

**Harmful Sexual Behaviour Pathway**

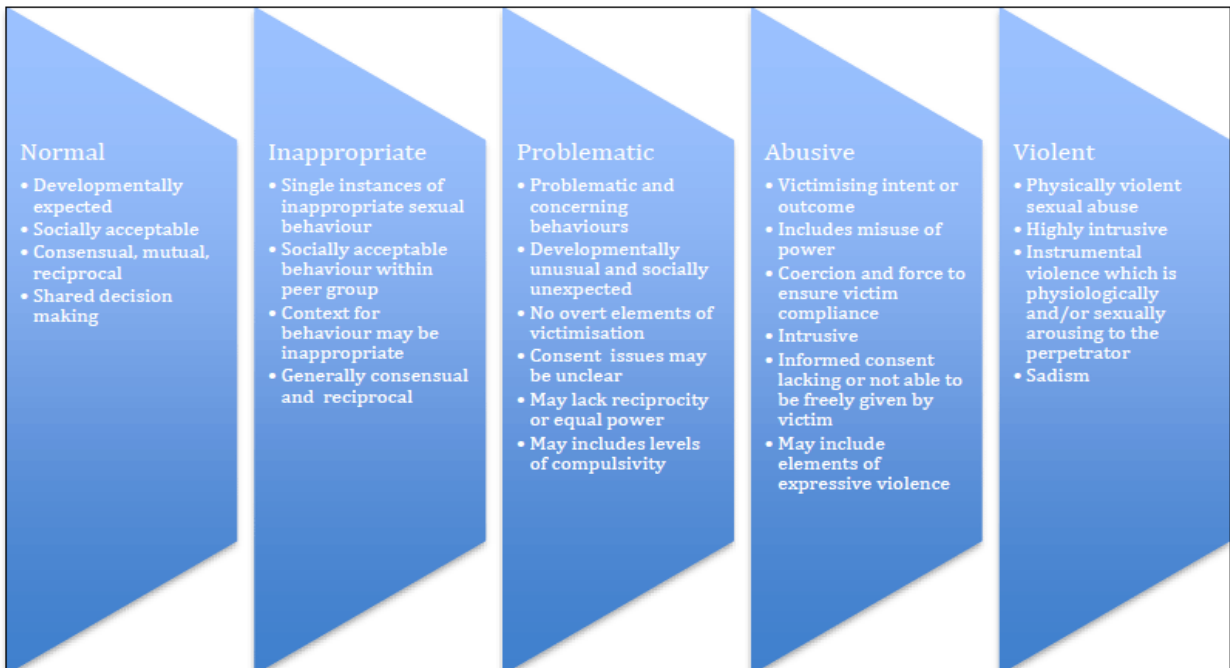
The pathway is to be used by professionals working with children and young people where there are suspicions, allegations made or evidence of the young person engaging in Harmful Sexual behaviour. It has been developed jointly between Salford Youth Justice Service and Salford Children’s Services and is overseen by the Salford Safeguarding Children Partnership.

Harmful sexual behaviour is defined as the following:

***“Sexual behaviours expressed by children and young people under the age of 18 years old that are developmentally inappropriate, maybe harmful towards self or others, or be abusive towards another child, young person or adult” (Hackett 2014)***

This pathway focuses on the needs of the child/young person who is causing harm. Separate considerations need to be given to the victim of the young person in line with the SSCP guidance around Child Sexual Abuse. It is of note that there will need to be a separate strategy meeting for any victims of Harmful Sexual behaviour in order to ensure that their safeguarding needs are addressed and supported accordingly.

Hackett’s continuum of sexualised behaviour can be utilised when screening cases whereby there have been concerns around this. It must be noted that developmental age will need to be considered when utilising this tool.



**Initial HSB concerns are identified & a referral is made via the Bridge or to the allocated social work team**

Where the presenting concerns are deemed to be not in line with the child or young person's development or are considered to be causing significant harm to others and the child/young person themselves, it is responsibility of professionals to ensure that these concerns are referred into the Bridge to allow screening of the young person to take place. They will then evaluate thresholds and consider the referral history when making a decision in relation of how is best to proceed.

Decisions made will be made utilising Hackett's Continuum of Sexualised behaviour. The duty practice manager or CPCIN Practice Manager screens the referral as Section 17 or 47.



**S47 referral will lead to a HSB Strategy meeting**

To establish if Section 47 Threshold is met

**S17 referral passed to DAT** for Children and Families assessment to be completed or consideration within the CIN/CP plan.

**Advice shared with referrer and/or parent carer and consideration of referrals to universal services**

These identified behaviours should sit within the normal, inappropriate section of the above continuum. Appropriate interventions should be put in place to divert behaviours.



**Multi agency decision**

around whether threshold is met for S47 and whether a formal HSB assessment (PROFESOR or AIM3) these cases will generally sit on the abusive/violent section of Hackett's continuum

**YJS HSB consultation**

Consideration whether a consultation is required with the YJS Operational manager who leads on HSB if further advice, support, or resources are required



**Immediate HSB specific safety planning**

Safety plans to be put in place in collaboration with school professionals (HSB school safety plan), within the home (HSB home safety plan), within the community (HSB community safety plan) and/or HSB online safety planning

**NB:** Where a police investigation is live and ongoing, formal HSB assessments cannot be completed, therefore this will need to be revisited when the investigation has been concluded.

1. [HSB Home Safety Plan](#)
2. [HSB School Safety Plan](#)
3. [HSB Community Safety Plan](#)
4. [HSB Online Safety Plan](#)
5. [HSB Child/Young Person Visual Safety Plan](#)



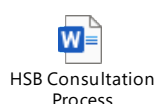
### **Key considerations**

- Evidence of repeated sexualised behaviours
- Number of victims
- Was violence/aggression used
- What is the age difference between the two parties (consider both chronological and development ages)
- Evidence of securing secrecy
- What was the difference in power/authority
- Is the victim vulnerable?
- Is there an identified imbalance of power?
- Was coercion utilised? I.e.: manipulation, threats of force, weapons, peer pressure, blackmail, bribery, intimidation.
- Whereby a person is under the age of 13 they are never legally able to give their consent

### **HSB Consultations**

Where it is deemed that there is a need for further consultation, please see the consultation process.

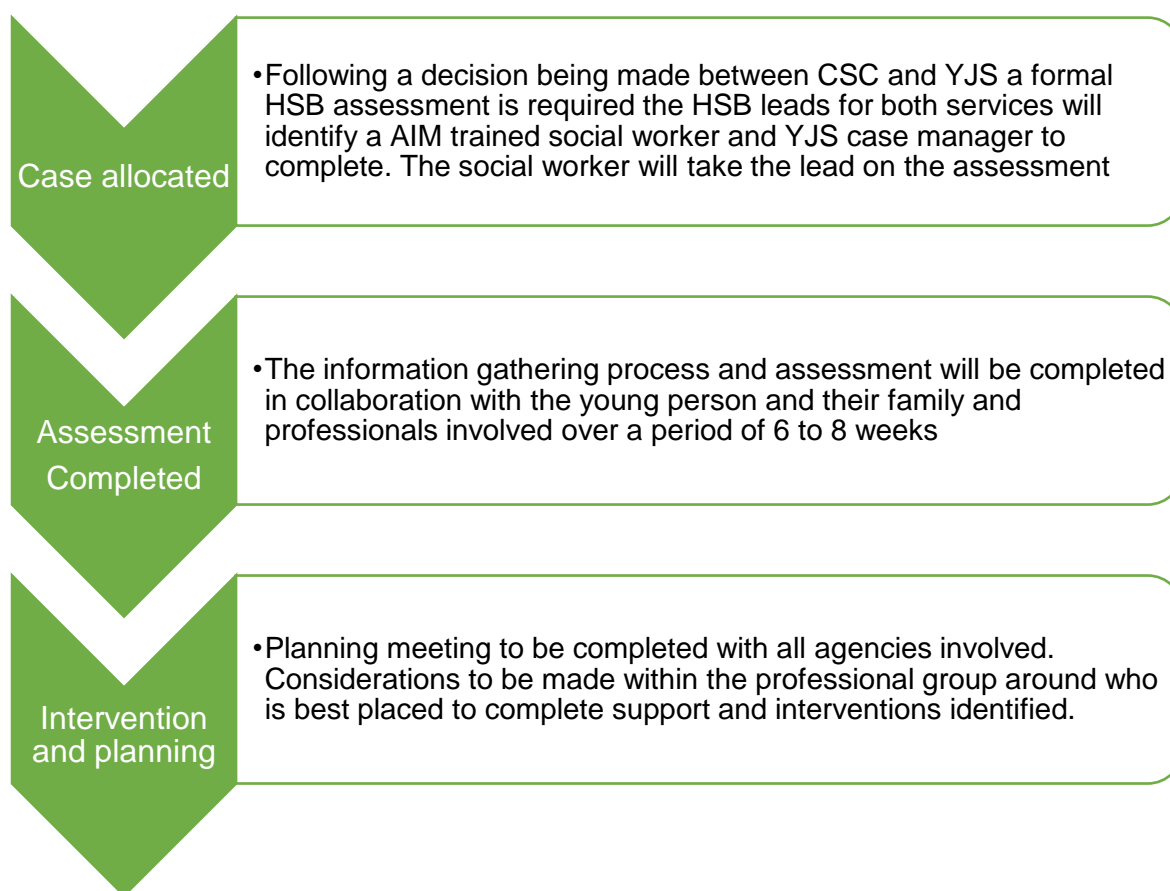
#### **6. [HSB Consultation Process](#)**



Where there are cases that require support for parents and/or children and young people that require further support around e-safety a consultation can be arranged directly with Terry Franke (E-safety safeguarding specialist at the Safeguarding Unit) [terry.franke@salford.gov.uk](mailto:terry.franke@salford.gov.uk).

## **Formal HSB Assessment**

Where it is deemed that it is appropriate to progress a case to having a formal HSB Assessment completed (AIM3, AIM3 under 12's or PROFESOR assessment) the following process will be applied. Where the assessment has not been requested through the Court, Criminal pathway. With these cases the YJS will oversee these assessments. Other cases will follow the pathway below:



### **Specialist therapeutic or psychological intervention required.**

Where the assessment identifies a need for further therapeutic or psychological or specialist support please follow the process below:

The above support will be provided on a spot purchase basis. This will need to be discussed with Practice Managers initially.



Any cases where this is deemed necessary need to be highlighted with the Head of Service for Integrated Social Work – Alison Maxwell to agree for this work/intervention to be funded



The case will then be passed over to the commissioning team, following agreement from Head of Service

### **Forensic Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service – North West (FCAMHS)**

Where there is a young person who has mental health difficulties, neurodevelopment or a learning disability **and** there are concerns about the child or young person showing behaviour that is a risk to others and/or offending behaviour a referral should be considered for F-CAMHS.

To do this you will need to contact them on [FCAMHS.Northwest@gmmh.nhs.uk](mailto:FCAMHS.Northwest@gmmh.nhs.uk) or 0161 3580585

### **Resources, Research, useful websites and further information**

See below for a resource/research directory of useful websites that can be utilised when working with young people who have engaged in HSB. This list is not exhaustive. There are also resources available in the *Resources, toolkits, research and policy's* teams folder under "Harmful Sexual Behaviour". If you require further specific interventions or templates please contact the YJS Operational Manager (with HSB lead) Lucy Mitchell [lucy.mitchell@salford.gov.uk](mailto:lucy.mitchell@salford.gov.uk) or CSC HSB lead Jake Shearer (Practice Manager) [jake.shearer@salford.gov.uk](mailto:jake.shearer@salford.gov.uk)

## Useful resources/websites directory

### Screening Cases

- Stages of typical sexual development - [Sexual development and behaviour in children | NSPCC Learning](#)
- Responding to children who display sexualised behaviour - [Responding to children who display sexualised behaviour \(nspcc.org.uk\)](#)

### Online safety

- **Age 4 to 7 (CEOP)**  
[https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/4\\_7/](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/4_7/)
- **Age 8 – 10 (Play like Share CEOP)**  
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/playlikeshare/>
- **Age 8 – 10 (Bandrunner)** <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/bandrunner/>
- **Age 11 – 18 (the internet relationships and you)**  
[https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/11\\_18/](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/11_18/)  
[Cyber Choices - National Crime Agency](#)
- **Parents/Carers Resources**  
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>  
[Online safety resources and guides | NSPCC Learning](#)  
[Digital Sexual exploitation \(Sexploitation\) | Kent Police](#)  
[Online blackmail \(ceopeducation.co.uk\)](#)  
[Cyber Choices - National Crime Agency](#)  
[Online Safety Training For Schools | National Online Safety \(nationalcollege.com\)](#)
- **CEOP resource library for professionals working with young people**  
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/professionals/>
  - [Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)
  - [Childnet — Online safety for young people](#)
  - [Resources for 3-11s - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)
  - [How AI is being abused to create child sexual abuse material \(CSAM\) online \(iwf.org.uk\)](#)

## Parental monitoring applications

- Qustodio
- Norton Family

## Healthy relationships

- (Ages 12 – 14 – resource)  
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/professionals/resources/respecting-me-you-us/>
- (Age 12- 16 resource)  
[Is My Relationship Healthy or Abusive? And What To Do - YouTube](#)

## Sexual knowledge

7. [ASKA - Assessing Sexual Knowledge in Young People](#)
8. [ASKA - Picture Book](#)



- [Family Planning Association \(fpa.org.uk\)](http://fpa.org.uk)

## Consent

- [Consent \(amaze.org\)](http://amaze.org) (Age 12 – 16 resource)
- [Tea and Consent \(youtube.com\)](http://youtube.com) (Teens)
- [Let's talk PANTS | NSPCC](#) (Primary school age)  
[PANTS resources for schools and teachers | NSPCC Learning](#)
- [All Lesson Resources – Not In Our Community – Protection against exploitation](#)
- [Consent lesson pack \(pshe-association.org.uk\)](http://pshe-association.org.uk) (Key Stage 3 to 5)
- [Consent lesson pack \(pshe-association.org.uk\)](http://pshe-association.org.uk) (Key Stage 1 to 2)

## Sexualised behaviour screening tools

[CPD: Brook Sexual Behaviours Traffic Light Tool \(RSE\) Course](#) (Brook Traffic Light Tool)

[Understanding sexualised behaviour in children | NSPCC Learning](#) (Hackett's continuum of sexualised behaviours)

## Parents

- [Helping parents and carers understand the sexual behaviour of teenagers - Stop It Now](#)
- <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>
- [Online safety resources and guides | NSPCC Learning](#)
- [LFF-ELEC-Resource-Pack-for-Parents MAY21-1.pdf \(stopitnow.org.uk\)](#)

- [\(un\)comfortable conversations | NSPCC Learning](#)
- [All Lesson Resources – Not In Our Community – Protection against exploitation](#)
- [Parents Protect](#)
- [growing up parents new logo.pdf \(contact.org.uk\)](#)

## Pornography

- [www.brook.org.uk/porn](http://www.brook.org.uk/porn)
  - [Addressing pornography through PSHE \(pshe-association.org.uk\)](http://pshe-association.org.uk)
9. **Technology Assisted Sexual Behaviours Continuum** – pornography use



Pornography  
Continuum

## Research and theories

- [Child sexual abuse in 2022/23: Trends in official data \(csacentre.org.uk\)](http://csacentre.org.uk)
- [Key messages from research on harmful sexual behaviour in online contexts \(csacentre.org.uk\)](http://csacentre.org.uk)
- [Sibling sexual behaviour: A guide to responding to inappropriate, problematic and abusive behaviour \(csacentre.org.uk\)](http://csacentre.org.uk)
- [Understanding sexualised behaviour in children | NSPCC Learning](#)
- [Podcast: direct work with children displaying harmful sexual behaviour | NSPCC Learning](#)
- [Podcast: sibling sexual abuse | NSPCC Learning](#)
- [Podcast: understanding denial in children displaying harmful sexual behaviour | NSPCC Learning](#)
- [Online Safety Act 2023 - Parliamentary Bills - UK Parliament](#)