City of Stoke-on-Trent

Child Exploitation Risk Factor Matrix

CONFIDENTIAL

Staffordshire County Council

Initial Completion – Please Complete all sections
Review – Please update Information Sharing, Current risk/Consent (Section A), ensure Child's Information is updated (Section B) plus relevant review section (SECTION E)
Emergency Services Staff– Please complete Information sharing, Current Risk/Consent (SECTION A), Child's Information (SECTION B) plus Current Concerns only (SECTION D)

PLEASE NOTE THE RFM IS NOT A REFERAL TO CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE – REFERALS SHOULD BE MADE VIA **THE CHILDREN'S ADVICE AND DUTY TEAM FOR STOKE on Trent 01782-235100** AND FOR **STAFFORDSHIRE THE CHILDRENS ADVICE AND SUPPORT SERVICE ON 0300 111 8007**

Information Sharing - This section MUST be completed by all agencies

ALL LOW RISK FORMS MUST HAVE CONSENT BEFORE INFORMATION CAN BE SHARED
Please see guidance notes for support around information sharing

Has the child given consent for the information held within this matrix to be shared with Catch22 and any other agreed support services?	Yes - I have made the child aware	
	Yes - Another professional has made the child aware (please give details below)	
	No – The child has not been made aware – Information is being shared in the interest of safeguarding children	

Comments:	

Has a referral to Catch22 or other support services been made?	No	Yes	**Date of referral**	(Enter date)

Have the child's parents/carers been made aware that a referral to Catch22 is being made?	Yes - I have made them aware	
	Yes - Another professional has made them aware (please give details below)	
	No – They have not been made aware – Information is being shared in the interest of safeguarding children	

Comments:	

SECTION A - Current Risk/Consent:

Date of Completion:		Risk Type (CSE/CCE/Dual):		Risk level:	
Child's Views (what are their thoughts on this form being completed? Do they believe themselves to be at risk of exploitation?					

SECTION B - Child's Information:

Name:		D.O.B:		Ethnicity:		Gender:	
Address:				Primary Risk (CSE/CCE/Other):			Choose an item.
Parent/Child Contact details:							
Sexual Identity:				Nationality:		Disability (If any):	
Current Living Situation:	Choose an item.			Education / Employment / Training:	Choose an item.	Education / Training / Employment Setting:	
Legal Status:				Special Educational Needs (if any):			

SECTION C - Details of professional completing the form:

Name:		Contact telephone number:	
Role/Agency:			
Email address:		Date Initial form completed:	
Have partner agencies been consulted to complete this form?		List of agencies Involved (please ensure you name allocated workers in this section along with	

		any known contact details):	

SECTION D - Outline of Current Concern:

Strengths (what's working well) and **protective factors** (parenting capacity; supportive family and environmental factors; positive social networks; developmental needs being met)	**What are you worried about?** **Please include the names of anyone you believe may be linked to your exploitation concerns.** **Are they friends, relatives or rivals?** (Please provide as much information here as you can to assist with identification of other children who may be at risk of exploitation, or those who pose a risk to children)

From the indicators on the next pages, Mark an (X) by either 0,1,2,3 or 4 on each of the categories which best describes the current situation for the child. Please add these scores at the end to give an indication of risk.

When completing the Risk Factor Matrix:

- Complete the RFM as soon as risk is identified, ideally with the child present and engaged.
- Give as much detail as possible around why indicators have been selected in the comment's boxes provided; including sources of information, whether suspected or observed and whether recent or non-recent.
- When selecting risk level, if you are unsure please consult with appropriate partner agencies or seek managerial/supervisory support.
- It is recommended that the form is completed electronically for ease of review.

1. Episodes of missing from home/care/school		X	Multi-agency Evidence
0	▪ No missing episodes.		Consider the number of times missing? Where do they go? Who are they with? What are they doing? Why do they go? Is parent/carer aware of missing episodes/whereabouts? Does the parent/carer report child as missing? Are they with people of concern, any child warning abduction notices served? **Please ensure Missing Intervention Meetings have been completed for 3,5 & 9 as per Missing Policy.**
1	▪ Stays out late, no missing episodes. ▪ Parents not aware where their child is or who they are with for long periods of the day		
2	▪ Occasionally goes missing, whether for short or prolonged episodes		
3	▪ Frequent and short missing episodes		
4	▪ Frequent and prolonged missing episodes Found in Areas where there is no connection Believed to have missing episodes which are not being reported		

2. Education/Employment/Training Attendance:		X	Multi-agency Evidence
0	▪ Engaged / re-engaged in education or training ▪ In work or actively seeking employment ▪ Child has not been identified as having a learning need or SEND & Parent/Carer actively supports child		Any current or previous prosecution for school attendance? What is their attendance? Any change in attitude to attending education? Details of SEND or EHCP? Is support in place? Any fixed term/permanent exclusions? Also consider any multiple schools moves as a possible vulnerability.
1	▪ Is participating in education but attendance is a concern ▪ Parent/Carer engaging to improve attendance. ▪ Concerns raised by professionals and consideration being made to assess learning need /SEND ▪ Parent/Carer actively supports child's learning need		
2	▪ Is on a reduced timetable, or is persistently absent		

	▪ Sudden noticeable change in attendance, performance or behaviour at school. Parent/Carer's engagement with services to improve attendance but no evidence of improvement. ▪ Child undergoing pathway/diagnosed with SEND		
3	▪ Child is not attending school or is a NEET, child is showing an interest in accessing opportunities ▪ Parent/carer showing limited engagement ▪ Child undergoing pathway/ diagnosed with SEND or receiving support		
4	▪ Child is not attending school or is a NEET ▪ Shows no interest in accessing educational or training opportunities / No engagement from parent/carer. ▪ Child diagnosed with SEND or not receiving/accepting support		
3. Social Media/Internet Usage		**X**	**Multi-agency Evidence**
0	▪ No concerns around internet usage		Details of any Apps used? Has the child got multiple accounts online? Are passwords hidden? Consider if they have been requested to send/receive any inappropriate content such as sexualised images.
1	▪ Some understanding of online safety but not able to apply knowledge to keep themselves safe		
2	▪ Young person receives texts / calls from unknown or concerning people. Young person has become more secretive about internet usage. In possession of a mobile phone which parent / carer have no or only limited knowledge of. ▪ Young person contacted by unknown adults (male or female) in person or online/phone – any format e.g. Chat Rooms, Messaging Service, Forums, Social Media, Text.		
3	▪ Young person targeted online for exploitation ▪ Internet use problematic in relation to coercion and control – e.g. sites, forums promoting eating disorders, self-harm etc.		

4	▪ Young person has been exploited online and/or mobile technology. Young person plans to meet face to face person they know online. Multiple phone/regular changing phones and/or sim cards. ▪ DOLS in place regarding social media/internet usage.		
4. Accommodation & Home Relationships:		**X**	**Multi-agency Evidence**
0	▪ Child is satisfied with accommodation / home / No concerns from professionals ▪ Positive relationships and good communication ▪ Age appropriate boundaries & routines set & adhered to		Who does the young person reside with? Housing provider? Extent of overcrowding? Arrears? Any financial difficulties? Any known / suspected domestic abuse? Any recent deaths in the family?
1	▪ Child is generally satisfied with accommodation / home /Meets most of the child's needs - Some concerns about longer term stability ▪ Some mutual understanding and positive relationships. ▪ Age appropriate boundaries & routines set but not always adhered to		
2	▪ Unstable or unsuitable accommodation. ▪ Sudden negative change in quality of relationship, poor communication, strained relationship ▪ Parent/Carer starting to show signs of not having capacity to input & maintain boundaries / consequences and challenge behaviour		
3	▪ Frequent placement changes ▪ Poor or negative communication with young person not responding to boundaries, routines or consequences ▪ Historic abuse / neglect in family / Family Disorganisation ▪ Lack of positive role model		
4	▪ Homeless / unknown whereabouts ▪ Current / suspected abuse / neglect in the family ▪ Poor communication, limited warmth, attachment or trust. ▪ Age appropriate boundaries not implemented and negative behaviour not recognised – parent/carer does not have the capacity to respond		
5. Peer/Adult Association:		**X**	**Multi-agency Evidence**

0	▪ Engaged in positive activities/positive role models ▪ May have some contact with vulnerable peers but has other positive networks		Are they associating with older friends/ adults who may be exposing them to activities of concerns, or activities too old for their age?
1	▪ Some awareness of criminal activity in their area ▪ Surrounds self with mostly age appropriate and positive peers but starting to disengage		
2	▪ Starting to associate with problematic peer group ▪ Coming to the attention of services, low level ASB ▪ Friends/peers victims of CSE/CCE		
3	▪ Is engaging in ASB and is known to services ▪ Peers who are using substances / known by criminal justice agencies or equally, secrecy around peers		
4	▪ Associating with known criminal / gun crime nominals or people who pose a risk to children, links to Organised Crime ▪ Child is or is suspected to be involved in a gang/group		
6. Misuse of substances:		**X**	**Multi-agency Evidence**
0	▪ No concerns		Where do they use substances? How do they fund it? Who with? Type / class of substance? Concerns around peer influences?
1	▪ Some concerns about drugs or alcohol (or cigarettes in younger children), started to associate with negative peer influence where substance use is suspected.		
2	▪ Suspected problematic substance use ▪ Increasing concerns around substance use		
3	▪ Substance use known & part of daily life, unclear how this is financed ▪ Sporadic engagement with support services		
4	▪ Child is dependent on alcohol / drugs ▪ Found in possession of class A substances ▪ Suspected of the movement & selling of drugs		

	▪ Obtains drugs from older peers / family members ▪ Not engaging with support services		
7. Ability to identify exploitive behaviour:		**X**	**Multi-agency Evidence**
0	▪ Child has a good understanding of exploitative behaviour and can use it to keep themselves safe		Evidence of understanding and young person's ability to keep themselves safe, for example the completion of interventions.
1	▪ Reasonable understanding of exploitative behaviour ▪ Able to somewhat apply knowledge to keep themselves safe		
2	▪ Some understanding of exploitative behaviour ▪ Can recognise risks but unable to apply to themselves to keep safe		
3	▪ Very limited recognition of exploitative behaviour and unable to keep themselves safe		
4	▪ No recognition of exploitative behaviour ▪ Child's carer cannot identify or recognise the risk of exploitation		
8. Further evidence of Exploitation/Trafficking/Modern Day Slavery		**X**	**Multi-agency Evidence**
0	▪ No concerns raised		What are the concerns? What support is in place? Has consideration of trafficking offences been considered? Has an NRM been considered?
1	▪ Offences committed ▪ Evidence of inappropriate sexualised behaviour and language ▪ Items have gone missing from the home ▪ Unevidenced concerns of potential for grooming ▪ Engaging in sexualised risk taking (including the internet) ▪ Over sexualised appearance – explain what this is and if this has been a recent change.		

2	▪ Frequenting known locations that have concerns of Child Exploitation ▪ Multiple callers (unknown adults/older young people) ▪ Child having extra money or new items that cannot be legitimately accounted for ▪ Concerns of grooming ▪ Susceptible to grooming – explain why! ▪ Previous victim of CSE/CCE		
3	▪ Other things unusual for the child previous Child Exploitation concerns ▪ Associating / relationship with adults who encourage emotional dependence, loyalty and isolation from safe relationship ▪ Dependency upon alleged perpetrator(s) – money, housing, food, transport, company etc. ▪ Is the country of origin or pathway to the UK concerning or vague?		
4	▪ People demanding money for drug debts - Affiliation with a group or gang family or young person has had to move or leave their home ▪ Evidence that s/he is coerced to recruit other children ▪ Young person may be carrying a weapon or hiding a weapon or connection with firearms ▪ Injuries – Physical or Sexual Sudden change in behaviour/ appearance. Possession of hotel/addresses - keys / cards ▪ Reports of being taken to hotels, nightclubs or out of the area by unknown adults. Entering / leaving vehicles with adults ▪ Has a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) been completed? ▪ Is there evidence that the child has been bought/sold?		
9. Mental Health / Physical Health Concerns		**X**	**Multi-agency Evidence**
0	▪ No known physical or mental health needs identified via assessment process/disclosure/professional knowledge		Evidence of self-harm and mental health? Services being offered?

1	▪ Known to health services, some missed appointments ▪ Universal health/support services accessed		
2	▪ Some physical and mental health concerns ▪ Increased need to access health appointments ▪ Targeted health services support accessed and parent/carer engaging		
3	▪ Frequent use of health services ▪ Decline in physical and mental health wellbeing ▪ Sporadically accessing support services – parent/carer not fully engaged		
4	▪ Diagnosed illness or mental health condition ▪ Missed appointments/ support services not accessed ▪ Parent/carer not engaging with services ▪ Regular hospital admissions/treatments		
10. Risk to Others		**X**	**Multi-agency Evidence**
0	▪ No concerns about placing others at risk.		What are the risks? Risk of serious harm to others?
1	▪ Reduced concerns about influence on others.		
2	▪ Some concerns raised about influence on others.		
3	▪ Concerns raised that young person may be exposing others to risk		
4	▪ Places others at risk.		
11. Sexual Health		**X**	**Multi-agency Evidence**
0	▪ No concerns re: sexual health		Have there been any disclosures made by the child/associates? Have any concerns been reported to health/police? Have CP Medicals been considered?
1	▪ Is sexually active and in an equal consensual relationship with a peer.		

2	▪ Some sexual health concerns and engaging with sexual health services, past pregnancy scares		
3	▪ Sexually active but is not engaging with any sexual health services. Pregnancy/terminations		
4	▪ Sex is non-consensual. Child feels pressured to have sex or to engage in sexual acts in exchange for status/protection, possessions, or substances or affection. Child has many sexual partners /many tests for STIs or pregnancy. Child is under the age of 13 and cannot consent.		
12. Ability to Safeguard – Parent/Carer		**X**	**Multi-agency Evidence**
0	▪ Parent/carer recognises risks and will report young person as missing. They have a good knowledge of exploitation.		Please be aware that criminal exploitation can occur during the day too, so knowledge of whereabouts during this time is important also, not just at night.
1	▪ Parent/carer will mostly report young person as missing ▪ Parent/carer has some knowledge of exploitation		
2	▪ Parent/carer needs to be prompted to report young person as missing ▪ Parent/carer has limited understanding of exploitation ▪ Parent/carer is engaging or asking for support from services		
3	▪ Parent/carer fails to report young person as missing ▪ Parent/carer struggles to understand the risk around missing and exploitation ▪ Sporadic or limited engagement with services		
4	▪ Parent/carer doesn't have knowledge of exploitation ▪ Parent /carer fails to report young person as missing and to recognise the risk of missing episodes ▪ Disengagement from services		
13. Substance Use, Physical & Mental Health and Criminality in Parents/Carers/Family		**X**	**Multi-agency Evidence**

0	▪ No concerns		Is there Domestic Violence? Where do they use substances? How do they fund it? Type / class of substance? How do they fund it? Type / class of substance? What are the health concerns? Further details of criminality? How do these factors impact upon young person
1	▪ Parent/carers/wider family acknowledges concerns and are addressing the concerns		
2	▪ Parent/carers/wider family acknowledge concerns but refuse to seek treatment or support		
3	▪ Parent/carers/wider family do not acknowledge concerns and refuse to seek treatment or support		
4	▪ Evidence suggests parental/sibling/wider family involvement in guns, gangs or drugs supply or historical/current exploitation of others ▪ Parent/carer/sibling/wider family involved in the exploitation of a child		
14. Parent/Carer engagement with appropriate services		X	Multi-agency Evidence
0	▪ Good engagement		Disguised compliance? Highly resistant family?
1	▪ Reasonable engagement, regular contact		
2	▪ Some engagement with services, occasional contact.		
3	▪ Brief engagement with service: early stages or sporadic contact		
4	▪ Not engaging with service / no contact		

	Indicator	Score
1	Episodes of missing from home / care / school	
2	Education / Employment / Training Attendance	
3	Social Media / Internet Usage	
4	Accommodation & Home Relationships	
5	Peer/Adult Association	
6	Misuse of Substances	
7	Ability to Identify Exploitive Behaviour	
	Total Indicator score (A):	

	Indicator	Score
8	Further Evidence of Exploitation	
9	Mental Health / Physical Health Concerns	
10	Risk to Others	
11	Sexual Health	
12	Ability to Safeguard – Parent/Carer	
13	Substance Use, Physical and Mental Health and Criminality – Parent/Carers/Family	
14	Parent/Carers Engagement	
	Total Indicator score (B):	

	Score
Assessment Score (A+B):	

RAG Rating	Threshold	X
Low – risk of Exploitation is Possible	0-24	☐
Medium – Risk of exploitation is likely – signs but no evidence of exploitation	25-40	☐
High – risk of exploitation is very likely – signs and clear evidence of exploitation.	40+	☐

Professional Judgement (Scoring section)

Once you have completed all the sections above – please consider if you think the level indicated by the scores matches your concerns based on Professional judgement. If you feel there is a lack of evidence however the risk may be higher/lower than indicated by the scoring sections for Low/Medium/High, detail below whether you agree with the score or whether you will override this.

Low	Choose an item.	If yes, Why?
Medium	Choose an item.	If yes, Why?
High	Choose an item.	If yes, Why?

SECTION E – Review 1 of Child Exploitation RFM

Risk Level at last assessment:	Choose an item.	Risk Type at last assessment:	Choose an item.	Date of this Review:	19/10/2021
Are there any new friends/relatives/rivals we need to know about re: current					

exploitation concerns? Have any agencies started to work with the child?	
How have risks changed since the RFM was last completed?	

What do you think is the current level for risk of exploitation?	Choose an item.	What type of risk?:	Choose an item.

SECTION E – Review 2 of Child Exploitation RFM

Risk Level at last assessment:	Choose an item.	Risk Type at last assessment:	Choose an item.	Date of this Review:	

Are there any new friends/relatives/rivals we need to know about re: current exploitation concerns? Have any agencies started to work with the child?	
How have risks changed since the	

RFM was last completed?			
What do you think is the current level for risk of exploitation?	Choose an item.	What type of risk?:	Choose an item.

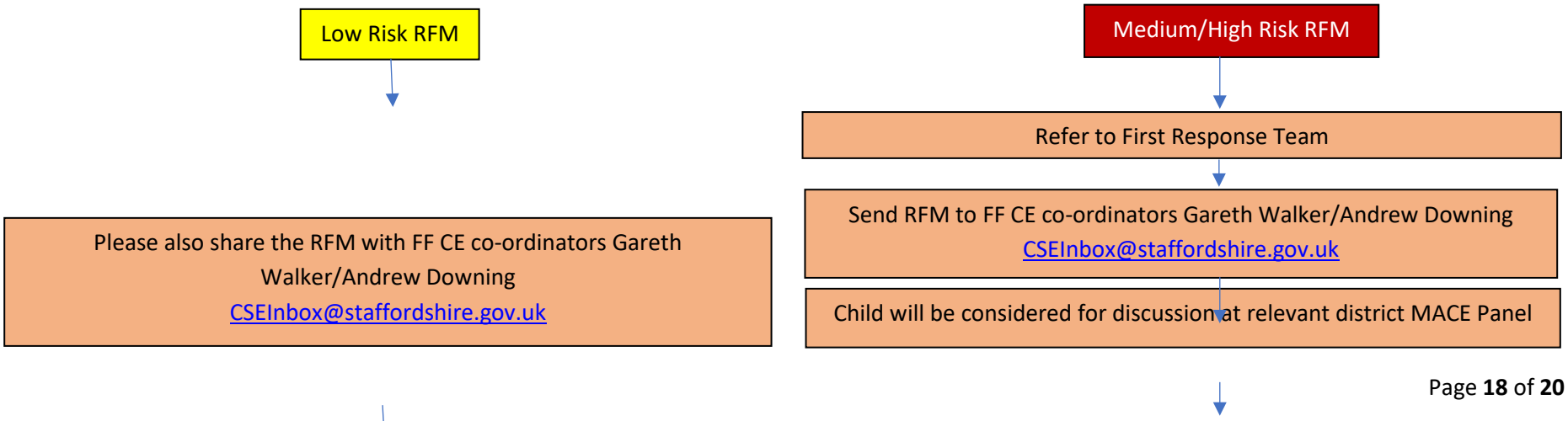
SECTION E – Review 3 of Child Exploitation RFM

Risk Level at last assessment:	Choose an item.	Risk Type at last assessment:	Choose an item.	Date of this Review:	
Are there any new friends/relatives/rivals we need to know about re: current exploitation concerns? Have any agencies started to work with the child?					
How have risks changed since the RFM was last completed?					

What do you think is the current level for risk of exploitation?	Choose an item.	What type of risk?:	Choose an item.

Referral Pathway following completion of the RFM – **Staffordshire**

* Please note Stoke-on-Trent Referral pathway can be found on the next page



Consider making a referral by sending this RFM to Catch22 for CSE/CCE or YOT Prevention for CCE

Catch22 CSE Team *Catch22cse@catch-22.org.uk*

Catch 22 CCE Team catch22cce@catch-22.org.uk

YOS Prevention *staffordshire-yot-prevention-east@staffordshire.gov.uk*
staffordshire-yot-prevention-north@staffordshire.gov.uk

tion of the RFM – **Stoke-on-Trent**

Low Risk RFM

Consider making a referral by sending this RFM to Catch22 for CSE (also CCE Team if chi Medium/High Risk RFM *YOS)*

Catch22 CSE Team *Catch22cse@catch-22.org.uk*

Refer to SRT

Send RFM to CSE Coordinator – Angela Davenhill

Angela.davenhill@stoke.gov.uk

ChildExploitation@stoke.gov.uk

Child will be considered for discussion at relevant MACE Meeting

Please also share the RFM with CSE Coordinator – Angela Davenhill

Angela.davenhill@stoke.gov.uk

ChildExploitation@stoke.gov.uk

Consider making a referral by sending this RFM to Catch22 for CSE/CCE or YOT Prevention for CCE.

Catch22 CSE Team Catch22cse@catch-22.org.uk

Catch 22 CCE Team catch22cce@catch-22.org.uk

YOS Prevention youth.offending.services@stoke.gov.uk

Information relating to actual or suspected Child Exploitation may be shared when it is reasonable to believe that doing so will prevent a crime and or safeguard children. To assure a co-ordinated response that fully addresses safeguarding concerns relating to child exploitation, and ensure appropriate support and interventions can be accessed, all relevant data should be shared and considered, as permitted within the stipulations of the Data Protection Act

Consider making a referral by sending this RFM to Catch22 for CSE (also CCE Team if child not currently working with YOS)

Catch22 CSE Team Catch22cse@catch-22.org.uk

Catch 22 CCE Team catch22cce@catch-22.org.uk