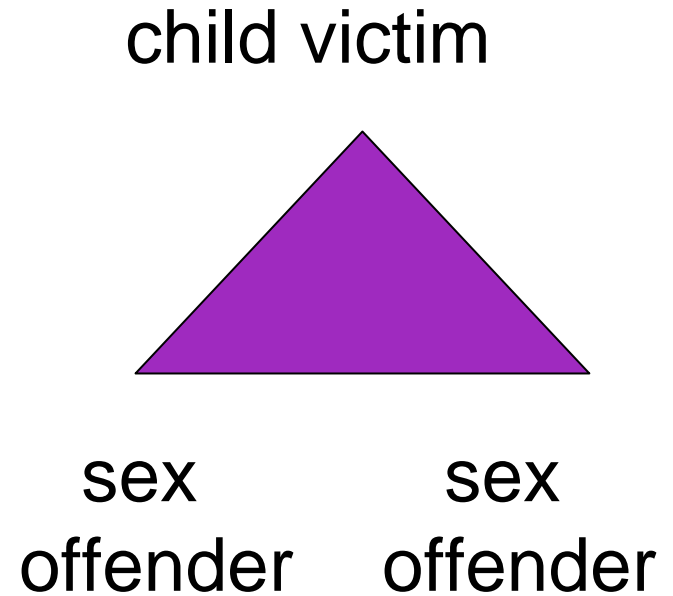
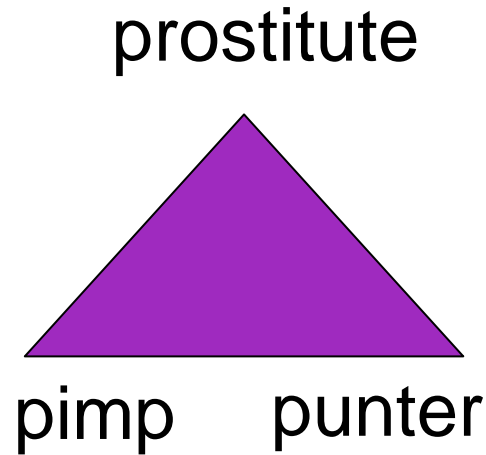
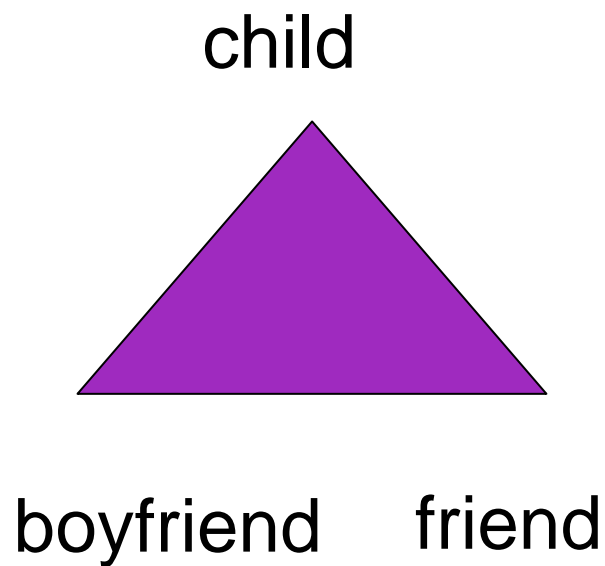


Sexual Exploitation

**13.1.2011 Nottingham and
Nottinghamshire Safeguarding
Children Boards Seminar.**

Shift in national policy in 2000 illustrated by 'Barnardo's Triangles'



Working Together 2010,

- Agencies should work together to
 - Recognise the problem
 - Treat the child primarily as victim of abuse
 - Safeguard the children involved and promote their welfare
 - Work together to prevent abuse and provide children with opportunities and strategies to exit from prostitution; and
 - Investigate and prosecute those who coerce, exploit and abuse children

Principles of 2009 National and our own local guidance

- **Shared responsibility**
 - Effective joint working between agencies and practitioners that work with children and young people and those who work with adults
 - underpinned by strong management commitment and effective LSCB coordination
- **Integrated approach**
 - Assessed within context of wider range of support and services available
- **Child-centred approach**
 - Focussed in individual needs of the children and young people involved many of whom may have difficulty distinguishing between their own choices about sex and relationships and the activities which they are coerced into

Principles of 2009 National and our own local guidance

- **Proactive approach**
 - focussed on prevention, early identification and intervention alongside disrupting activity and prosecuting perpetrators
- **Taking account of family circumstances**
 - Parents require support asking for help should be seen as sign of responsibility rather than as a failure
- **Children's rights to be protected**
 - CSE should not be regarded as criminal behaviour by the child, but as abuse of the child

Good practice

- Relationship based practice with child, parents and other professionals
- Making teams around child
- Persistent and creative
- Understanding the effects of stigmatising of young people on work with them
- Ability to observe and recognise signs of concern, and analyse and discuss
- Knowledge of procedure
- Support for staff and assertive practice in building inter-agency cooperation
- Coordination at management level

Exploitation in context

- May sexually exploited young people also experience physical abuse, domestic abuse, and neglect
- Often is hard to find out exactly what is going on especially if we rely on young people to tell us
- Other key guidance
- Missing
- E Safety
- Self harm
- Safeguarding children from abroad

Sexual Abuse Working Together 2010

- Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example rape, or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual online images, watching sexual activities or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

Definition of sexual exploitation from Government Guidance 2009

- Set out in 3 slides as it is a long definition
- Sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive ‘something’ (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities.

Recent Barnardos figures 2010

- Problems establishing data and exact numbers
- Approximately 1000 children in London
- Fewer than 20% may be in receipt of any specialist services
- They currently work with approx 609 children and young people nationally
- Dedicated projects round the country
- Missing is a key indicator of sexual exploitation
- Sheffield recent figures show 30 % children are Looked After and 70% living at home

Barnardo's approach

- Access
- Attention
- Assertive outreach
- Advocacy

Derby Serious Case Review

- Early life experiences were the reason for later vulnerability to sexual exploitation
- Opportunities to intervene early and build resilience missed
- Staff did not recognise significance of behaviour as it was viewed as rebellious
- Gaps in inter-agency working and communication
- Lack of knowledge by staff in terms of indicators of abuse
- Assessment not holistic
- How and in what ways were the views of the young people understood
- Planning was not effective

Assessment and Planning

- **starting to be missing** from education and or home, going to places of concern, being seen with older people, showing signs of gifts or access to resources
- **Swapping and regularly going missing**, involved with other vulnerable peers, going to known places of concern, developing problem of drug or alcohol use, 'swapping' sex for things eg place to stay, experiencing violence
- **Entrenched** in one or a number of abusive relationships, contact with known perpetrators, going missing and running from home, problem alcohol or drug use, experience of violence, intimidation and fear

At risk

- Increasing time on networking sites
- Accessing dating agencies via mobile
- Unexplained increased mobile/gaming credit
- New contacts out of area/older
- Less time with previous friends
- Online in night
- Secretive
- Unwilling to share on line contacts
- Concern that online friendship has developed into offline one
- Concern that inappropriate images are being circulated

Swapping

- Arranging to meet people they met online
- Exchange of images for gaming knowledge or credit
- Gifts, place to stay, substances as disinhibitor
- Concerns about relationships with older people and people online
- Concerns that yp is being coerced to provide images
- Sharing of inappropriate images with friends
- Missing

Selling

- Concern yp is being bribed for activity online
- Selling images via internet
- Drawn into increasingly provocative, sexualised images online
- Negotiating price online
- Selling services via internet
- Missing

Key words

- Consent
 - Extent to which this is constrained by circumstances, eg emotional vulnerability, physical need eg for food or a place to stay, or alcohol/drugs
 - 2003 Sexual Offences Act makes grooming, arranging and perpetrating sexual exploitation an offence up to 18
- ‘Relationship’ language can obscure
- ‘Choice’ – yp often feel they are making choices
- ‘Boyfriend’, ‘friend’
- Vulnerability and resilience
- What marks it out as exploitation is the imbalance of power in the relationship
- Young person rarely sees self as victim

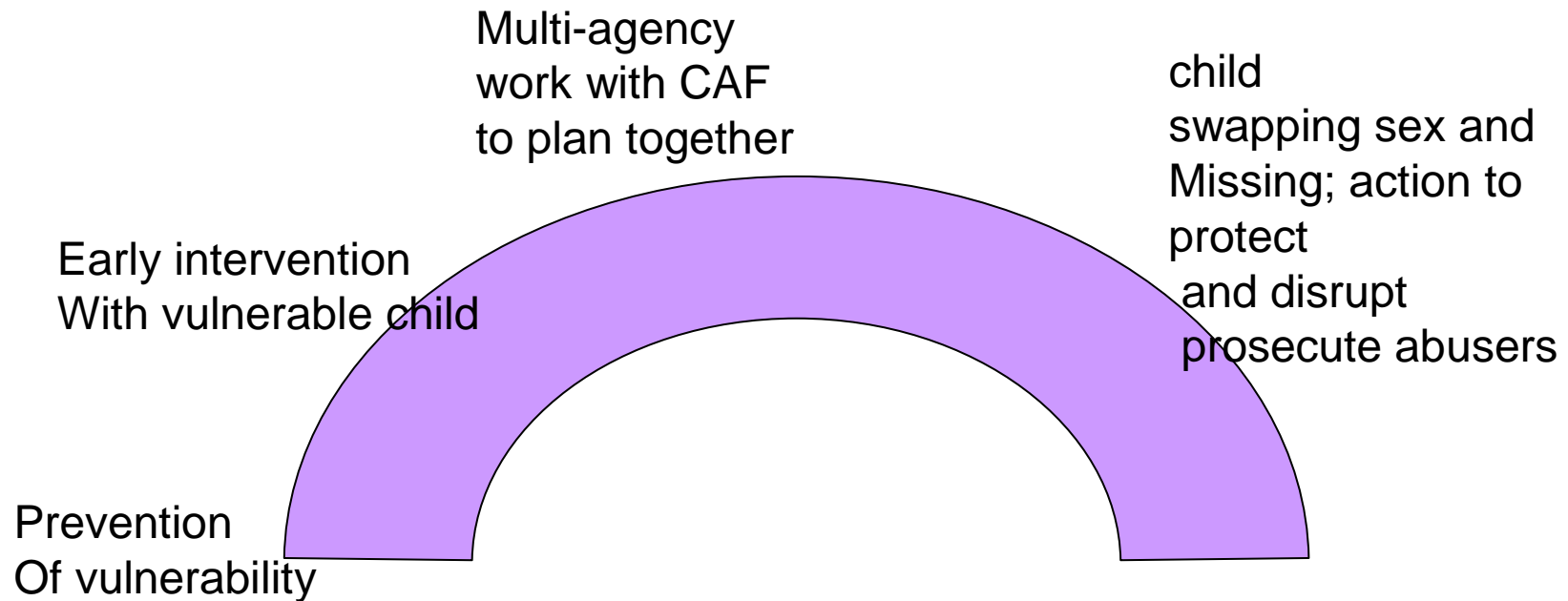
Features

- Varying degrees of coercion, intimidation or enticement, bullying including cyber bullying
- Boys and girls
- Presumption that it is usually by someone they don't know however evidence shows it is usually someone they have some sort of relationship with and over time are groomed into an abusive relationship making it harder to then tell people they feel out of their depth
- Part played by technology, Facebook, mobile phones
- Many adults involved in prostitution had difficult childhoods, domestic violence abuse, neglect and many were coerced into exploitation as children

Recognise the problem; those at risk

- Street Matters Research
- Vulnerability any child but some groups are particularly vulnerable because of previously unmet needs
- These may include
- Young people and children with a history of running away or going missing
- Those with special needs
- Those in and leaving residential or foster care
- Migrant children and unaccompanied asylum seekers
- Those disengaged from education
- Those using drugs or alcohol
- Those involved in gangs
- Those with history of abuse and family problems

Intervene as early as possible



Prevention

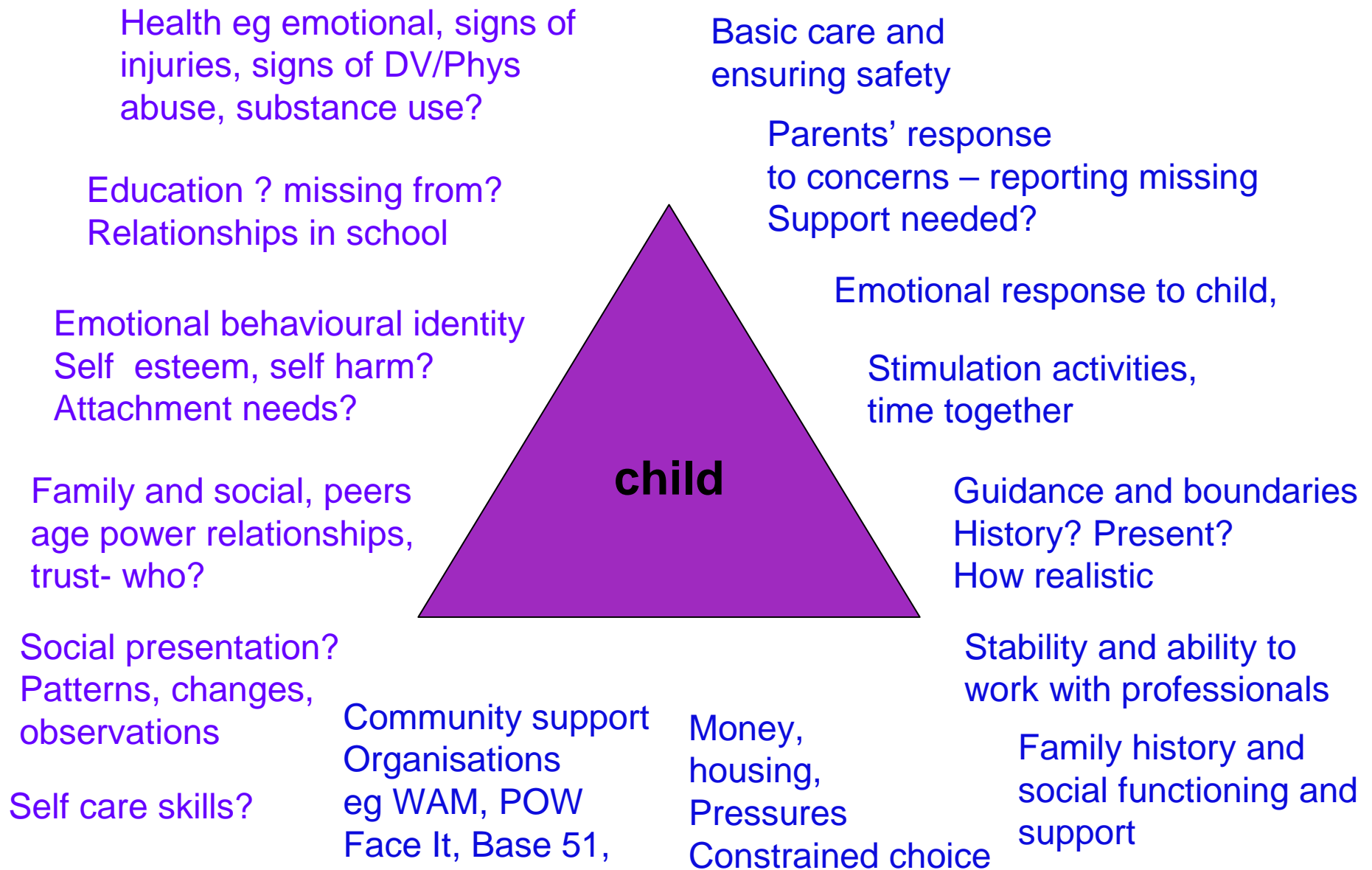
- Positive stable relationships for all young people
- Good education about relationships and sex
- Making sure young people have access to health and sexual health advice
- Awareness of vulnerability and picking up on young people who are vulnerable

Links to being Missing

- What does it mean for a child to go missing
- Running away from
- Running away to
- Treat as significant; prevent habit forming
- Talk and befriend
- Who does the child trust
- Strategy meeting if LAC within 72 hours
- Reporting Missing
- Multi-Agency Meeting
- Return Interview; assess each episode
- Missing from Education

Use of Assessment Framework

- Look at current concerns in context
- Child's views, trust, who is important to him/her
- Child's history
- Friendships and networks
- Response of parents, supportive protective
- Or minimising, not protecting
- Health includes emotional and domestic abuse, signs of physical abuse
- Relationships include age and power issues



Need Chronology of child s history & genogram of friends, acquaintances and family

Factors to take into account

- Age of child, level of maturity and understanding
- Age imbalance in particular where there is significant age difference
- Overt aggression or power imbalance
- Coercion or bribery
- Familial child sex offences
- Behaviour of child/yp eg withdrawn or anxious
- Misuse of substances as dis-inhibitor
- Whether use of substances affects informed choice about any activity
- Any attempts to secure secrecy by sexual partner beyond what would be considered usual in teenage relationship
- Whether child denies or minimises the concerns
- Whether methods used are consistent with grooming
- Whether sexual partner is known by one of the agencies

Grooming Four Stages

- Ensnaring – giving attention, gifts
- Creating dependency- separating and alienation from social networks
- Taking control – dictating all aspects of life
- Total dominance – assuming total power

Importance of use of CAf/Assessment framework

- risk in context with chronology, genogram including friends and family
- Failure to do so leads to inadequate planning to protect the child
- Child's history in detail from all agencies who have known the child
- History of parenting and care received
- Child's emotional history; attachment issues are directly relevant

Who might be involved

- Child, parents, carers,
- School, teacher, school counsellor, EWO
- Health, teenage clinic, school nurse, Face It, GU,
- WAM, CAMHS, STARS, POW, Base 51, NSPCC
- Social Worker
- Residential/foster Care workers
- Police uniformed officers, Beat officer
- Police Sexual Exploitation Unit
- GP
- YOT
- Youth work and Connexions
- CPC/IRO; Looked After RO as well if LAC
- Any other specialists?

Level 1 Actions may include

- Regular Multi-agency meetings building team around child
- Regular phone calls between workers involved discussing progress
- Robust work to address 'missing'; involve those with PR
- Contacting and warning adults not to have child there
- Continued review of assessment and level of risk
- Work to befriend and divert – positive activities, support to maintain in school, youth work and activities to divert
- Work to address health needs, substance use, sexual health
- Work to build resilience of yp and support coping skills of parent
- Work to raise awareness with yp
- Consideration of how to communicate/build rapport
- Activities, artwork, talking, resources eg Barnardos,

Concerns of harm arising from sexual activity

- Cases involving children under 13 years should always be discussed with nominated child protection lead
- Penetrative sex with a child under 13 is classed as rape
- This would be reasonable cause to suspect a child is at risk of significant harm - presumption of report to Children's Social Care
- Strategy meeting to be held for Social Care, Police, Health, Education, and all other agencies possible to support child to discuss appropriate next steps
- Chaired by Child Protection Coordinator or Independent Reviewing Officer and reviewed
- Child and parent's participation to be considered
- Plans to protect, divert, disrupt and consider prosecution

Risk increasing; child may be at risk of significant harm

- Consider referral to Social Care and child protection enquiries under Section 47 1989 Children Act
- Consider consultation with Child Protection Coordinator/Independent Reviewing Officer
- Strategy meeting to formulate plans to further assess, investigate, disrupt activity of adults causing concern, consider criminal investigation if possible
- Warning letters, disruption, information gathering
- Persistent work to maintain and build relationship with yp
- Creative use of services to divert

Gathering Evidence of the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Young People

- Clear evidence is rare
- Parallel work to gather information about any possible adults of concern
- Good coordination at all levels where groups of adults of concern and groups of young people at risk
- Reliance on young person telling you what is going may be unrealistic if they are scared or enmeshed
- The work needs patience, persistence over time
- Working with uncertainty
- Report by Sue Jago and Jenny Pearce

Adults of concern

- Systematically gathering information
- Importance of keeping good records,
- Street names, nick names
- Consider other offences
- Disruption; things may go quiet because of involvement
- Use of MAPPA
- Need to identify adults/other young people
- Links to other authorities
- Often work cross border
- Regularly used venues, know your area
- Young person is not 'in trouble'
- Focus is on tackling the abusers and coercers
- Consider children of adults of concern

CSE meetings

- Immediate safety
- Missing episodes and patterns
- Need clear histories and chronology of child
- S47 and Core assessment
- Need for ICPC and legal orders
- Social Care lead agency responsibility for child protection
- Police lead in investigations
- Focus on forging relationship with child/yp Diversion; building other positive activities
- Parents' involvement
- Disruption of activity; finding out more about those of concern and warning/visiting
- Consideration of possible offences and how to investigate
- Arrangements for coordination of enquiries
- Longer term planning for safety and further meetings

Resources

- National Working Group; www.nationalworkinggroup.co.uk
- NWG have a Boys and Young Mens Forum
- There is also East Midlands network
- Safe and Sound Derby
- UK Human Trafficking Centre Intelligence analysis 01142523891; victim care coordinator; 0114 252 3803; advice 0114 252 3564
- ECPAT UK provides training on safeguarding victims of trafficking
- CEOP; Child Exploitation and Online Protection www.ceop.gov.uk; 0870 000 3344
- Barnardo's; www.barnardos.org.uk
- 'The End of My World' Emma Jackson
- CROP; Coalition for the removal of pimping. 0113 240 3040;
- Anchors In Floating Lives; Interventions with young people sexually abused through prostitution by Margaret Melrose and David Barrett (2004)
- Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation Dcsf (2009); this contains a long list of very useful resources in the appendices, Annex D