

**1**

## Background

Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire Children's Safeguarding Assurance Partnership aim to work together to support children and adults who are at risk of exploitation, to reduce harm, increase safety and improve wellbeing and outcomes for individuals and families.

Through partnership working this new strategy aims to:

- increase our awareness,
- undertake prevention work,
- increase detection and disruption
- work together to ensure the safety of children and young people in Lancashire.

For further info please see the full strategy: [\(insert CSAP link here\)](#)

**2**

## Why it matters

Working Together to Safeguarding Children (2018) legislation discusses the importance of working together to identify and respond to harm and abuse posed to children outside of their home.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility; therefore, practitioners need to engage with individuals and sectors who do have influence over/within extra-familial contexts and recognise that assessment of and intervention with these spaces are a critical part of safeguarding practices.

**3**

## Information

Contextual Safeguarding is an approach to understanding, and responding to, young people's experiences of significant harm beyond their families.

These extra-familial threats might arise at a variety of places including community spaces and online.

This Contextual Safeguarding strategy will be inclusive of:

- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Child Criminal Exploitation
- Child Trafficking / Modern Slavery
- Missing From Home

**4**

Spanning across 4 priorities, this strategy describes how agencies will work together to address any concerns within a trauma informed and strength-based approach

**Priority 1:**  
Increase our awareness and understanding of Contextual Safeguarding.

**5**

### Priority 2:

Work to prevent exploitation; ensuring our interventions support and protect children and young people at risk of exploitation.

### Priority 3:

Increase our success in respect of detection, disruption, and prosecution; working to support those known to be exploited.

### Priority 4:

Work alongside and within our communities to tackle exploitation.

**7**

## Questions to consider

Do you know what sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation and modern slavery and human trafficking is?

Do you know the signs of exploitation?

How do you share knowledge and expertise with colleagues and partners?

Are you aware of the range and role of services working to support and safeguard both those at risk of exploitation and survivors?

How do you act upon issues or concerns in your communities?

**6**

## What to do

If you are worried about a child or young person, speak to your organisation's safeguarding lead re next steps.

Anyone with concerns about child sexual/criminal exploitation can contact police on 101 or 999 in an emergency.

Lancashire's multi-agency Exploitation teams can be contacted directly on Operation Awaken (North) 01253 477261, Operation Engage (East) 01254 353 525 or Operation Deter (Central): 01772 209122