

Restricted
DURHAM CONSTABULARY



Examples of how the impact of disabilities and child sexual exploitation risk are discussed and how in practice the Constabulary makes sure that education and health services are involved to manage the risks to children with disabilities.

Example 1

Initials redacted The young person has complex emotional issues; she was previously engaged in psychotherapy but is no longer accessing this, she is still open to CAMHS but does not want to engage with the service. The young person has not been diagnosed with a learning disability/difficulty however she has complex social and emotional problems. In the care of her parents she suffered chronic neglect, physical abuse and trauma which has hindered her development.

Chronologically she is 15 years old but emotionally she is significantly younger and is therefore a prime target for sexual exploitation especially given she is actively seeking out sexual relationships online and instigating this contact.

The young person has issues with soiling and wetting and she is a lot younger than her chronological age. There has been a recent increase in the frequency of the soiling and the behaviours around this which indicate she is struggling.

Social services identified that the child seemed to benefit significantly from working with a specific psychotherapist but this had stopped due to funding issues. Social services are going to secure additional funding in order to enable further work to continue.

These issues were raised within the context of a CSE meeting.

Example 2

Initials redacted On the young person's CSE review form it was noted that the young person agreed that she suffered from low self-esteem, feelings of despair, self-harm and overdose, aggression. She reported that she does not drink that much, however an alcohol screening tool was undertaken and the young person scored '10' which suggests that she was is at 'increasing risk'. She was able to recognise that the 'common effects' were similar effects to what she is currently experiencing i.e. less energy, tiredness etc.

The young person often made superficial cuts to her arms and legs. On numerous occasions the CAMHS Crisis team were involved due to her taking an overdose on Ibuprofen and Paracetamol. At the time of the incidents the young person was described to be unkempt, and her mother was struggling to get her to look after her personal hygiene.

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