

7 minute briefing - Safeguarding children from extra-familial risks: Exploitation Risk Panel

For all those working with adults, children and families

1. WHAT IS EXTRA-FAMILIAL RISK?

Extra-familial risk is also known as contextual safeguarding.

Risks include:

- criminal exploitation (county lines)
- sexual exploitation
- harmful sexual behaviour
- serious youth violence
- going missing from home/care

7. WHAT YOU CAN DO

USE and SHARE

- Safeguarding Adolescents Practice Guide
- Safeguarding Adolescents Resource

BE A LEAD IN YOUR AGENCY

Do your bit and become a Safeguarding Adolescents Lead.

For more information, contact Eleanor.ross@walthamforest.gov.uk

REFER

Make a referral to ERP via MASH if you have concerns about a young person or vulnerable adult experiencing any extra-familial risk

2. HOW DO WE SAFEGUARD CHILDREN WHO EXPERIENCE EXTRA-FAMILIAL RISK?

One of the mechanisms for safeguarding children from extra-familial risks in Waltham Forest is through the **Exploitation Risk Panel** or **ERP**.

ERP is a forum that takes place every 2 weeks, where people from across different services can discuss children or vulnerable adults in Waltham who are at risk. There is no age limit for who is discussed at ERP as it is recognised that vulnerabilities do not just stop when a child turns 18 years old.



ERP provides an opportunity to work together to organise actions that will safeguard those children/vulnerable adults and cause disruptions to those causing harm to children/vulnerable adults.

6. WHAT SUPPORT IS THERE FOR EXTRA-FAMILIAL RISK?

There are a number of services that can offer support to those who may be at extra-familial risk. [See overleaf for more detail.](#)

Some services can be accessed directly and others are accessed through MASH and / or via ERP. Do note that these services are current at the time of publishing but may be subject to change so please do check current details.

5. HOW CAN A CHILD / VULNERABLE ADULT BE REFERRED TO ERP?

Anyone can refer - All referrals to ERP go through the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) – click on the request for support or protection form to complete a referral



Tel: 020 8496 2310

(Mon-Thurs 9am-5.15pm, Fri 9am-5pm -out of hours 020 8496 3000)

Email:

MASHrequests@walthamforest.gov.uk

3. HOW DID ERP COME ABOUT?

We previously had different panels for each of the different type of risk and realised we could get better oversight of all forms of exploitation and prevent duplication and siloed working if the separate panels such as MASE, Bronze and High Risk Missing were merged into one.

4. WHAT ELSE SHOULD YOU KNOW ABOUT ERP?

Consent

Referrers should, where possible, explain to young people and their parents/carers why an ERP referral is being made and seek their views to contribute to the meeting. Consent is essential for any adults being referred and a discussion at ERP cannot go ahead if they have not consented.

Lead professional

Each young person that is referred to ERP should have a 'lead professional' managing/coordinating the case and risk. Essentially all young people heard at ERP should be open to Children's Social Care or Early Help.

Oversight of risk

It's important to note that ERP does not case hold and just because a case is 'closed' to ERP, does not mean that the risk has gone.

Child sexual exploitation (CSE)

ERP covers **ALL** forms of exploitation including CSE

Visit www.walthamforest.gov.uk/strategicpartnerships for other useful resources



6.

Below are some of the services in place to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults from extra-familial risk. Some services can be accessed directly and others are accessed through MASH and / or via ERP

Abianda

This programme is facilitating training, capacity building, case consultation and critical review services.

Sally Phillips (Gender Consultant Waltham Forest) sally@abianda.com



Ask Us

Trained ambassadors are liaising with the programme about risk relating to people and places in their local area. Ambassadors are receiving up to date information which supports myth busting and challenging of views in their day to day interactions with the community.

<https://ask-us.org.uk/>



Spark2Life

Detached outreach- supporting individuals with emerging gang affiliation to address the root causes behind that affiliation and work with them to support a different lifestyle.

Community Mentoring- 1:1 mentoring via FAP route, trained volunteers in the community.

<https://spark2life.co.uk/>



Change Grow Live

(Adult Casework) – over 18 service for adults in prison and the community.

<https://www.changegrowlive.org/>



Victim Support

Offering support to young people and adults who are victims of crime, particularly those affected by gang violence.



Rescue & Response

Provides support to any London based young person aged up to and including 25 years that is impacted by criminal exploitation (county lines).



Nia

1:1 support for young women affected by child sexual exploitation or any other form of sexual violence.



Adolescent Support Practitioners

Early help support for young people at risk of exploitation, primarily aged 10-14

Missing Outreach Workers

Conducting return home interviews in a safe environment for young people to explore concerns and ongoing issues

Liaison & Diversion

Meeting young people's needs in custody

Youth at Risk Practitioners

Voluntary service provision for young people aged 14-17