

Our Vision

MSET is a multi-agency approach to the exploitation of children and young people. We are child-centred with all our decisions being made based on the individual child/young person's safeguarding needs. We will include and value our young people's voices throughout our work, our response, and in how we develop our services.

We will work together to disrupt and prevent the perpetrators of exploitation and violence who are taking advantage of our young people.

We seek to build resilience amongst children and young people to prevent vulnerabilities from escalating into exploitation through early intervention.

We will aim to protect our young people and the wider community from the potential harms of exploitation, violence and abuse and provide individualised assessments.

We seek to work to have the right people and agencies being involved at the right time to safeguard our young people.

We will invest in and equip our workforce and partner agencies to understand and identify exploitation risks and respond in the safest most effective way possible and escalate appropriately so the right support is put in place and the right time.

We will continue to refine the work we do around our young people who go missing, and our responses and support for them.

Our Priorities

North Tyneside Council and our partner agencies condemn any form of exploitation of children, young people and adults. It is our collective aim to prevent all levels of harm and vulnerability, support victims of exploitation and work with the police to prevent and stop the cycle of harm. With this in mind, North Tyneside's MSET have the following priorities:

- Develop an informed and supported workforce and partnership, including the offer of training and development in relation to exploitation;
- Aim to strengthen the existing multi-agency structures and information sharing arrangements in order to obtain a clearer picture of abuse and identify opportunities for earlier intervention;
- Raise awareness of the exploitation of children within the local community via posters and leaflets;
- Empower the young person's family and network, to build on their strengths and strategies already in place, build on feelings of hope and identify supportive measures and confidence;
- Prioritise supportive relationships between young people and key practitioners to promote trust.

Changes Made

A task and finish group was set up in November 2019. The initial goal of which was to refresh the Terms of Reference for North Tyneside's MSET process.

It was during the initial conversations that an opportunity was seen to refresh the whole process, including undertaking a systems review and a public awareness campaign.

We have:

- Amended our MSET Policy, making this more accessible to the workforce, partner agencies and public alike;
- Reviewed our Risk Assessment Tool to ensure this covers all forms of exploitation;
- Researched good practice from other areas to enhance our responses;
- Delivered workforce development sessions relating to Contextual Safeguarding issues;
- Produced an awareness poster and leaflet to be distributed in our communities.

Ofsted rating of Outstanding recognised the extensive work

Advice and Referrals

Advice

If you wish advice on the MSET procedure or referral process please contact the following:

- For internal staff only, please contact Dawn Hodgson NTC MSET Co-ordinator (Senior Manager for Front Door) at mset@northtyneside.gov.uk;
- For external professionals, please contact our Professional Advice line on 0191 643 5555.

Referrals

Referrals into MSET can be made by internal colleagues at North Tyneside Council. Referrals to Social Care in relation to concerns of exploitation can be made both by internal and external professionals.

All referrals should be made following the determination of a Section 47 Enquiry. Referrals require management consent, please follow the Referral Pathway.

All referrals must be sent to mset@northtyneside.gov.uk