**Harmful Sexual Behaviour Referral Risk Matrix**

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| **Referral** |  | **Review** |  |

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| **Named worker leading on the Risk Assessment** |  | **Contact Details & Agency** |  | **Date** |  |
| **Authorising line manager** |  | **Contact Details & Agency** |  | **Date** |  |

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| **Child’s full name (+ aliases)** | **D.O.B.** | **Age** | **Home Address** | **LL ID** |
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| **Disability** | **Gender Identity** | **Ethnicity** | **First language** | **Child Legal Status** |
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| * **Child’s Pen Picture / What has happened to this child. Tell us who the child and who is in their network, include the family genogram/ecomap.** |
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**Harmful Sexual Behaviour Referral Risk Matrix**

**The Harmful Sexual Behaviour Referral Risk Matrix is a tool to determine suitability of a child/young person to be discussed at the Sexual Harm Consultation Group. It should be developed alongside with and complimenting any other plan for the young person’s welfare. This does not replace the HSB Procedures already in place and should not be used as a threshold document in relation to level of involvement, this is a referral tool for the Consultation Group. Please use this tool in line with local Safeguarding Partnership Procedures.**

**Professional Assessment of Safeguarding Risk Indicators for Referral to the Sexual Harm Consultation Group**

* The Matrix should be completed by the child or young person’s Social Worker or Key Worker with the input of the child/young person, family and partner agencies. That does not mean that the questions should be directly asked, these should be formatted into family friendly signs of safety best questions.
* All risk indicators should be completed with supporting evidence which is mandatory, think about your mapping or evidence from the harm matrix such as first, last and worst. Consider the impact on the child/young person.
* The heading risk indicators are not exhaustive; they are simply those mostly commonly recognised which may indicate a risk of harmful sexual behaviour; there may be other relevant factors present which require consideration and analysis. One tick in a high-risk box, or several in low-risk may indicate a serious risk, alternatively this might be an indication of other concerns that require addressing via the child’s overall plan, or by accessing other appropriate services. A degree of professional judgement is required when making an overall outcome.
* The risk and vulnerability factors provided against each of the risk indicator headings are also not exhaustive; they are simply prompts for consideration. Consequently, the recorded risk for each of the risk indicators does not necessarily need to correspond with the risk and vulnerability factors highlighted. There may also be two risk indicators relevant to that child based on their own unique circumstances. It is important to provide analysis to evidence how the assessment of an individual risk indicator has been achieved, the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Toolkit should be referred to as supporting evidence where relevant.
* When assessing a child or young person’s risk of harm, it is essential to highlight if the concerns and the information being provided is current or historic. If the concern or information is historic but relevant, it necessary to evidence how this relates to the current assessed risk.

\*Please indicate a level of assesses risk against **ALL** the following risk indicators

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|  | **Risk Indicator – Behaviour** | **Indicator** | **Evidence/Consider information from mapping/harm matrix, first, last, worst** |
| **LOW** | * Some inappropriate sexualised behaviours which are seen within the HSB toolkit as acceptable within the child/young person’s peer group * Sexual behaviours are generally consensual and reciprocal with children of a similar age and development outside of the family * Evidence that the behaviours appear experimental rather than harmful |  |  |
| **MEDIUM** | * Problematic sexualised behaviours within the HSB toolkit which are concerning, developmentally unusual and socially unexpected * No overt elements of victimization * Consent issues unclear, lack of reciprocity * Some levels of compulsivity * Pre-occupation with adult sexual behaviour, talking about sex, nakedness * Child/Young Person has committed a criminal offence which is under investigation by Police |  |  |
| **HIGH** | * Abusive or Violent behaviours within the HSB toolkit where there is clear intent to cause harm to another * Misuse of power, coercion or force used * Significant lack of understanding around consent * Lack of remorse shown towards victim * Physically violent sexual abuse * Violence that is physiologically and/or sexually arousing to the child/young person – sadism * Child/Young Person has committed a criminal offence which is under investigation by Police * Child/Young Person has a history of allegations/offences made * Child/Young Person has a history of cruelty to animals |  |  |

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|  | **Risk Indicator – Child/Young person Characteristics** | **Indicator** | **Evidence/Consider information from mapping/harm matrix, first, last, worst** |
| **LOW** | * Young person is a teenager at an experimental age of development * Child/Young Person has no additional learning needs * Child/Young Person displays good social skills and has a positive peer network * Child/Young Person does not live with any other children or young people * Evidence that the child/young person accepts responsibility for low level behaviours and shows remorse/regret * Child/Young Person has a willingness to change behaviours * Child/Young Person has some difficulties with identity and confusion around sexuality which identify a support need |  |  |
| **MEDIUM** | * Child is pre-adolescent * Child/Young Person is themselves a victim of sexual harm although has support and shown positive understanding around this * Child/Young Person is a victim of some low level physical abuse or neglect * Child/Young Person has some additional learning needs * Child/Young Person displays some difficulties with social skills and has a limited peer network * Child/Young Person has some difficulties with identity and confusion around sexuality which appears problematic and unsupported * Child/Young Person lives with older children or young people |  |  |
| **HIGH** | * Child is pre-adolescent * Child/Young Person is themselves a victim of sexual harm which has gone unsupported * Child/Young Person has suffered significant trauma and has been a victim of physical abuse or neglect resulting in them suffering significant harm * Child/Young Person has significant learning needs making their understanding low * Child/Young Person displays significant difficulties with social skills and has no positive peer network * Child/Young Person has distorted views of sexuality and significant identity difficulties * Child/Young Person lives with younger or vulnerable children or young people * Child/Young Person shares a bedroom with another child |  |  |

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|  | **Risk Indicator – Victim Characteristics/Nature of offence** | **Indicator** | **Evidence/Consider information from mapping/harm matrix, first, last, worst** |
| **LOW** | * This is the child/young person’s first known offence or the acts reported are infrequent and at the low end of the behaviour scale |  |  |
| **MEDIUM** | * Victim is a known person outside of the family to the child/young person * The child/young person is known to have several acts of inappropriate behaviours that are in the problematic area |  |  |
| **HIGH** | * Victim is not known to the child/young person * Victim is a family member * Victim has a learning or physical disability * Evidence of intent and planning in relation to the alleged offence * Physical sexual abuse against more that one victim * The child/young person is known to have several acts of inappropriate behaviours that are in the problematic area |  |  |

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|  | **Risk Indicator – Family and Relationships** | **Indicator** | **Evidence/Consider information from mapping/harm matrix, first, last, worst** |
| **LOW** | * Parents/Carers show warmth, support the child/young person and have positive communication with the child/young person. * Parents/Carers show appropriate understanding of safeguarding based on risk, or show a strong desire to put appropriate safeguards in place and follow guidance but may require some support in this area from professionals involved to build on confidence and understanding * Parents/Carers have a positive family network who demonstrate positive attitudes and behaviours * The young person has positive relationships with family members * Primarily positive friendship groups |  |  |
| **MEDIUM** | * Parents/Carers have a limited support network or Family relationships are strained * Parents/Carers demonstrate their own difficulties in life which may impact on their ability to provide adequate support or safeguards * Parents/Carers lack understanding, tolerance and at times warmth towards the young person. * Parents/Carers struggle to implement rules, boundaries and consequences and require support in this area * Suspected abuse in family (emotional, neglect, physical). |  |  |
| **HIGH** | * Parents/Carers demonstrate their own significant difficulties in life which it is evidenced impacts on their ability to provide adequate support or safeguards * Parents/Carers express anger or blame towards the victims, they deny, minimise or excuse the issues and show little or no insight into the child/young person’s behaviour * Parents/Carers do not acknowledge the behaviour due to religious or cultural beliefs * Parents/Carers struggle to implement rules, boundaries and consequences and despite support provided there is no positive change * Parents/Carers do not engage with professionals or follow advice * Parents/Carers do not report worries * Suspected sexual abuse within the household/family, Family, friends or peers are suspected or known offenders |  |  |

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|  | **Risk Indicator – Professional Support** | **Indicator** | **Evidence/Consider information from mapping/harm matrix, first, last, worst** |
| **LOW** | * All areas of support are in place for the Child/Young Person * Strategy meeting has been held for information sharing and ensure safety * YJS attended strategy meeting or a separate HSB meeting has been held to seek advice/support * AIM assessment has been agreed or discussed with YJS * Referrals made to SARC, The Meadows, Forensic CAMHS, NSPCC, Barnardo’s, or alternative support for therapeutic support and interventions * Full Circle Consultation has been arranged or discussed * Child/Young Person, other children in the home, parents and family network have been involved in support sessions such as “pants work” “safe touch” “online safety” * Resources accessed from Sexual Harm Toolkit * Case discussed at Education Sexual Harm panel * Effective Safety planning in place at home which includes the child/young person, other children in the home, parents, family network * Effective Safety planning in place in school and the community |  |  |
| **MEDIUM** | * Some support has been identified as above but not fully * Advice has been sought from some agencies as listed above but unable to provide support/interventions due to ongoing police investigation or lack of resource available |  |  |
| **HIGH** | * There has been no strategy meeting or HSB meeting held for information sharing, safeguarding or advice * No support/Interventions have been identified * No effective safety planning is in place at home or school |  |  |

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|  | **Risk Indicator – Emotional Wellbeing** | **Indicator** | **Evidence/Consider information from mapping/harm matrix, first, last, worst** |
| **LOW** | * Child/Young Person is generally in good mental health * Low level concerns regarding some low mood, low self-esteem, * Child/Young Person and is accessing support for any impact on their own wellbeing |  |  |
| **MEDIUM** | * Low self-esteem or self-confidence, at times expression of despair. * Internal Self-harm: Cutting, Overdosing, Eating disorder. * Trauma-related symptoms. * Bullying or threatening behaviour, aggression, violent outbursts, offending behaviour. |  |  |
| **HIGH** | * Chronic low self-esteem or self- confidence. * Mental health problems or expression of despair. * Suicidal thoughts or suicide attempts. * External (intensive acting out): Bullying or threatening behaviour, violent outbursts, Offending behaviour. * Dependency on substances or alcohol. * Trauma-related symptoms. * Local community are hostile towards the child/young person creating further isolation * Withdrawn, secretive behaviours * Degrading and derogatory towards others, showing lack of remorse for behaviours |  |  |

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|  | **Risk Indicator – Sexual Health** | **Indicator** | **Evidence/Consider information from mapping/harm matrix, first, last, worst** |
| **LOW** | * Child/Young Person is aware of where to get support and advice when needed, they feel able to speak to parents/carers, a teacher or peers. * Child or young person demonstrates a basic knowledge of sex education * Child or young person has good sexual health |  |  |
| **MEDIUM** | * Child or young person has limited knowledge of sex education * Child or young person has poor sexual health * Young person is sexually active, is not practising safe sex and is not accessing or willing to access support from any sexual health services. * Suspected STI’s or pregnancy |  |  |
| **HIGH** | * Recurring, untreated or multiple STIs. * Miscarriage(s), termination(s), pregnancy. * Child or young person has very poor knowledge of sex education, distorted views of normal sexual relationships * Child or young person has very poor sexual health |  |  |

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|  | **Risk Indicator – Online Activity** | **Indicator** | **Evidence/Consider information from mapping/harm matrix, first, last, worst** |
| **LOW** | * A high volume of friends or followers on social media platforms of a similar age * Child/young person is an adolescent, they have accessed online pornography showing an interest or curiosity |  |  |
| **MEDIUM** | * Child/young person accessing online pornography that includes violence or degradation * Concerns about proactive inappropriate or risky use of the internet and social media, sharing of images, sexting, making contact with adults or peers via social media. * Unknown adults initiating contact with young person via social media. |  |  |
| **HIGH** | * Inadequate privacy settings. * Child/Young Person is pre-adolescent and searching pornography online * Child/young Person has pre-occupation with pornography in particular accessing pornography that includes violence, degradation or child pornography * Concerns about proactive inappropriate or risky use of the internet and social media, dating sites, sharing of images, sexting, making contact with adults or peers via social media despite support in place * Child/Young Person is increasingly exposed to sexual content within the home * Has posted inappropriate language, information or sexual pictures, when asked to by an adult or older peer or unknown person. * Evidence of perpetrating sexualised bullying via the internet/social media |  |  |

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| **Additional Information / Scaling Questions (include scaling from last TAF/Core group ect)** |
| **Voice/views of the child or young person** |
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| **Views of the parent / carer / other agencies** |
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| **Detail current support, family and professional, agencies in place or already explored** |
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| **Any additional relevant information** |
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**What Next**

* On completion of this risk identification tool, please make an initial judgement about the level of risk of harmful sexual behaviour for the child / young person. Please **tick** against your assessed level of risk and discuss this with your Team Manager. The Matrix should be emailed to [sexualharmconsultation group@durham.gov.uk](mailto:sexualharmconsultation%20group@durham.gov.uk) for consideration to be discussed at the Sexual Harm Consultation Group. You should take appropriate action to manage the risks, in accordance with the Local Authority / Safeguarding Partnership procedures.

**Overall Assessed Level of Harmful Sexual Behaviour**

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| **Risk** | **Risk Indicators** | **Indicator** | **Evidence** |
| **Low Risk** | The indicators and assessment raise some concerns that the child/young person is at risk of Harmful Sexual Behaviour but these are at a low level and support can be implemented to reduce this risk |  |  |
| **Medium Risk** | The indicators and assessment raise concerns that the child/young person is at risk of Harmful Sexual Behaviour. |  |  |
| **High Risk** | The indicators and assessment raise significant concerns that the child/young person is at risk of Harmful Sexual Behaviour. |  |  |

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| **Team Manager – Name/Signature** | **Risk level agreed** | **Date agreed** |
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**To be completed during Sexual Harm Consultation Group Pre-Screening**

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| **Sexual Harm Pre-Screening members** | **Risk level agreed** | **Date agreed** | **Additional Comments** | **Pre-screening Outcome** |
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**To be completed during Sexual Harm Consultation Group**

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| **Sexual Harm Consultation Group members** | **Risk level agreed** | **Panel Date** | **Discussion** | **Actions** |
|  |  |  |  |  |