

Sandwell exploitation and transition into adulthood.

Steve Baguley and Kay Wallace NWG

National overview

- Change drivers
- Systems and processes- Culture
- Adverse Childhood experiences (ACEs)
- Vulnerable adolescent strategies
- Wider exploitation models- don't forget online
- Early help
- Youth service and connexions
- Year 11 – hidden transition- transition into Adult Services
- Parents as safeguarding partners
- Risk management and significant harm
- Trauma Informed

Transition;

- Process or a period of changing from one state or condition to another
- Transire to move across
- Preparation for adulthood

Exploitation/Abuse

Exploitation affects young people and vulnerable adults;

- Exploitation can affect any child or young person (male or female) under the age of 18 years;
- Can affect any vulnerable adult over the age of 18 years;
- Can still be exploitation even if the activity appears consensual;
- Can involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and is often accompanied by violence or threats of violence;
- Can be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and young people or adults;
- Is typified by some form of power imbalance in favour of those perpetrating the exploitation.
- Examples of exploitation are; Sexual exploitation, Trafficking, forced labour, county Lines, criminal exploitation etc.

Adolescents- How Are They Viewed?

- Seen as troublesome rather than in need
- Imperfect victims
- “Lets call them children”
- Not acceptable
 - streetwise
 - making choices
 - drug running
 - what do we mean by resilience?

Risk-taking and adolescence

Biological, psychological and social changes may mean adolescents are more likely to engage in 'risk-taking behaviours' than children or adults (Calkins, 2010)

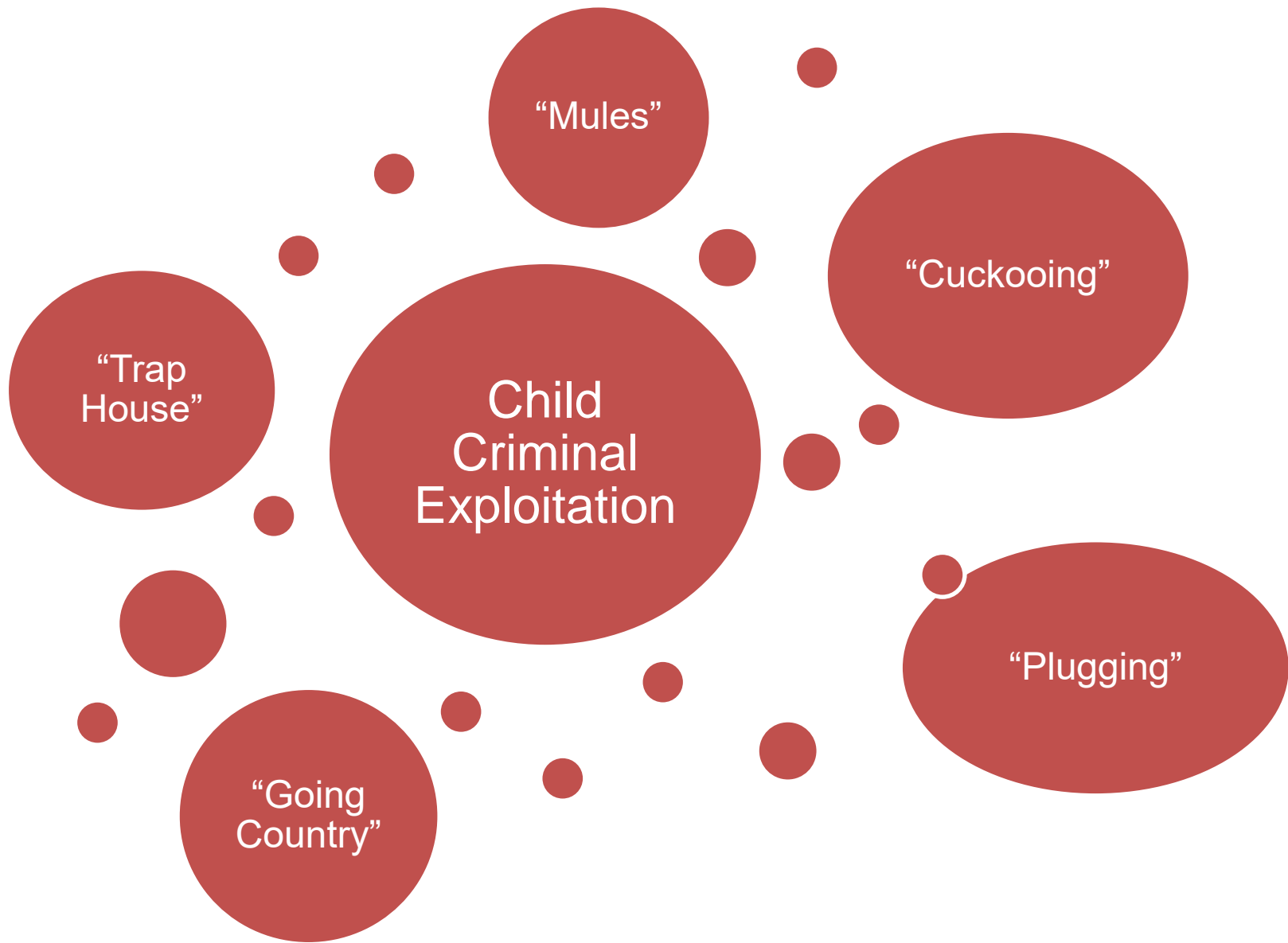
Some 'risk-taking' can be positive - learn about harm and safety, find out the limits of sensible behaviour (Coleman, 2014)

›The challenges for us:

›to identify the most promising means of engaging with young people in order to divert them from behaviours that place them at risk of harm

›to address the impact of harmful behaviours when they've already taken place

›Preparation for adulthood and recognising current stage of development



Psychological Dehumanisation

“Less than human”

“denial of full humanness to others, and the cruelty and suffering that accompanies it” (Haslam, 2006)

Consequences of Dehumanisation

- Further marginalization & disenfranchisement
- More likely to go down the criminal justice route
- Legitimizes use of force and harsher sentencing
- Reduced empathy & understanding
- Drives disconnection (Brown, 2016)
- Self Fulfilling Prophecy

Consent

- Views are wide and diverse
- CSE Guidance
- CPS Guidance
- Jenny Pearce 'Social Model of Abused Consent'
- Fluctuating capacity to consent

CSE: Social Model of Consent (2015)

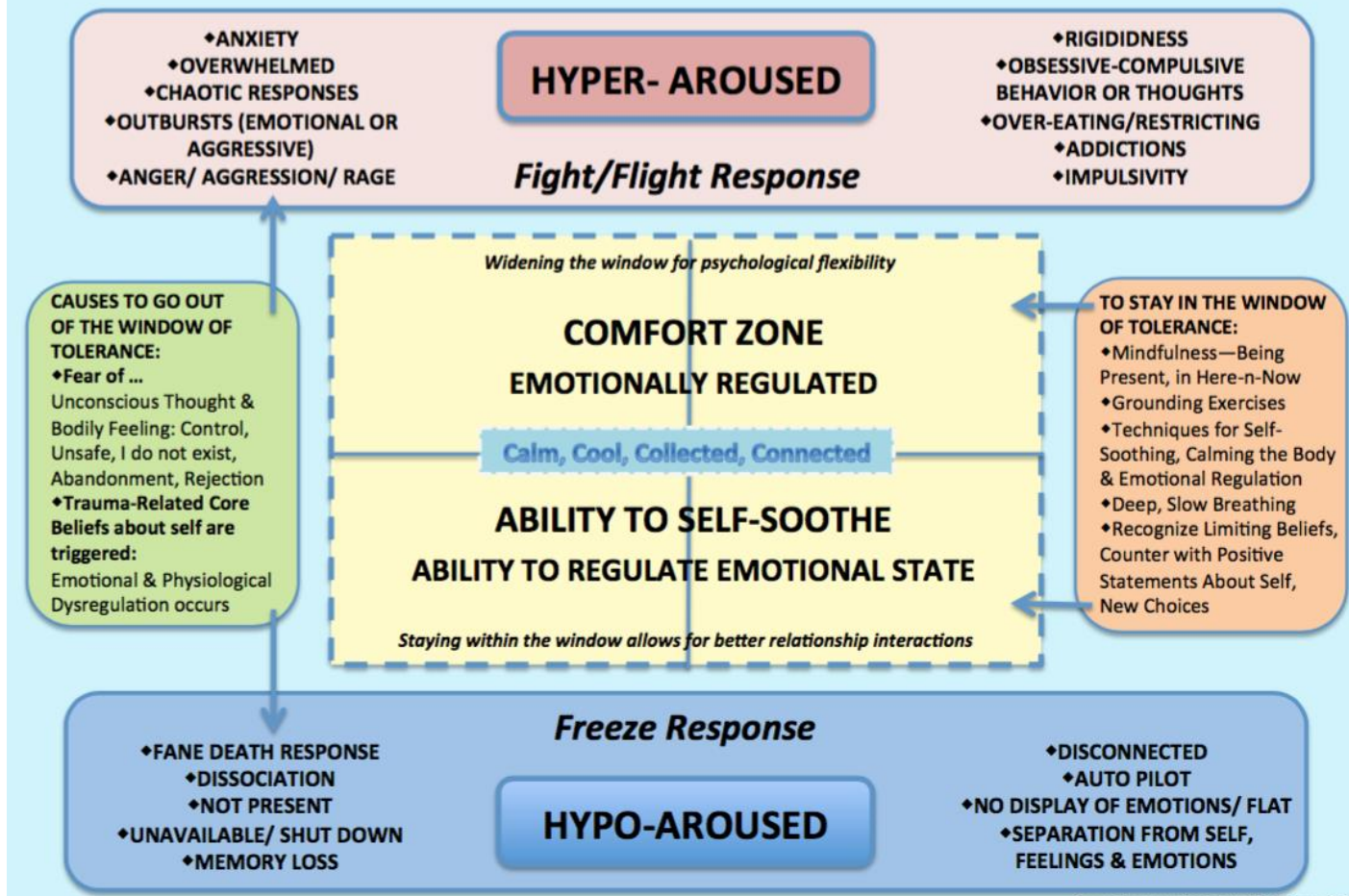


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Jenny Cutler; The Psychology of child sexual exploitation.....

- A chronically traumatised child struggles to behave in accordance with adult standards and cannot always make rational choices.
- At the core of traumatic stress is the breakdown in the capacity to regulate internal states.
- Traumatized adolescents frequently do not appear to have any insight into the relationship between what they do, what they feel and what has happened to them.
- Trauma bonding- Stockholm syndrome.

WINDOW OF TOLERANCE- TRAUMA/ANXIETY RELATED RESPONSES:
Widening the Comfort Zone for Increased Flexibility



Marie S. Dezelic, PhD © 2013

Trauma Treatment Healing the Whole Person © 2016

Safeguarding Adults Review – Rachel (2019)

The current position is that while both the adult and children’s safeguarding arrangements set out responsibilities for preventing abuse and neglect, the differences in the national frameworks can result in a very different system response more governed by the age of the service user rather than the risk.

The children’s system has a clear focus on welfare and emphasises protection of children from harm and promotes risk management approaches. Whereas for adults, current legislative frameworks places an emphasis on promoting wellbeing and that adults have the right to make informed decisions about their own lives, even if those decisions appear unwise.

The difficulty which can arise around this key principle is when coercion or other factors become so significant that they have a serious adverse impact on how this ‘right/ability’ is exercised.

This was evident in Rachel’s case where her ability to make decisions to stay safe was impaired by the abuse and exploitation she was experiencing. A key issue therefore is the approach adopted in applying the provisions of the Care Act 2014.

Why do it ?

- Cliff edge- what children tell us
- Exploitation does not stop just because you turn 18 (Sheffield slogan)
- Young adults as well as children are also vulnerable to exploitation and other forms of exploitation. Perpetrators target vulnerability not age (Newcastle slogan)
- Good transition can help stop further problems developing
- Newcastle, Sheffield, Leeds and Rochdale examples
- Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews/Serious Case Reviews and Safeguarding Adult Reviews

Challenges

- Different eligibility criteria
- Different budgets
- No resources to support transition
- Different ways of working
- Different databases/culture/thresholds
- Lack of awareness in adult services of exploitation and the impact that it has on children and young adults
- Joint commissioning of services against need
- Services working together

What Helps?

- Policies/procedures/protocols put in place to support transition
- Training of adult services in exploitation and the impact it can have
- Hold Transition Forums
- Undertake audits on current transition arrangements
- Develop a position statement on transition with recommendations
- Awareness raising and implementation of the Care Act
- Locate staff together e.g. Newcastle
- Consistently review

What does good transition look like?

Principles behind good transition....

- Be person centred and strength based
- Start transition as early as possible, do not rush it
- Plan the transition with clear timescales
- Ensure all assessments and plans are up to date and ensure that transition planning takes into account each young person's capabilities
- The point of transfer should not be based on a rigid age threshold and take place at a time of relative stability for the young person
- Joint visits with workers with a focus on handover
- Do not use non engagement as a reason to close cases

Three key strands for consideration;

- Continuous exploitation from childhood into adulthood
- Consequential impact of childhood exploitation in adulthood
- Adults who have not been previously exploited becoming victims of exploitation

Disruption, Investigation, Prosecution;

The most effective form of disruption of perpetrators is arrest for the offences they are alleged to have committed.

Arrest cannot always take place immediately therefore we should consider perpetrator disruption measures.

Disruption toolkit- Reasons for developing the toolkit.....

Disruption opportunities without having to rely on a victim's testimony;

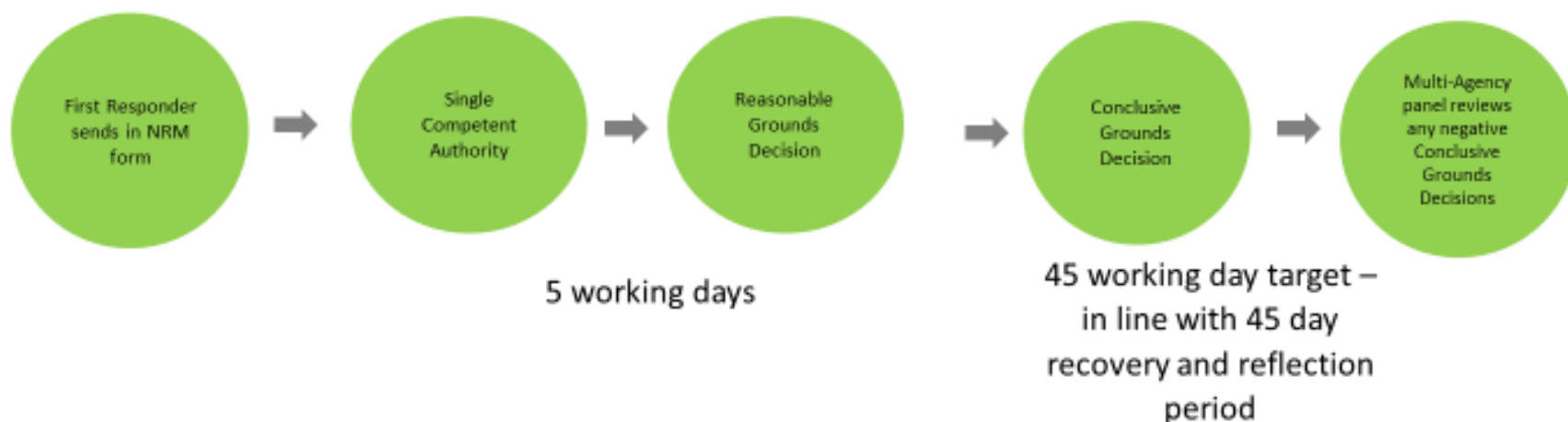
- **Trafficking**
- **Abduction-** Child Abduction Act 1984
Section 2 – Abduction of a child (u16)
Section 49- Children Act 1989-Abduction of a child in care (u18)
- **Child abduction warning notice**
- **Exploitation warning notice**
- **Sexual Risk Order (SRO)**
Anti-social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014 issued against an individual who has ‘done an act of a sexual nature which suggests that they pose a risk of harm to the public in the UK or children and vulnerable adults abroad’.
- **Sexual Harm Prevention Order (SHPO)**
Anti-social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014 made against a person who has been convicted or cautioned in relation to a sexual offence to protect any members of the public in the UK, or vulnerable adults and children abroad, from sexual harm, including protecting children from grooming activity.

Human Trafficking

A person arranges or facilitates the travel of another person with a view to the other person being exploited.

A person may in particular arrange or facilitate the other persons travel by recruiting, transporting or transferring the person, harbouring or receiving or transferring or exchanging control over the person.

National Referral Mechanism (NRM) decision-making process



All decisions are now made by the Single Competent Authority (they are no longer split between NCA and UKVI). This new Single Competent Authority (SCA) sits within the Serious and Organised Crime directorate of the Home Office. The SCA now makes all NRM decisions, regardless of nationality or immigration status of the potential victim

- **Slavery and trafficking risk orders (STROs)**

Section 23 Modern Slavery Act 2015 issued against an individual where there is a risk that they will commit a slavery or human trafficking offence.

- **Slavery and trafficking prevention orders (STPOs)**

Section 14-15 Modern Slavery Act 2015 issued against an individual upon conviction to prevent and prohibit convicted defendants from activities, which enabled them to commit offences of human trafficking and slavery.

- **Civil injunctions**

Under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (previously Anti-Social Behaviour Orders, ASBOs).

Section 1 Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

Local authorities, police or housing providers can apply to the court for these civil injunctions. An injunction stops or prevents individuals engaging in anti-social behaviour. This can include conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress; or conduct capable of causing nuisance, including housing-related nuisance. An injunction can include prohibitions and positive requirements.

- **Closure Orders (associated with Nuisance and Disorder).**

Closure orders are civil orders available in the Magistrates Court which stop anyone entering or residing at a named property. There are three types of closure order - drug closure orders, brothel closure and anti-social behaviour closure orders. Full or Partial closure orders available.

Guildford example- Assertive outreach alongside orders

Examples;

Health and Safety – Nail Bar

HMRC- Tax evasion – OCG

Fire Service- Hotel Smoke alarm

GAIN

Multi-Agency Response to Disruption

- Health and Safety Executive
- Education Welfare
- Fire Service
- GAIN
- SIA
- UKBA
- DWP
- Environmental Health
- Trading Standards
- Licensing
- HMRC
- DVLA
- Immigration
- Housing
- Gas/Electricity/Water companies