

Risk Outside The Home Swindon Update

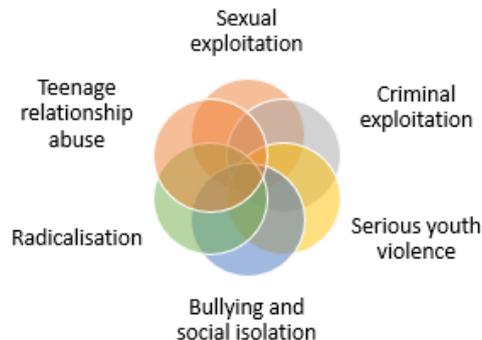
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Risk Outside The Home (ROTH) refers to the contextual safeguarding approach adopted in Swindon to understand and respond to, young people's experiences of significant harm experienced beyond their families.



Below you will find further information about the local response and signposting to briefing resources and toolkits for professionals working in Swindon.

Background

Swindon were successful in a bid to the Tackling Child Exploitation (TCE) Support Programme. The goal was to explore decision-making around risk outside of the family home. The graphic below Joining the Dots focuses on the 'how' of tackling child exploitation/extra-familial harm, rather than the 'what' needs doing.

There are three interconnected, themes which are intended to promote cross-cutting partnership approaches capable of responding to the breadth and depth of the system challenges inherent to child exploitation/extra-familial harm.

Joining the Dots



Further information about the framework [click here](#). There is also a short video: Joining the dots (clip lasts 3.50 minutes).

Further Information	
<p>What does this mean for professionals locally...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Protecting children from risk outside of the home becomes 'everyone's business'. ➤ Rethinking Child Protection (CP). ➤ More children on CIN plans or ROTH meetings. ➤ A complex safeguarding process. ➤ New safeguarding partners and people at and around the table. ➤ Making sure people still come to the table (even if the framework of CP has changed). ➤ Working together is key. ➤ Transitions into adult services is essential. ➤ How do we create safe spaces for young people.
<p>Risk Outside The Home</p> 	<p>If you want to find out more information about Risk Outside The Home, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Contextual Safeguarding ✓ Why we need a different response to risk outside the home, ✓ How Swindon is responding and how it will work locally for example when making referrals and child protection conferences ✓ New developments such as community conferences <p>Please go to the Risk Outside The Home webpage There is also a 7 minute brief Risk Outside The Home</p>
<p>Child Exploitation</p> 	<p>If you want to find out more information about Child Exploitation there is some useful information and resources on the SSP Child Exploitation webpage including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ What is child exploitation ✓ County lines and local lines ✓ Risks, signs and behaviours ✓ Language and labelling ✓ Reporting concerns ✓ Resources <p>Please go the Child Exploitation webpage</p>
<p>Making a Referral</p> 	<p>The ROTH process will involve all of the usual elements of a child protection process and the referral process will remain the same. Referrals to MASH and Early Help Hub will be the same and documented on the RF1. Click here to access referral guidelines and MASH.</p> <p>Where the risks relate to risk of criminal/sexual exploitation, there should be consideration for using the Child Exploitation Initial Screening tool to assist with decision-making and to evidence/support your referral. Please include as much detail as possible to ensure an appropriate and timely response. Where risk outside of the home is assessed as being the primary risk the process detailed in the ROTH process flow chart will be followed.</p>
<p>Will child protection conferences still be held if the risk is outside the home (ROTH)?</p> 	<p>For those young people where the assessed risk is clearly outside of the home, there will be some changes to the current Child Protection Conference process and this is detailed below. These changes will initially be subject of a pilot and further information will be provided in due course. If you/your agency is invited to attend one of these meetings there will be support available. Further information about what the ROTH meeting looks like can be found on the ROTH webpage.</p>

Multi Agency Risk Panel (MARP)



The purpose of MARP is to Quality Assure the safety planning in place for children at risk of Missing, and Child Exploitation. The process for referring children to MARP remains the same however, the Vulnerability Check List (VCL) is no longer used and has been replaced by the [Child Exploitation Risk Assessment Framework \(CERAF\)](#). This link includes the form and guidance on completion. Further information about MARP can be found in the [MARP Operating Protocol](#).

Resources for Professionals

Free eLearning

Free Child Exploitation basic awareness eLearning. This will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. [Click here to access](#).

Making Words Matter



Guidance for using appropriate language for those subject to or at risk of exploitation.

Making Words Matter

The way we use language influences our thinking. Recent serious case reviews in other areas have highlighted this as a significant issue, which contributed to systemic failure to protect.

Professionals should consider the words, phrases, discourses and jargon used when speaking to/about children/young people and adults and recording risk outside the home. This includes language used verbally and written in files, referrals, assessments and reports.

If we talk about a child using inappropriate language, what they and other professionals may hear is that they are in some way responsible for what is happening to them and therefore less deserving of our support. Any language that implies that a child/young person or group of young people are complicit in or responsible for the harm they experience, negatively influences the lens by which we assess their needs and offer support.

The use of inappropriate language to describe children at risk of exploitation may judge the child and imply they could have acted differently or they are to blame. It is important to **remember that this is a form of abuse, it is not a lifestyle choice**.

The language used should reflect the presence of coercion and the lack of control people have in abusive or exploitative situations, and must recognise the severity of the impact exploitation has on the person.

Victim-blaming language may reinforce messages from perpetrators around shame and guilt. This in turn may prevent the person from disclosing their abuse, through fear of being blamed by professionals. When used amongst professionals, there is a risk of normalising and minimising the person's experience, resulting in a lack of appropriate response.

Professionals must also be aware that any recording will be subject to Third Party Disclosure should there be any criminal court case. Inappropriate use of language can have serious consequences within a criminal court context, and may impact upon convictions.

Language is always changing and developing and terms that were common and accepted in the recent past may no longer be. The guidance document on the SSP website [Using appropriate language for those subject to or at risk of exploitation](#) has been updated and provides examples of some poorly worded responses and suggested alternatives.

Please familiarise yourself with the content.

ROTH Toolkit for Professionals



This document provides an overview of some of the useful resources available to professionals to support their work with children/young people and parent/carers when responding to Risk Outside The Home. This is not an exhaustive list as resources are continually updated. These are grouped in topic themes, with a brief description and hyperlinks/signposting to the relevant resource. The themed sections covered are:

- ✓ Overview of Contextual Safeguarding and Resources,
- ✓ Tools for Assessing Risk and Assessment and includes the [What's Happening tool](#) for use with parents/carers/young people, [All Around Me tool](#) for use with young people, [safety mapping and planning](#),
- ✓ Peer mapping and assessment,
- ✓ Context weighting
- ✓ Responding to ROTH – Swindon approach
- ✓ Disruption

To access the toolkit [please click here](#).

Child Exploitation Practitioner Resource



This is a comprehensive resource prepared by Linda Wyatt and Helen Vennard from the Opal team. The screen shot below provides an overview of the information available to assist the professional response to child exploitation. Please familiarise yourself with the content. To access the document [click here](#).

CHILD EXPLOITATION PRACTITIONER RESOURCE

Contents: To access each section click on underlined title. Right click and open hyperlink

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Safeguarding Adolescents Practice Brief



This aim of this resource is to raise awareness of the Swindon approach to safeguarding adolescents at risk of exploitation through a shared set of values and principles. The focus is on children but some information/resources will be applicable to those transitioning into adulthood. This includes a variety of information such as adolescent brain development, reachable moments, trauma informed practice, tips on effective engagement and what children value in a worker and strength based practice. [Click here to access](#)

Reporting intelligence to Wiltshire Police Revisions to Online Partner Agency Information Sharing Form

If you have intelligence or any other concerns relating to Child Sexual Exploitation, Criminal Exploitation (gangs), trafficking, for example, a suspicious car or activity, these can be shared with Police using the [online reporting form](#). There is also a downloadable guide, which can be accessed via the above link.

Update from Wiltshire Police. We have revised the partner agency information sharing form to improve the way professionals are able to

share information with Wiltshire Police. This will also to make it easier to locate and access.

Access the form: Go to the front page of the Wiltshire Police website [Home | Wiltshire Police](#), scroll to the bottom of the homepage there is a box '**Partner Agency Information Sharing**' You can also [click here](#).

The new form provides professionals with the ability to be more specific with their information in a number of ways.

- ✓ The first change is that we now have separate service user/agency boxes to select from when identifying which area you currently work within.
- ✓ The second key change is around the ability to now identify the subject matters, which relate to the information that you are sharing, for example drugs, violence, domestic abuse, roads/traffic related. You can select more than one category to cover the topics that relate to your information. This will help us to better identify the types of information being sent to us, and by which Service Areas.
- ✓ Thirdly, we have worked to make it very clear where to write your information to us, and where to record source details, in order to keep these separate as part of our main priority, which is to protect the details of the source of the information.
- ✓ There is now a question to help us confirm/question the reliability of the information, which sits more in line with Police Risk assessing and grading processes,
- ✓ Finally, the last question aims to bridge the gap between partners and Wiltshire Police where the submitting professional is in possession of supportive files/documents that assist in the corroboration of intelligence. This can include, screen shots, audio or video clips etc. The submitting professional will be able to confirm that they have some supportive files to share and we will be able to arrange for these to be sent to us at Wiltshire Police to be attached to their intelligence report during processing.

The new form will provide Wiltshire Police with an analytical capability that we would love to share with Single Points of Contact (SPOC's) across the various service areas. We will be able to review how many reports we have had from partner agencies and share this with the SPOC's.

If there are any opportunity areas, we will gladly support our partner agencies to increase information sharing and ultimately protect the public.

Please contact Phil Day via email philip.day@wiltshire.police.uk if you wish to be a SPOC for your service area and we will gladly liaise with you on a quarterly basis to feedback on information sharing.