



One Minute Guide

Child Exploitation – what has changed?

What has changed

The CSE matrix has now changed to child exploitation matrix to assess both sexual and criminal exploitation – the latest version is available on the LSCB website.

The policy and procedures have been amended to reflect the new MACE process (see MACE one minute guide).

As well as MACE there is also a new police process: CEVT which takes place weekly. CEVT is essentially an information tracker. The purpose of it is to document and grade the vulnerability of children who are exploited utilising key risk indicators, whilst providing a summary of risk for effective management. The CEVT does not hold risk - rather it provides a summary of risk for effective management utilising key risk indicators.

High risk cases from CEVT are referred to CEG (child exploitation group) which is chaired by Erase.

Barnardo's CSE worker will continue one-to-one direct work with children who are at moderate or significant risk of CSE and provide consultation around CCE cases. Work is on-going to identify who will be delivering CCE direct work with children but at the present time it remains the responsibility of the social worker/early help worker with support from Barnardo's.

What has not changed

The new MACE or CEVT process does not and should not replace statutory planning processes such as strategy meetings, child protection conferences or care planning reviews for children looked after.

Why has it changed

To provide a multi-agency professionals view on risk levels and ensure information is shared across agencies.

To provide and ensure objectivity and consistency within Darlington.

To ensure that the needs of children at risk of exploitation are responded to, including managing risk and implementing safety plans.

The review also ensures that the child exploitation risk assessment information form is completed within a timely manner and raises the importance and profile of exploitation within Darlington.

Roles and responsibilities

It is the social worker / early help workers responsibility to submit the risk matrix to MACE via the front door (childrensfrontdoor@darlington.gov.uk) and NOT CEVT.

Risk matrix should be submitted within 72 hours of the concern around exploitation being raised.

The risk matrix must incorporate the views of the child, parents/carers and any other professionals working with the family.

The risk matrix's must have context and narrative to each score that you provide.

When determining the risk level on the matrix the worker needs to analyse all the information available to them and provide a professional judgement, not relying solely on the scoring.

MACE will provide multi-agency information and together with the worker an agreed final decision on risk level will be made.

MACE will update the risk level on LL and finalise the risk matrix on LL. Minutes from the MACE meeting will be uploaded as an attachment in the CE module.

MACE will send any child's risk assessment who has been identified as moderate or significant risk to CEVT.

Review meetings are held on a Tuesday, you will be given the date of the review and the matrix needs to be resubmitted to MACE by 1pm on the Friday before the review meeting.

Matrix's which have not been completed correctly will be returned to the worker with guidance.

Matrix's which are not being completed and submitted on time may need to be raised with management. Where possible cases will still be discussed at MACE to ensure risks are being managed