# CAPTURING AND REPORTING INTELLIGENCE:

## CHILD SEXUAL AND/OR CRIMINAL EXPLOITATION

## GUIDANCE FOR FAMILIES, PROFESSIONALS AND THE COMMUNITY

In collaboration with

The Children's Society — No child should feel alone

VS VICTIM SUPPORT

NPCC — National Police Chiefs' Council

# HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

This document can be used by families, professionals and community members to help understand what intelligence is and how it can be reported.

## ABOUT CAPTURING INTELLIGENCE

Intelligence is collected information that is used to build a picture of current trends or patterns, in order to assist the police to prevent, investigate and disrupt crime.

Intelligence collection is a continuous process, and any intelligence shared will be risk assessed by the police. There may be local requirements for its recording and use. Information disclosed might not be directly related to the safeguarding of the child or young person disclosing it. However, this intelligence may lead to the safeguarding of many others, so should be treated in the same way.

At The Children's Society, we generate intelligence through our services, such as missing from home and care services, advocacy services, drug and alcohol services, child sexual exploitation services, trafficking services, and refugee and migrant services.

Intelligence can be captured in any situations where children and young people are present.

## GUIDANCE FOR CAPTURING INTELLIGENCE

The following chart outlines some examples of intelligence that may arise when speaking to children and young people.

Details to consider are: who, what, when, where and how?

The frequency of such occurrences must also be considered. Has the child or young person mentioned it once, or do the same names or details keep arising?

| CATEGORY | EXAMPLE OF INTELLIGENCE |
|---|---|
| **PEOPLE** | Names/nicknames/characteristics/ descriptions/movements of perpetrators/ boyfriends/other children or young people/ associates/parents, carers or family members of other young people. |
| **OTHER CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE** | Any information about other children or young people who are mentioned. Consider all information ie school/area/ school uniform/approximate age. |
| **PLACES** | Where young people are congregating, possible hotspot locations for child sexual exploitation, and activities observed. Includes names of areas/ housing/playgrounds/ shops/places/ schools/clubs/takeaways/substance misuse/times/numbers of children and young people, and age/descriptions of adults present. |
| **TRAVEL** | Methods, timings, times and routes of travel, ie bus route/oyster card details/ vehicle number plates. |
| **ONLINE** | Names of apps/online sites being used by children and young people. |
| **SUBSTANCES** | Names of drugs/alcohol being used (this can include slang names). Any details of where they are being purchased. |
| **NATIONAL** | Names of out of borough links. |

| CATEGORY | EXAMPLE OF INTELLIGENCE |
|----------|------------------------|
| **CONTACT DETAILS** | Phone numbers (belonging to vulnerable persons, victims, or perpetrators)/social media contact names or identifiers. |
| **BUSINESSES** | Names of businesses/hotels/taxi driver companies being used or frequented. |
| **CLOTHING** | Descriptions of particular types of clothing. |
| **GANGS** | Names of gangs/rival gangs/rivalries, or crimes being committed in groups/networks/with weapons. |
| **ABUSE OR EXPLOITATION** | Any indicators of child sexual abuse or exploitation, ie grooming/gifts. **Note:** Any such indicators must also be escalated as a safeguarding concern. |

Where possible and safe to do so, let the child or young person know you are sharing the information and ask for their consent to do so. Even where you do not have consent to share confidential information, you may lawfully share it if this can be justified in the public interest.

### GUIDANCE FOR LOCAL REPORTING

Each policing region has its own method of reporting intelligence. Information about an individual region's intelligence-reporting process can be found by contacting the local police force.

If in doubt, Crimestoppers can send intelligence on to a local police force intelligence management team. Crimestoppers can be contacted by phone on **0800 555 111** or via **www.crimestoppers-uk.org**