children and family procedures. This may give need at any point in the process for consideration of the need for formal court supported intervention with the child and family.

CONSIDERATION OF COURT INTERVENTION

- 6 The normal Social Services policy and procedure for considering court intervention is detailed in current procedures. This requires that a Child Protection meeting should be called within normal procedures to consider the options, one of which will now be the ChSO.
- 7 There is no current case law or experience to indicate when a ChSO would be a preferred option to be applied for in preference to other Children Act Orders such as Supervision or Care Orders. In the absence of this some positive indicators may be:
 - (a) The child is aged under 10 but has been subject to at least three police referrals for actions which would have counted as criminal acts if they were over 10;

- (b) The child commits an act which is serious and would have been counted as criminal if they were aged over 10;
 - (c) The child's behaviour in school is such that exclusion is being considered and attempts via Education Welfare and Behaviour Support Team intervention have proven unsuccessful;
 - (d) The child's behaviour in the local community is having a detrimental affect on a person(s) locally, and they are in breach of a child curfew scheme.
- 8 The other prevailing issue that will need to be considered is whether the short-term nature of the ChSO is the most suitable form of intervention to affect the child's behaviour. In general it should not be seen as an option to try when insufficient evidence exists to pursue other legal interventions available under the Children Act.
- 9 Where there are indications prior to the meeting that a ChSO is a strong possibility the relevant planning meeting should be attended by the YOT Manager. The reason for this is that the YOT has a specific role to play in the prevention of offending and may be nominated to provide the "responsible officer". The YOT may also be able to offer alternative forms of intervention that can be pursued before application to court is made.

APPLICATION TO COURT

- 10 If the decision of the planning meeting is to apply for a ChSO this should be submitted to the court. There is no requirement for a written report to be provided by the court as a matter of course. Local court agreement should be sought so that a Family Circumstances report will be submitted which outlines:
- (a) the full family circumstances of the child;
 - (b) the social education background of the child;
 - (c) the behaviour that is giving rise to concern with evidence of the child's specific actions;
 - (d) the extent of work already undertaken by education and social welfare agencies to assist the child and family in managing the behaviour that is causing concern;
 - (e) the response of the child and family to the intervention;
 - (f) what the care plan for the child will be if the order is made;
 - (g) what contingency plans there are if the order proves unsuccessful
- 11 Although lodged in the Family Proceedings Court these will not be specified proceedings for the purposes of section 41 of the Children Act 1989 and as such a Guardian (CAFCASS Officer) will not be appointed.
- 12 The child's parent or guardian is a party to the proceedings and is required to attend the court. Parent is as defined by the Family Law Reform Act 1987 that is either the child's natural parent whether or not they were married to each other at the time of the child's birth. Guardian is as defined in section 107 of the Children and Young Person's Act 1933 and includes any person the court considers has for the time being the care of the child.
- 13 Before making the order the court is required to explain to the parent/guardian, in ordinary language, the effect of the order, the requirements being imposed and the consequences of failure to comply. Usually this will be met by a verbal explanation in court but may be completed by letter if the parent is not in court.

- 14 Any requirements imposed within the order should be in furtherance of dealing with the behaviour that brought the child before the court and in the interests of securing that the child receives appropriate care, protection, support and is subject to proper control.
- 15 Possible requirements could include:
- (a) attendance at school or extra curricula activities such as sporting or homework clubs;
 - (b) avoiding contact with disruptive and possibly older children
 - (c) not visiting areas, such as shopping centres, unsupervised;
 - (d) being home during certain hours, most usually the evening;
 - (e) attending particular courses/sessions to address specific problems or behaviour

ROLE OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

- 16 The responsible officer has to be either a social worker or a member of the YOT. It will be for the court to appoint a designated officer who should be nominated by the local authority as part of their application to the court. The person nominated will usually be drawn from the relevant local Social Services Child Care Management Team. Where the evidence before the court relates to the technical offending behaviour of the child, and the child has not been dealt with substantially by an area care management team, a member of the YOT may be nominated to the court. Decisions about the appropriate person to nominate should be agreed at the planning meeting.
- 17 The primary role of the responsible officer will be to supervise any requirements imposed by the court; to ensure any programme of work detailed in the care plan is implemented; and to monitor and review the child's progress.
- 18 The responsible officer will be required to maintain contact with the child to at least the following minimum National Standards;
- (a) within 5 working days of the order being imposed;
 - (b) to prepare a plan within 10 working days of the order being imposed
 - (c) weekly during the first month of the order
- 19 The plan should set out how the requirements of the ChSO are to be met; how often the responsible officer will meet with the child; what contact and involvement there will be with the parent/guardian; and what the expected outcome of the plan will be.
- 20 The procedures for managing the work of the order will be subject to the Social Services Child Care Management process.

BREACH

- 21 Section 12(6) of the Act allows for circumstances where the child fails to comply with the ChSO to be brought back to the court. It will be for the responsible officer to initiate consideration on the need for breach. This should form part of the normal case management assessment, planning and review mechanisms within Care Management procedures.

Before taking the case back to court a further planning meeting may be necessary to consider what range of options are available to deal with the non-compliance.

- 22 If the court finds that non-compliance is proven it may discharge the ChSO and make a care order under Section 31 of the Children Act 1989 instead, in such circumstances there is no requirement for the court to comply with the conditions in section 31, which limit the making of a care order to those situations where the child is suffering, or likely to suffer significant harm. It is bound by the “no order” principle, and must appoint a Guardian (CAFCASS Officer).

APPENDIX 6:



---CONFIDENTIAL---

Children and Young People's Sexual Harm and Safeguarding Panel INFORMATION SHARING FORM

Name of Person		MALE	FEMALE
Age/DOB		CR Number	
Address			

Nature of Concern			
Sexual Harm/Exploitation People Trafficking Other	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Substance Misuse Absent without Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Agencies Involved (Tick agency and state name of worker involved)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Police : State name of worker here <input type="checkbox"/> Prison : <input type="checkbox"/> Probation : <input type="checkbox"/> Social Services :	<input type="checkbox"/> Education : <input type="checkbox"/> Health : <input type="checkbox"/> Housing : <input type="checkbox"/> Other :		

Description of Concern

Name of Referrer			
Job Title		Organisation	
Address			
Contact No.		Email Address	

Appendix 7: References

HO/DOH/NAW (May 2000) Guidance "Safeguarding Children Involved in Prostitution"

DOH (1989) "The Children Act" HMSO

NAW(2000) "Framework For The Assessment of Children in Need and their Families."

HO/DOH "Guidance on Children Involved in Prostitution"

Lambeth Social Services Department "Protocol for Children Involved in Prostitution"

DOH/NAW (2000). "The Human Rights Act "HMSO

DOH (1998) "The Data Protection Act "HMSO

The Children's Society (1996) "Child Prostitution in Britain"

The Children's Homes (Wales) Regulations 2002

National Minimum Standards for Children's Homes Care Standards Act 2000

The Sexual Offences Act 2003

Safeguarding Children: Working Together Under the Children Act 2004

All Wales Protocol (October 2008) "Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children who are at Risk of Abuse through Sexual Exploitation"