

Child with an Early Help Assessment in Place

Child has an Early Help Assessment in place and there is evidence to suggest that the child might be at risk of CSE

CSE screening tool completed by practitioner to help identify the CSE risk

If the screening tool identifies CSE risk then the TAF should complete the CSE Risk Assessment Tool (RAT) **this must include police information**. The tool should be completed by adults first, and separately on a blank form with the child to gather information from the child and gain an understanding of concerns. This allows the child's voice to be taken into consideration. However the child will need adult guidance and views to be clear. The person with the most trusted relationship with that child should complete the CSE Assessment Tool with them. Following completion of the RAT any adjustments should be made to the Early Help Plan – to include protective actions. The presence of CSE as a factor of the Early Help Assessment should be registered with the Early Help Mailbox, early.help@cumbria.gov.uk. This allows the CSE Oversight Group to be aware of any instances, trends or clusters of CSE around the county.

N.B Where a child is under 13 then this should automatically be viewed as a matter for a Children's Services statutory assessment and a referral should be made to the Safeguarding Hub

The TAF should review the CSE Risk Assessment Tool every **three months or when there is some change in behaviours to cause concern**. The review of the tool should always be done on a multi-agency basis and **include information from the police**. The Early Help plan should be updated following completion of the RAT.

If the levels of risk escalate, actions should be taken in line with Cumbria's Threshold Document to assess whether this can continue to be managed at Early Help or be referred into the Safeguarding Hub for statutory assessment and intervention. **Only Category 1 CSE risk can be managed at an Early Help Level.**

If evidence shows parents are unable to work within the framework of an early help plan then the evidence must be reviewed and parents consulted and informed about the need to step up to a referral to statutory children services

After the 3 month multi-agency risk assessment review, if there is no new evidence of CSE activity, and risks have reduced significantly, then the TAF can step down the CSE plan. The Lead Coordinator must contact the Early.help@cumbria.gov.uk mailbox to inform them the child is no longer category 1 and the case status must be amended on EHM.