

**OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE**

Last updated 01/02/2018:

## Operational Guidance for ILOs

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**Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (CSEA) continues to be one of the national law enforcement priorities in the United Kingdom.**

### **CSEA threat:**

- **Online Child Sexual Exploitation (OCSE)** – on-line grooming or blackmailing to incite a child to engage in sexual activity online; the sharing and viewing of indecent images of children; and the live streaming of abuse. Please note OCSE does not include other forms of harm to children online such as cyber bullying and exposure to adult pornography. This is not currently illegal activity and therefore is not within the NCA's remit.
- **Contact Child Sexual Abuse (CCSA)** – physical contact of a sexual nature (whether or not forced or coerced) with a child.
- **Transnational Child Sex Offenders (TCSO)** – individuals travelling across international borders or embedding themselves overseas to sexually exploit and abuse children.

**CEOP wishes to highlight a number of important procedural points for ILOs when dealing with the CSEA threat in your host-country:**

**Tracker Team International (TTI)** are your single point of contact for any operational CSEA investigations/issues. The TTI provides the International desks and ILOs with specialist advice and guidance on CSEA related crime including:

- Liaising with International desks regarding on-going CEOP cases;
- Lead, support or co-ordinate CSEA related investigations in your country;
- Conduct CEOP system checks on CSEA cases for ILOs and desks;
- Answering general CSEA operational queries from ILOs and providing advice on CSEA issues.

### **ILOs should:**

**Inform Tracker Team International of any British national arrested and/or convicted in their host country of a CSEA offence to ensure the proper ACRO (Criminal Records Office) channels are aware and management strategies are put in place in the UK.** Ensure that all information and/or intelligence communicated is full, clear and accurate. The information provided by ILOs facilitates an assessment and subsequent decision by operational teams about whether the criteria threshold has been met for a tasked investigation by a NCA-CEOP

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operational team. Wherever possible, you should provide the following information in relation to offenders, preferably in a 3x5x2. If this is not possible due to time or technology constraints, then the correct handling codes are essential. The required information includes, at a minimum, the UK offender's:

- Full name
- DOB
- Alleged Offence
- Times and dates of alleged offence

From a safeguarding perspective, victim details should include:

- Full name
- Age
- Nationality
- Location of domicile
- With whom they reside
- If they have parental responsibility
- Reason they have come to your attention
- Any additional vulnerabilities identified (e.g. poor health, substance misuse, homelessness etc.)
- **Encourage the host country to initiate their own investigations and prosecutions against British nationals who commit CSEA offences in their host-country.** Section 72 Sexual Offences Act (2003) allows UK individuals who offend overseas to be prosecuted in the UK. However, this should be seen as the 'last resort' or 'in extremis' option due to the complex and resource intensive nature of these operations.
- **Establish specific CSEA Partnerships with host-country law enforcement agencies and wider foreign law enforcement community.** For example, is there a dedicated CSEA SPOC?
- **Establish, maintain and develop strategic and tactical relationships with valuable non-law enforcement Partners within the host-country.** For example, charity/NGOs, children's services and relevant government departments and communicate these relationships to CEOP Command.
- **When CSEA operations are being discussed with any Partner, ensure accurate records are kept of all contacts, meetings and correspondence.** The development and maintenance of precise audit trails and operational timelines streamlines the investigative and victim support processes.

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- **Have a good working knowledge of the existing CSEA legislation and operational barriers within the host-country and the status of statutory children's services.** Communicate any details that you believe may impact on CEOP Command's ability to successfully pursue an investigation and/or safeguard child victims at the earliest opportunity.
- **Ensure that any cultural, logistical and practical issues that may affect CSEA investigations, in particular OSJA considerations, are all articulated within the Authorisation for Country Activity (ACA) form. If no ACA exists, ensure that relevant information is communicated to the International Desk and Tracker Team International.** Update ACAs as applicable in a timely manner to reflect any new CSEA legislation, MoU, extradition treaties, patterns and trends etc.
- **Comply with your obligations under Section 11 (England) and Section 28 (Wales) of the Children's Act 2004 and associated NCA policy (CE01).** All NCA officers have a duty to promote and safeguard the welfare of children they come into contact with as a direct or indirect consequence of carrying out their role. All officers should apply these principles wherever in the world they carry out their duties. Specific policy guidance in relation to international safeguarding is available in Section 4 of CE01 Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

### Contact Details

#### Operational queries

Irrelevant

For Out-of-Hours operational queries (17:00-07:00 UK) contact

Irrelevant

#### Safeguarding queries

Irrelevant
Out-of-Hours (17:00-07:00 UK) contact

Irrelevant