

# Safer Futures Trauma Services

Safer Futures has been in operation for over 25 years, providing assessment and trauma-based therapeutic intervention for children and young people with complex trauma histories, including those who have experienced sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, and/or display sexualised/harmful sexual behaviour.

Support is available to parent/carers, and a range of assessments provided for Local Authorities and Court, to assist more robust decision-making for children and young people. The Service also facilitates the development of skills, through training and provision of consultancy as needed, to multi-agency professionals.

## THERAPEUTIC WORK WITH CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE

We offer direct work to help the child/young person better understand their experiences and behaviour, whilst seeking to build self-esteem & self-worth. Building a trusted therapeutic relationship is key to the work, to allow a safe space and person to speak with. We aim to enable children/young people to recognise and understand what has happened, the impact of trauma, and that it is not their fault. Sessions are tailored to the child/young person's needs and can include a variety of creative ways of working—nothing is ruled out!

## ASSESSMENTS

We seek to help clarify areas of risk and protective factors, using evidence based tools and approaches, which help inform agency assessments and decision-making.

### • **HSB Assessment (& intervention) includes:**

Protective & Risk Observation For Eliminating Sexual Offense Recidivism (PROFESOR) and AIM3 frameworks.

Both enable the practitioner to consider the Harmful Sexual Behaviour within the wider context of the young person's life and identify areas for intervention.

### • **Assessment of Sexual Concerns (ASC)**

As a response to early signs or a continuation of 'problematic'/'low level' sexual behaviour, or concerns about a child/young person's sexual development. It considers the child's understanding, origins and function of the behaviour, alongside opportunities provided, to receive appropriate and healthy messages in their living, learning and social environments. It seeks to develop confidence and the ability of parent/carers, schools and professionals to better understand, manage risk and promote positive change.

## Adult assessments:

### • **Capacity to Protect assessment**

Critically analyses motivation, ability and potential for the 'non-abusing' carer to provide safe parenting. The change process is supported through education and opportunity to integrate knowledge, skills and understanding. A detailed analysis of both start and end positions is provided and remaining areas of risk are clearly identified.

### • **Sex Offender Assessment**

Not a standardised tool; this assessment integrates previous and current risk assessments, specific offence/concerns and other relevant information. It considers static and dynamic factors, alongside personal impacts, past histories and relationship dynamics, to produce an assessment of potential risk.

## AWARENESS RAISING WORK

Tailored educative work provided to the child/young person's (safe) parent/carer/family members, to raise awareness of trauma and how to support and keep them safer, develop communication around feelings, (re)-build confidence, and strengthen relationships.

## PRE-TRIAL THERAPY SUPPORT

This is not recovery work. Sessions with the child/young person can involve short term support post disclosure and managing impacts.

Brief Intervention/ support can be provided to parent/carers as appropriate.

## KEEP SAFE WORK/BODY SAFETY SKILLS

This work is only undertaken with those assessed as living in a supportive/safe environment. It is not the responsibility of children/young people to keep themselves safe. Areas covered are adapted to individual needs. Sessions may take place with the child and their safe carer, to strengthen attachments, develop confidence and trust. Dependant on individual needs, work may also take place across the child's living, learning and social environments.

## CASE GUIDANCE & CONSULTATION TO PROFESSIONALS

in all settings, working with children/young people, in relation to all trauma related issues—assessment, intervention, support, case/risk management and safety planning.

## TRAINING

Bespoke courses from awareness raising, to addressing complex issues, relating to all areas of work:

- Trauma
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Sexual Abuse
- Harmful Sexual Behaviour
- Healthy sexual development and sexual concerns
- Communicating effectively with children
- Real Love Rocks

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