This document is Unclassified

# Purpose of a RI?

“Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is a key duty on local authorities and requires effective joint working between agencies and professionals. When a child goes missing or runs away, they are at risk. Safeguarding children therefore includes protecting them from this risk. Local authorities are responsible for protecting children whether they go missing from their family home or from local authority care.”– DfE Guidance

* Statutory guidance is that a Return Interview is conducted for each missing episode a young person has, in Gloucestershire the expectation is for a trusted professional to have a non-judgemental conversation with the young person (Social Worker, YST Worker or existing professionals). It is the Social Worker’s responsibility to transcribe this information into the Return Interview form in the Liquid Logic record.

## What the Return Interview can tell us?

It is important to understand - completing the form is not a ‘tick box’ exercise. Various CSC teams may review the information held in the RI along with data pulled to supply a strategic overview of the emerging themes to the GSCP.

* Information should always be concise and from more than one source.
  + **Young person’s voice** – it is important to capture what the young person has told you. Be professionally curious. Does the young person see any risks? If other people are mentioned clarify who they are [names]? Remember partial information such as first names or street names can also be helpful. If locations or vehicles spoken about give more information and write down if this information has been sent to the Police on a Police Intelligence form. It is just as important to note a young person’s reluctance to speak about the missing episode and their view about being reported missing.
  + **Police information** - Missing notification and the debrief (Found notification) these are uploaded in the young persons record ‘Documents’. Does the information reflect the young person’s view? Please take a little time to edit the copy and paste to make it easier to read – remove the extra spaces.
  + **Parents/Carer/Placement or other** **professionals** – have existing professionals been aware of the missing episode, what has the young person told them? Or what are information are they aware of? Can the parents/carers/placement share what may have triggered a missing episode? This may supply insight into how the young person is being viewed/supported?

## Quality Assurance

* Complete each field
  + Please do not copy & paste information repeatedly – pick the relevant information and place where it needs to be.
  + Note who is supplying the information i.e., *information from the Police debriefs* or *information from parent.*
  + When review all the information [or absence of information] ***what does this tell you? What are you going to do about it?***
  + Show your understanding - complete the Push/Pull fields – do not assume that everyone knows the young person.
  + What are the onward actions – family mediation or placement breakdown meeting, is the trigger plan current or does a strategy discussion [or professionals meeting] required for a multi-agency approach to unpick concerns or action.
* Missing Reasons field – if there is a suspicion of exploitation or mental health concerns flag these in this field to reflect the concerns for a strategic overview. At should be rare for a ‘Reason unknown’ to be used by professionals supporting a young person.

If you need any support or advice/guidance please contact the YST Missing Team [YSTMissingteam@prospects.co.uk](mailto:YSTMissingteam@prospects.co.uk)