

# Essex Child Sexual Exploitation Arrangements

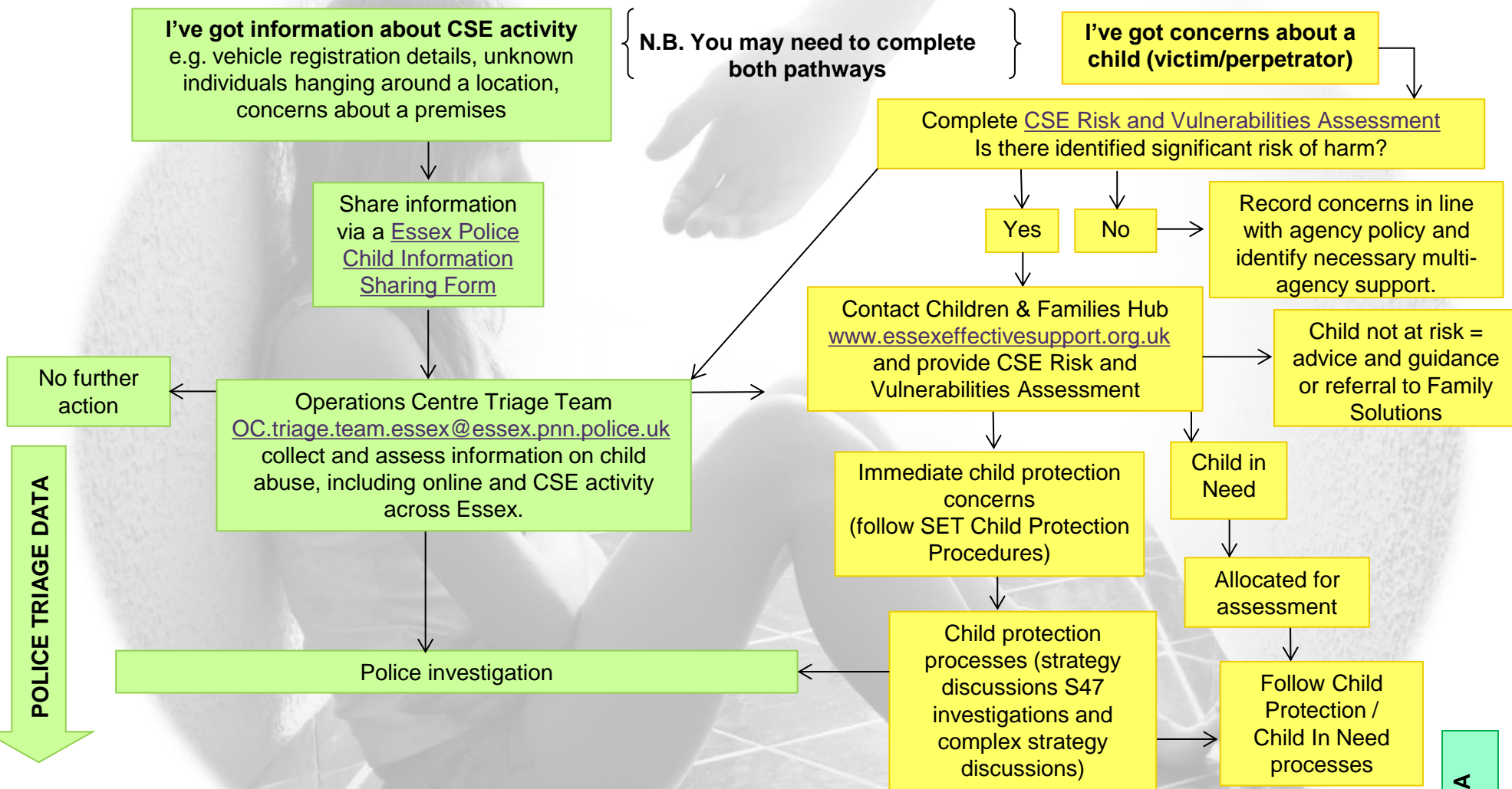
## DEFINITION

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology. (Home Office Definition for 2017)

## INDICATORS OF CSE (For more information see SET CSE Risk and Vulnerabilities Assessment)

- ❖ You may notice a change in a young person's behaviour, they may be disruptive or hostile, and associating with older men or women.
- ❖ Their health or mental health might change, for example you may notice marks or scars which they try to conceal or increased health / sexual related problems.
- ❖ Their behaviour might change and you may notice them concealing their use of the internet, exclusion from school or unexplained absences and sexualised risk-taking, including on the internet or mobiles, or association with gangs.
- ❖ Their possessions may change including having unexplained amounts of money, credit, gifts, having multiple phones, sim cards and possession of hotel keys or keys to unknown premises.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REFER TO FULL ESSEX CSE & MISSING ARRANGEMENTS ON WWW.ESCB.CO.UK



**CRITERIA FOR MACE:** Children and young people known to be being exploited, those who are considered our most vulnerable to CSE due to missing episode(s), children and young people assessed as **HIGH RISK** to exploitation (including sexual exploitation).

**Missing and Child Exploitation (MACE) Meetings** ( A meeting held in 4 quadrants; Mid, North, South and West)

**MACE part 1 (monthly):** Focus on individual case discussion. Provides opportunity for multi-agency senior management oversight and comment for our most vulnerable young people, considers plans, further disruption opportunities and collection of evidence to support prosecutions

**MACE part 2 (bi-monthly):** Considers wider operational activity necessary to tackle CSE threats through analysing local trends, patterns and hotspots. Responsible for building a local problem profile to better understand what threats exist locally and how these can be managed.

### ESCB Child Exploitation & Missing Sub-Committee

This Sub-Committee oversees the statutory functions of local agencies to drive forward work across Essex around Child Exploitation and Missing. This multi-agency strategic group reports directly to the ESCB and it is responsible for overseeing a Multi-Agency Child Exploitation and Missing Action Plan.

### District Councils (DC) & Community Safety Partnerships (CSP)

Local Councils have a range of functions such as housing, anti-social behaviour and nuisance, licensing, environmental health, which should all be considered in effectively tackling local threats of CSE. DC regulatory powers can be used to detect, disrupt, and in the collation of evidence, to support prosecutions. Each District has a CSP who has a statutory responsibility to develop and produce crime and disorder reduction strategies. CSPs can support in local community engagement, including supporting victims and their families and awareness raising projects. Representatives from DCs and CSPs attend quadrant MACE meetings.

### Stay Safe Groups

Leads for Partnership Delivery attend quadrant MACE Part 2 meetings, this provides the mechanism for themes to be shared to support, training and develop the wider workforce.