



# Wirral Safer Adolescence Strategy 2021-2023



Photograph of a young person in an arcade.

***“this plan is focusing on children as their own person - and how each child has their own journey and path they have been on, which makes them unique”.***

Consultation feedback from young person

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***“each young person has individual needs and the plan needs to be adapted to that,***

***I understand this will take longer; and you will need to speak to a lot of different young people to find those needs out - but I do think it's important that we do that”.***

Consultation feedback from young person

Photograph of a young person on a bicycle.

Photographs are included courtesy of our young people, working with Wirral's Creative Youth Development Team on the 'In our hands' project. The images are not linked to Our Adolescence narrators (Page 3) or intended to indicate concern or risk at specific locations or circumstances.

Photographs are included to help connect the reader to the most important aspect of this document – our young people.

## **Our Adolescence**

Adolescence starts when we are around 10 – 12, through to our mid-twenties. This is when we go through huge changes – psychologically, emotionally, physically, and socially.

It is an impressionable time – when we take risks. We enjoy the feelings of taking risks, but we struggle to manage the aftermath or the consequence.

At this stage, our brains are still developing particularly in the way in which we manage consequential thinking. This along with a lack of life experience means that at this stage in life we tend to be more motivated by short term gains as opposed to long term goals.

We experience a wealth of emotions that can be both liberating and conflicting. It can be exciting – but also scary.

Around this time, we get a strong desire to do our own thing. We want to make our own decisions and take responsibility for our own actions whilst we find out who we are – and begin to navigate the world around us.

How well we deal with this period depends on so many different things – our world up to that point, who we have around us; at home and outside, and what support we get when we need it most.

We wanted to walk through the strategy with you, to share our experiences and help you see how much your work means to us. We hope you enjoy our photographs – and they help remind you that this is about the young people of Wirral.

Hi I'm Holly.

I'm 16 and I live in a busy house where there is always a lot happening.

I love makeup, clothes, trainers, and pyjamas. I love listening to music.

I love being around people and I don't really like to be on my own, I don't like quiet because there is too much time for thinking.

I'm good at standing up for myself and I'm not afraid to say what I think.

My name's Dom.

I'm 17 and live with my foster mum right now.

I miss my family – but they don't really want anything to do with me. I used to live with my dad, but he moved, and I don't know where to.

I don't have many hobbies – I've never really tried stuff when I was little to be honest. My Dad didn't go to footy with me or anything like that. I do like spending time with my girlfriend. She understands how things have been.

It isn't nice knowing that your mum, dad, brother's, and grandparents don't even want to know how I am doing, or even where I am. It makes me very sad, and often makes me angry with myself.

I'm Lauren.

I'm nearly 15. I live with my Mum and Sister.

I don't go to school, I struggled with the lessons, I get really angry and can't be in with the others.

Growing up was really hard.

## **1. Introduction**

Adolescence can be a challenging time for many young people. Due to experiences or circumstances beyond their control some young people may be more vulnerable than others.

There are several factors that can contribute to young people's vulnerability; and may increase the risk of them being harmed. Recognising and managing vulnerability will help us to prevent harm.

A proactive safeguarding approach to adolescent safety will help our young people stay as safe as possible as they develop into adulthood. This means understanding those factors that may increase vulnerability and risk; and working across partnerships to support our young people.

Traditionally, safeguarding services were developed and structured to address familial risk. Young people's needs and experiences are very different as they get older. Risks outside the home or family (Extra familial risks) become more relevant. These are sometimes referred to as 'contextual' risks.

Understanding contexts relevant to the daily lived experience of our children and young people is key to reducing risk and improving outcomes. As such, Wirral will adopt a contextual safeguarding framework approach to adolescent safety. Section 4, pages 8 & 9 set out how this can operate at different levels. This includes ensuring child level plans take account of the contexts in which young people live and socialise.

It is important to recognise from the outset that we cannot tackle adolescent vulnerability, risk, and harm with child-based work only. The disruption and pursuit of those people and places thought to be a risk to our children; and the mechanisms by which we identify risk and coordinate are critical. Section 8 sets out the Four P's approach – Prepare, Prevent, Protect and Pursue. Our collective effort must span these areas to ensure we secure the best outcomes for our children and young people - and not work in isolation.

Themes impacting on children and young people have changed over time. As we identify different types of harm our collective responses as partners develop and evolve. This strategy seeks to introduce a framework through which we can identify such themes and respond in partnership.

In view of the broad range of issues contributing to vulnerability, and the changing nature of harm impacting on young people in different contexts, it is beyond the scope of the strategy to set out each approach in detail. It is also acknowledged that associated vulnerabilities are not necessarily 'predictors' of harm for individual young people. Similarly, any young person can become a victim and we must collectively remain vigilant to the warning signs.

This strategy seeks to ensure partners are aware of the potential relationships between vulnerability and harm, understand the importance of reducing vulnerability in the context of preventing harm, and provide the framework by which Wirral partners can collectively tackle harm when it is recognised.

Where young people are moving into adulthood, partners will seek to identify transition support to ensure those who remain vulnerable have access to services and networks that can continue to engage and support them on their individual development journey.

Where the strategy refers to work with, or in support of, young people there is a recognition that consideration will be given to how parents and guardians are supported as part of any plan or approach.

The impact of Covid 19 is not to be overlooked when considering vulnerability. Our young people are spending more time online than ever before. Safeguarding partners have adapted the way in which they work to maintain contact and support children through this period.

In delivering this strategy, partners will ensure the challenges presented by the pandemic are considered.

## Aims

In delivering this strategy we aim to.

- Promote a more strategic preventative approach to adolescent safety by raising awareness of associated vulnerabilities.
- Enhance our collective understanding of what is meant 'extra-familial harm', or 'risk outside the home'.
- Embed a shared set of partnership principles and values for working with adolescents.
- Develop a Wirral contextual safeguarding framework.

The Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership will oversee the delivery of these aims as set out at Appendix A.

## Scope

What do we mean by vulnerable adolescents? Adolescence is a transitional stage of physical and psychological development that generally occurs during the period from puberty to legal adulthood and is often referred to as the teenage years.

Adolescence however can last into a young person's mid-twenties and will vary across individuals. There may be some young people who require additional support past the legal age of adulthood.

Vulnerability can be defined in many ways; the more commonly associated vulnerabilities would include:

- Domestic Abuse.
- Mental Health and Wellbeing.
- Neglect.
- Not being in education.

Section 5 of this strategy considers vulnerability in more detail.

What type of 'Harm' are we talking about?

## Ofsted

The Ofsted framework calls for professionals to recognise factors that make some children more vulnerable; and tailor interventions to take this into account.

The framework refers to '*vulnerable adolescents and children at risk of radicalisation or exploitation or becoming involved in gangs. Children and young people who are missing from home, care or full-time school education (including those who are excluded from school) and those at risk of exploitation and trafficking*'.

The inspectorate also cites what would be included in reviewing arrangements for the Protection of vulnerable children from 'extra-familial' risk.

This may cover:

- Child sexual/criminal exploitation.
- Missing from home, care, or education.
- Risks associated with gangs (also referred to as Organised Crime Groups – OCGs).
- Risks associated with radicalisation.
- Trafficking and modern slavery.

## Joint Inspectorates (JTAI)

The wider partnership inspectorate framework relevant to this area is set out under the Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) arrangements. In December 2018, Ofsted announced that one of the future themes for joint inspectorate activity would be '*older children in need of help and protection, and contextual safeguarding, including exploitation*'.

### Working Together 2018 (DfE) – (Revised December 2020): Risk outside the home

This Working Together guidance applies to all organisations and agencies who have functions relating to children. Specifically, this guidance applies to all local authorities, clinical commissioning groups, police and other relevant organisations and agencies.

As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online.

These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats, including:

- Exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines.
- Trafficking.
- Online abuse.
- Teenage relationship abuse.
- Sexual exploitation, and
- The influences of extremism leading to radicalisation.

Assessments of children in such cases should consider whether wider environmental factors are present in a child's life and are a threat to their safety and/or welfare. Children who may be alleged perpetrators should also be assessed to understand the impact of contextual issues on their safety and welfare. Interventions should focus on addressing these wider environmental factors, which are likely to be a threat to the safety and welfare of several different children who may or may not be known to children's social care.

Child exploitation (CE) remains an area of priority focus. Events of child criminal exploitation (CCE) are now more readily recognised and identified as abuse. Whilst this is currently more predominantly associated with males, care should be taken not to overlook females who may be victims.

Much progress has been made nationally in tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). This impact must be sustained through continued partnership focus and professional vigilance.

## Wider Themes

We recognise that not all types of harm may be captured within some of these specific national inspectorate or guidance 'themes'.

In developing our Wirral contextual safeguarding framework, we aim to recognise different themes and issues, consider them in context, and work together to prevent harm to our young people.

## **2. Principles and Values**

As a partnership we are committed to working together and taking a **child first approach**. Young people have helped us develop a set of guiding principles and values that should underpin 'how' we work with them.

### **Principles**

- **Work with us.** We want to feel included – not just having work done for us or around us.
- **We can help.** Our experiences can help improve services; and create new and different ways of working.
- **Stay with us.** It's better when we get to know and trust the people who want to help.
- **Help us build relationships.** When we are supported to create other friendships; or you help support our family connections we feel safer and more able to cope.
- **Listen to us.** Spend the time to find out about us and what our whole life is like.
  - Sometimes things we are worried about happen away from home.
  - Don't assume we are all the same. Everyone is unique.
- **Help us dream and achieve.** Your passion, skills and teamwork can make a big difference to our lives.

These principles were shaped for Wirral using the Research in Practice study: 'That Difficult Age: Developing a more effective response to risks in adolescence (2014)' by Dr Elly Hanson and Dez Holmes.

### **Values**

We will.

- Work together with young people in a partnership culture of **inclusion, understanding and empathy**.
- **Take Ownership and accountability.**
  - Safeguarding does not start or end with a referral. It is a continuum of activity and effort - and is everybody's business. This means that a wide range of agencies, communities and individuals play an active role and commit to an approach, this creates a 'collective capacity' to safeguard young people.

An example of how we as professionals can live these values is through our collective use of language. Victim-blaming language may reinforce messages from perpetrators around shame and guilt. This in turn may prevent the child or young person from disclosing their abuse, through fear of being blamed by professionals.

More information on appropriate language can be found at the following link, produced by the National Police Chief's Council, Victim Support and The Children's Society.

<https://csepoliceandprevention.org.uk/toolkits>

### **3. Consultation**

Consultation has taken place with over 2000 young people in Wirral, to help shape the Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership (WSCP) contextual safeguarding committee work. In developing the strategy, cognisance has been taken of consultation and feedback gathered as part of the youth offer consultation.

Feedback on the approach has been gathered through the partnership's participation and engagement network. This comprised.

- Involve – Health Economy Engagement Network
- Youth Voice Group
- SEND Youth Voice Group,
- Children Looked After Juniors,
- Junior and Youth Arts Groups,
- Care Leavers Council
- Children in Care Council

Members of the Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership (WSCP) and wider governance stakeholders have engaged and supported the development of the workplan, contextual safeguarding framework and safer adolescence strategy. This includes feedback from The Children's Society regional prevention officer and the Community and Education lead for the National Working Group for Child Exploitation (NWG).

### **4. Contextual Safeguarding**

The model of contextual safeguarding was developed by Dr Carlene Firmin at the University of Bedfordshire and has already been referenced in this strategy. Contextual Safeguarding is an approach to understanding, and responding to, young people's experiences of harm beyond their families.

Contextual Safeguarding is an approach - not a model. There is no 'one size fits all' approach. In this sense, it is designed to be adapted to the different contexts and requirements of services and partnerships seeking to employing a more collective contextual safeguarding mindset and approach.

#### **Contextual Safeguarding – Levels of Operation**

Implementing Contextual Safeguarding requires a transformation in the systems and approaches agencies use.

This can be considered at three levels.

##### **Level One: Child Level**

This level is centred at individual young people, seeking to develop how professionals and organisations draw extra-familial contexts into their assessments, plans and work with children and families.

This level would see child level support and interventions identified across professionals that can impact on the contexts relevant to the specific child.

##### **Level Two: Locations and Groups**

Work at this level will develop practice, systems, and structures for identifying, assessing, and intervening with locations and groups within which young people are at risk of harm.



This can include for example. Peer mapping and assessment, context assessments, school and neighbourhood level problem solving work. This would see practitioners working together operationally with community safety, crime and disorder partners and other sectors where appropriate to tackle those issues causing collective harm or risk of harm.

### Level Three: Themes and Trends causing risk of harm or increasing vulnerability

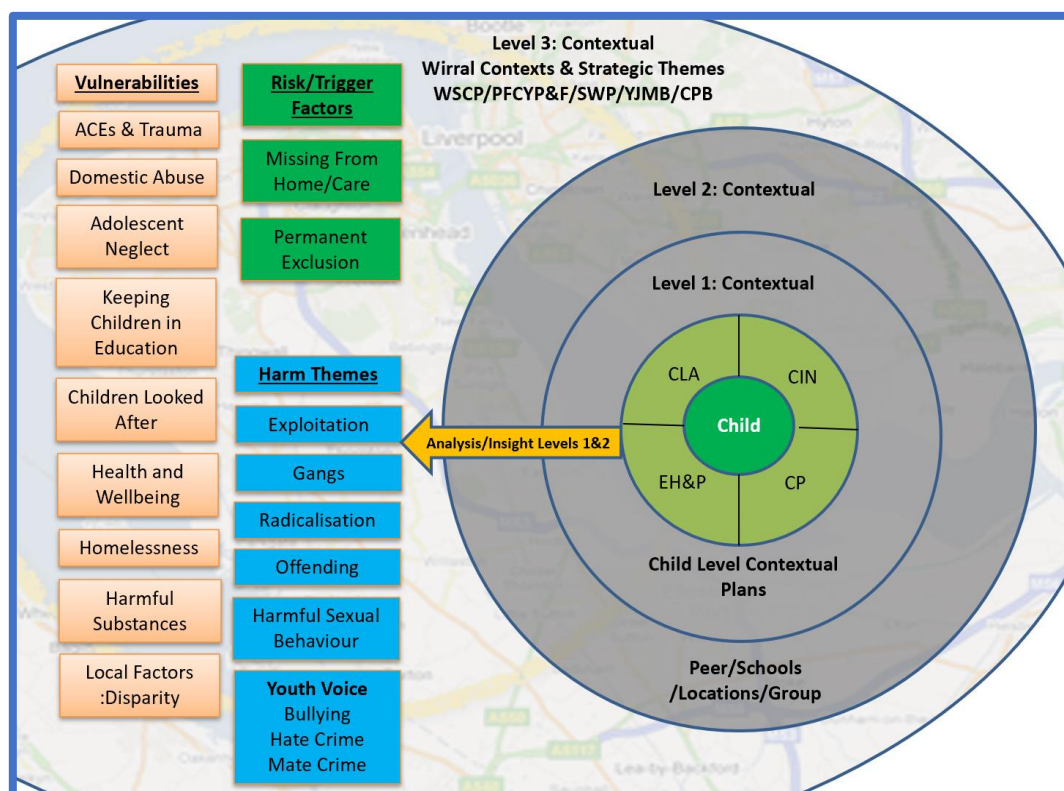
Level Three aims to operate at a more strategic level, recognising how partnerships tackle issues that impact across Wirral. Links with WSCP statutory safeguarding partners, the Safer Wirral Partnership, Partnership for Children, Young People and Families; Youth Justice Management Board and Corporate Parenting Board are particularly relevant in the context of this strategy. These forums are noted at Level 3 in the below graphic.

Each level should support and compliment the other.

Level One activity should identify contexts in need of attention through Level Two work, and work undertaken at Level Two can support reduction in risk of harm at Level One.

Level Three should be informed by analysis and insight – using information from Levels One and Two, and consultation with young people. Level Three will also be informed by analysis and insight from across the partnership relating to identified themes or strategic priorities.

The below graphic highlights the three levels of operation for the Wirral Contextual Safeguarding Framework. This looks to draw on the underpinning theory from the University of Bedfordshire, whilst adopting a model that allows context to be identified and addressed at operational, tactical, and strategic levels across partners in Wirral.



The above graphic shows the concentric levels of the Contextual Safeguarding framework, from child level to Pan Wirral level. Key: CiN: Child in Need. CLA: Child Looked After. CP: Child Protection. EH&P: Early Help and Prevention Plans

## Implementation Support

As a University of Bedfordshire Local Authority Interest Network (LAIN) member, the Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership will receive support from the university in developing local champions and connecting Wirral to peer authorities engaged in national pilot work.

Nationally, those pilot authority areas are currently working through a 3-year implementation programme following a 'Create – Test – Embed' process. Wirral are connected to local pilot sites and a wider North West cluster of partnerships developing contextual safeguarding practice.

Activity aimed at enhancing and further developing our local contextual safeguarding framework are included within the WSCP contextual safeguarding committee work, supported with task and finish work across relevant partners.

## **5. Contextual or Extra Familial Harm: Associated Vulnerabilities**

There are factors in young people's lives which may make them more vulnerable; and could increase the likelihood of them being exposed to contextual or extra familial harm in adolescence. The term 'Trigger Trio' or 'Toxic Trio' is often used in this context. This term relates to the presence of domestic abuse, parental mental health, or substance misuse.

This strategy aims to raise awareness of the potential relationship between associated vulnerabilities and risk of harm in adolescence. The activity and linked strategies in place around these areas of vulnerability could be considered preventative in the context of vulnerable adolescents.

### Adverse Childhood Experiences

Childhood experiences have a significant impact on lifelong health and opportunity. Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) refer to stressful or traumatic events that children and young people can be exposed to as they are growing up.

ACEs range from experiences that directly harm a child, such as physical, verbal, or sexual abuse, and physical or emotional neglect, to those that affect the environments in which children grow up, such as parental separation, domestic abuse, mental illness, alcohol abuse, drug use or imprisonment. How we support children whose parents or guardians have been given a custodial sentence also features within local partnership work under the WSCP and is recognised as an ACE.

If professionals identify and understand the impact of ACEs on young people they are working with, this can help shape the right support and interventions. Our partnership principles for working with adolescents (Section 2) provides a framework for 'how' we work with young people and their families.

Further information relating to ACEs can be found at the below link.

<https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/adverse-childhood-experiences-aces/>

Wirral's Partnership for Children, Young People and Families has committed to undertake work to develop a more consistent and integrated partnership approach to ACEs and Trauma Informed Practice.

### Domestic Abuse.

Young people may be more susceptible to contextual harm due to their limited and/or limiting experiences of growing up in a household where domestic abuse has skewed their understanding of healthy relationships.

They may no longer live with family; or may seek to spend more time out of the family home in other contexts where harm can occur. Ongoing issues at home can also act as strong 'push' factors for young people, increasing the time they spend in other places or contexts.

Wirral has recently developed the 5 year 'No Excuse' domestic abuse strategy, delivered through the domestic abuse alliance.

<https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/professionals/what-is-domestic-abuse/>

### Emotional Health and Wellbeing

Young people who are struggling with their mental health may potentially be more vulnerable to contextual risk factors. One in ten children needs support or treatment for mental health issues. At least a quarter of people experience mental health difficulties at some point in their lives and over half of all mental health issues in adult life (excluding dementia) start by age 14, and seventy five percent by age 18.

Partners across Wirral coordinate work in this area through the 'Future in Mind' Steering Group. Further information can be found at the below link.

<https://www.wirralintelligenceservice.org/jsna/children-and-young-people-mental-health/>

### SEND

Some children and young people need additional support to reach their academic and developmental potential. If this is not recognised or supported in the right way, young people are at risk of falling behind in their development and disengaging with education, employment, or training opportunities. This can reduce individual personal resilience and leave young people vulnerable to harm.

In December 2020 Wirral Council approved the SEND strategy 2020-2025. The delivery of this strategy will align closely to the school strategy and support the aim of ensuring vulnerable children reach their full potential.

The strategic objectives within the SEND strategy seeks to Improve the quality of provision and outcomes for young people with SEND – This includes early identification and intervention, transition between educational setting and adulthood; and further developing participation and engagement.

An effective approach to SEND will help reduce vulnerability prior to; and in adolescence – contributing to the prevention of harm.

### Neglect

Young people who are exposed to extra familial harm may also be suffering from neglect. Previous work within the WSCP has identified that neglect can often be a factor in the story of young people who are later identified as at risk of being exploited.

The Ofsted JTAI inspection report 'Growing Up Neglected' (July 2018) calls for a greater awareness of the neglect of older children and a focus on trauma-based approaches to tackling it.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/722740/Older\\_children\\_neglect\\_FINAL\\_060718.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/722740/Older_children_neglect_FINAL_060718.pdf)

Neglect can occur for many reasons, including parental substance misuse, mental health or learning difficulties. Such environments can provide limited experience of positive parental care, with the incentive to remain at home, care or in education reducing as a consequence.

Neglect in older children features as part of the WSCP Neglect Strategy.

<https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/WSCP-Neglect-Strategy-19-21.pdf>

In delivering this strategy, we will ensure the links between neglect in older children and exposure to contextual harm are clearly highlighted to professionals. Identifying and addressing neglect earlier will help to reduce the risk of exploitation or other contextual harm.

#### Not being in Full time Education (CME25), or Not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET)

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel report into Criminal Exploitation (March 2020) highlights permanent exclusion from mainstream education as a trigger point for risk of serious harm in this context.

To support enhanced partnership coordination in this area, the WSCP have developed a local procedure entitled 'Children at Risk of Not Receiving and Education'. This procedure can be accessed below:

<https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/procedures/6-8-children-risk-not-receiving-suitable-education/>

#### Children in Care

Children in care, or Looked after children, come from a range of different backgrounds. Each child has their own different and specific sets of needs.

Children may enter care for all sorts of reasons, this may be because they have experienced abuse or neglect. These experiences can leave children with complex emotional and mental health needs, which can increase their vulnerability.

Providing children in and on the edge of care with the support they need, when they need it, can help them to flourish and achieve their potential; and reduce the likelihood of them being exposed to harm.

Wirral's Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) seeks to ensure that Wirral fulfils its corporate parenting responsibilities and monitors performance in terms of improving outcomes for children looked after and care leavers. The Corporate Parenting Board is supported by a strategy and action plan.

#### Harmful Substances

According to Public Health England, a national survey undertaken with 15-year-olds in 2019 identified an increase in substance use. The results of the most recent survey of 15-year-olds have also identified that 73% consumed alcohol in the last year and 24% in the last week with 23% reporting being drunk once or more in the last month.

Adolescent alcohol and substance use have been associated with lower academic attainment, reduced school attendance, changes in affect and behaviours leading to impairments in relationships with family and friends. Some young people will have both mental health problems and misuse substances. Anecdotal evidence also exists which suggests some young people with neurodevelopmental conditions such as ADHD use substances to self-medicate.

Response Drug and Alcohol Service within the Local Authority's Youth Matters collective work with young people aged 13-19 whose drug/alcohol use is a cause for concern. WSCP also have information to help parents or carers find out more about drugs and alcohol.

<https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/drugs-and-alcohol-parents-and-carers/>

## Homelessness

In the context of this strategy, this relates to 16- and 17-year-olds who may be homeless (or at risk of becoming homeless) or require accommodation. The Department for Education (DfE) and the Ministry for Housing, Community and Local Government (MHCLG) provide statutory guidance in this area. This directs a joint approach between children's services and local housing authorities to ensure appropriate assessment is undertaken and these young people are supported during what may be an extremely vulnerable time.

Operationally, Wirral Children's Services and Housing partners work together as part of the local protocol for 16- and 17-year-olds. Adolescent homelessness is also cross referenced within the Wirral Homeless and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2025.

## Local Factors - Disparity

There are extremes of both affluence and deprivation in Wirral, meaning that children and young people's life chances and experiences can be different depending on where they live.

The challenge for partners is to close the gap by ensuring services and resources are targeted where they are needed; and will make a difference to the lived experience and life chances of Wirral's children.

In Wirral, we see examples of insight led and locality focused programmes of work and partnership approaches. North Birkenhead's Cradle to Career is a larger example of bringing together the community, families, education sector and local organisations and services with a place-based, collective impact approach to improving outcomes for children and young people.

## The impact of Covid 19

National research has shown that young people are more concerned about their own mental health and wellbeing through the pandemic, especially within the periods of lockdown.

Themes highlighted by the NSPCC, analysed from calls to Childline, included increased concerns from children about their mental health, strained family relationships, bullying, abuse and neglect – including online abuse. The Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership have resources highlighting the impact of Covid 19 on Children and Young People. Further information and resources can be accessed using the following link.

<https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/covid-19-impact-on-children-and-young-people/>

Wirral has launched a dedicated freephone helpline for children and young people who may be feeling unsafe or worried during the lockdown. Young people can call to speak to an adviser for help, advice, and support.

## Online

Children and young people are increasingly spending more time online. Online risks may not be as visible to professionals and the internet can be a cross cutting medium relevant to several types of harm. Understanding the daily lived experience of children and young people is key to safeguarding practice, exploring how they interact and engage online can build a more accurate picture and help keep them safe.

The WSCP has collated resources relevant to online or internet safety, which can be accessed at the below site.

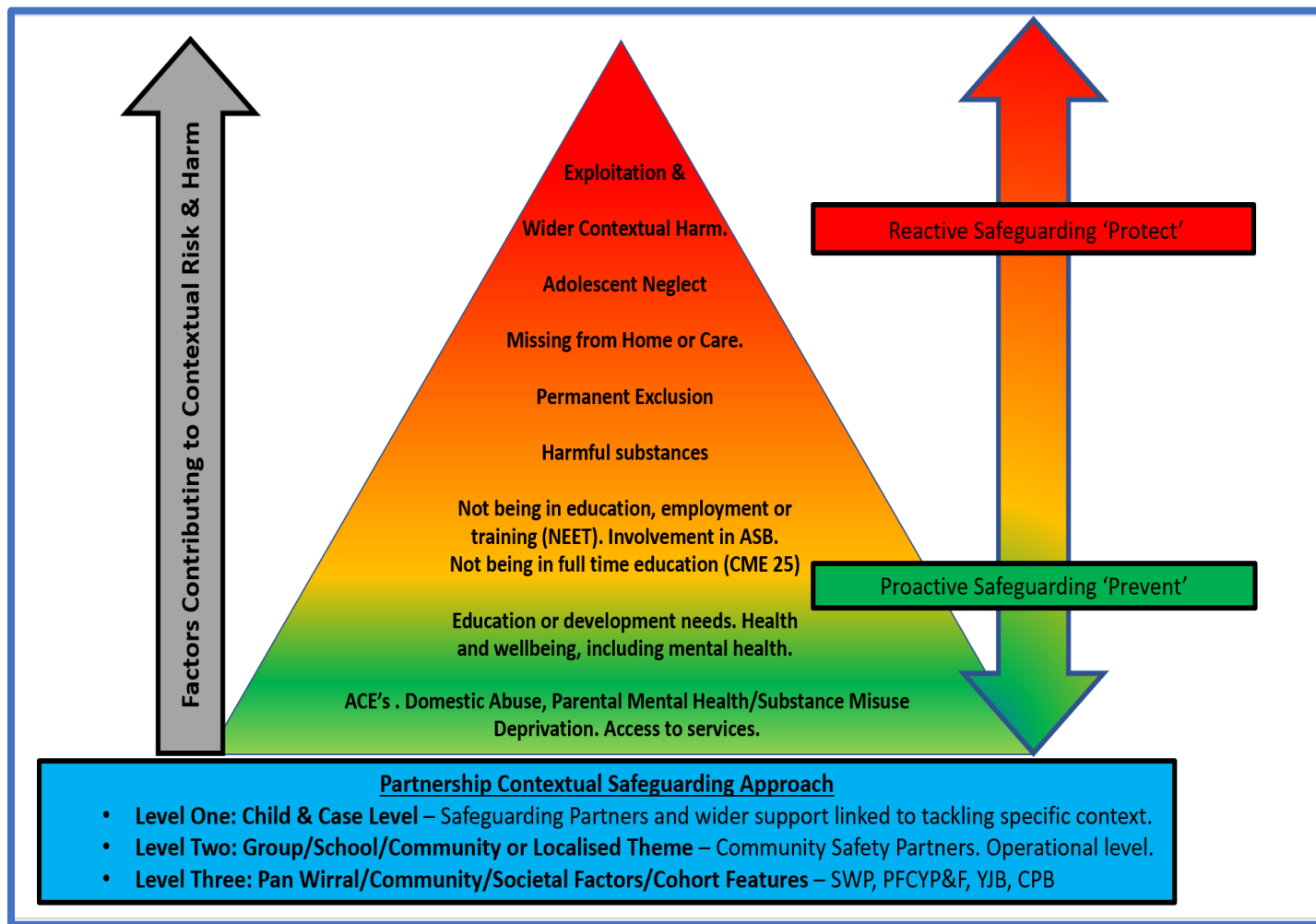
<https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/internet-safety/>

The Children's Society have a resource that can be used by professionals when working with young people to help keep them safe.

<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/sites/default/files/2021-01/online-exploitation-guidance.pdf>

### Vulnerability and Risk of Contextual/Extra Familial Harm

The contextual safeguarding framework set out in this strategy recognises the role played by strategic boards and partners at a Pan Wirral level in addressing those associated vulnerabilities and tackling priority harm themes. (Section 4, Page 8 and 9 refer).



The above graphic represents the relationship between associated vulnerabilities and risk factors; and the potential escalation into contextual - or extra familial - harm.

### **Holly**

*There are older people in my family who have got me to do things that are illegal, like stealing things, and selling and moving drugs, and they got me to bring some of my friends to parties in houses or in hotel rooms.*

*They have introduced me to other adults and taken me to parties where there were loads of alcohol and drugs, and I think that some bad things happened to me, although I can't really remember it very well.*

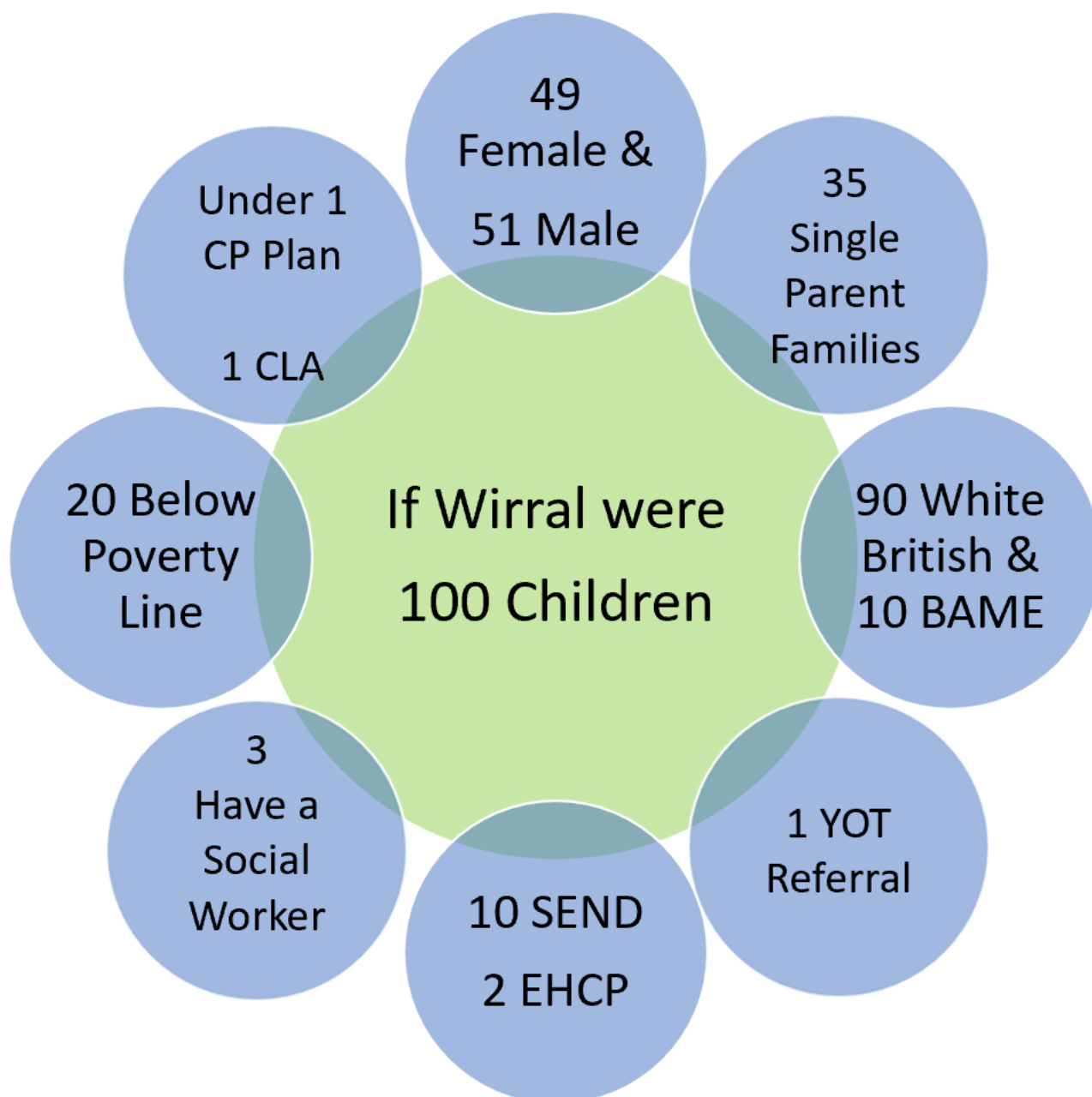
*I found it hard to tell people about the things that were going on, but I did talk to my worker at times when things got really bad.*



## 7. What do we know about our area?

The Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership have identified how Wirral would look if it were 100 Children. This helps understand, for example, what proportion of our young people are involved with Children's Services, if they have support for educational needs, or whether they are part of a single parent family.

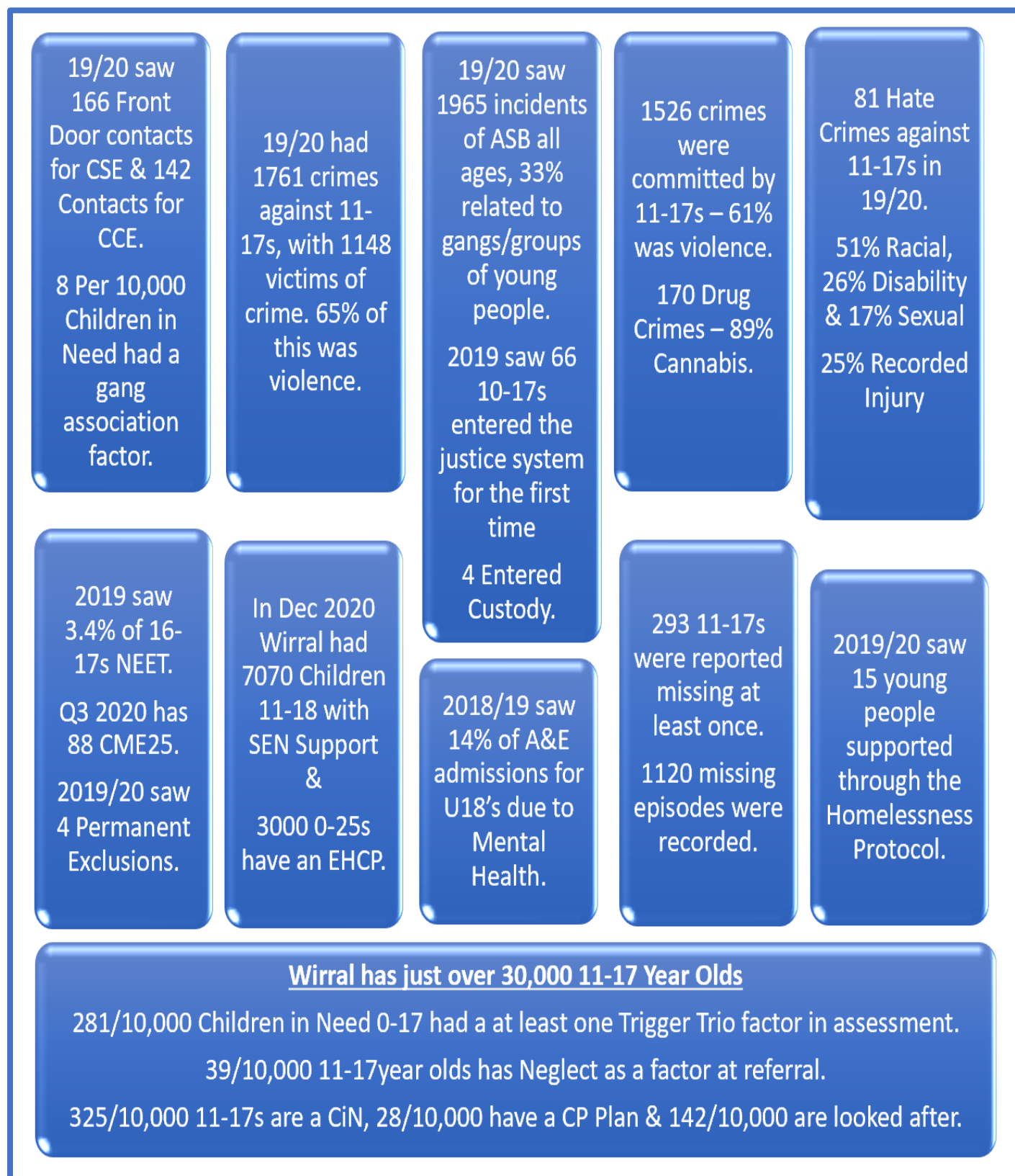
The below breakdown covers all ages from 0-17.



The chart above shows a breakdown of the proportion of young people on Wirral.

In terms of adolescents, Wirral has over 30,000 11–17-year-olds according to the most recent data.

The below graphic helps set some context as the prevalence of vulnerabilities - such as not being in education, becoming homeless, or becoming involved in crime as an offender or victim. The data covers years 2019-2020 unless stated otherwise.

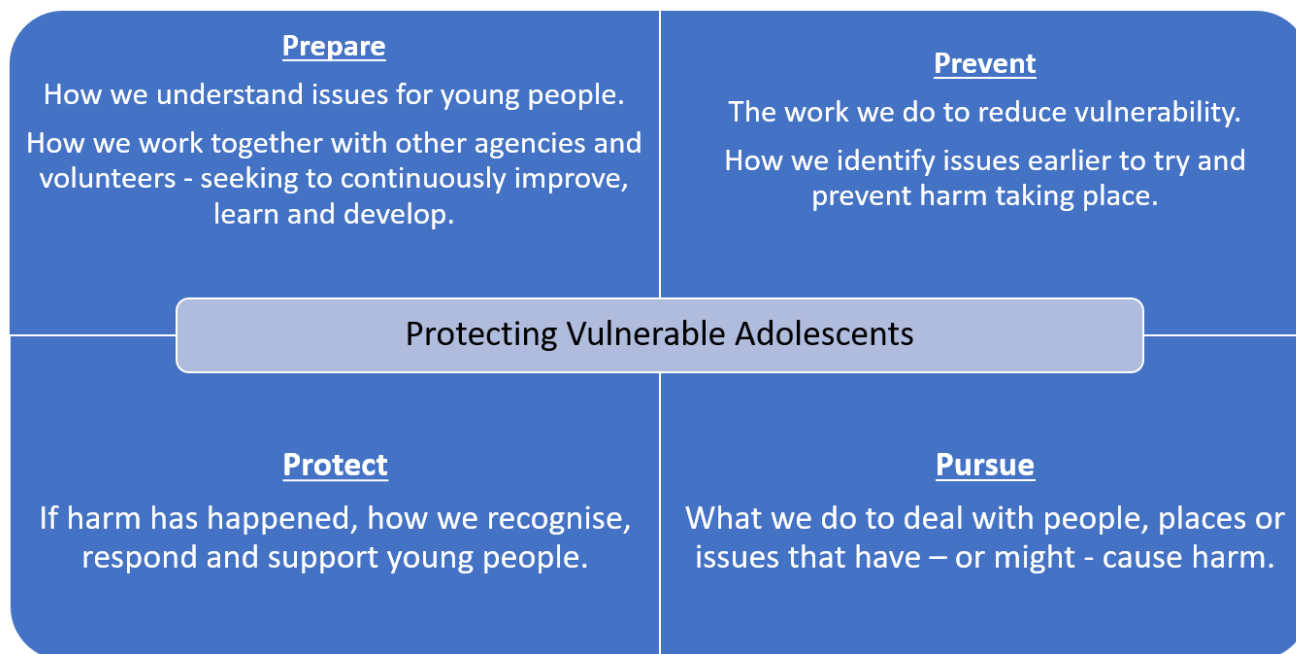


The above graphic shows vulnerability and harm statistics for 11-17- and 0–17-year-olds in Wirral.



## 8. Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership (WSCP) 4Ps approach

The WSCP Contextual Safeguarding Committee development work focuses on the following areas. Each area is aligned to outcomes and supported by activity as part of a partnership plan. The below graphic shows the 4P'S approach to this work. The outcomes and activity for 2021 onward will be developed in support of the WSCP Safer Adolescence Strategy.



The above graphic shows the 4Ps approach used within the Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership.

### **Prepare: Establishing effective systems and multi-agency leadership.**

#### Outcomes

- The safeguarding of children in extra familial contexts is recognised as a priority for the partnership. Key people and partners understand and fulfil their role in supporting the agenda.
- Patterns, trends and themes of contextual risk and harm as it impacts upon children and young people is understood.
- Ensuring children's voices are heard, listened to, and acted upon by their participation in building our strategic priorities, plans and activities.
- Professionals understand contextual safeguarding and are supported in practice with systems, practice guidance, tools, and resources.
- WSCP have quality assurance and oversight, using case audit and data to understand impact.

#### *So far:*

- *Contextual safeguarding has been identified as one of the four priority areas for the Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership.*
- *The partnership has established a contextual safeguarding committee, represented by statutory and no- statutory agencies and partners across Wirral.*
- *The partnership secured quarterly self-assessments and data that help understand the current picture and impact around contextual safeguarding themes.*

- *The WSCP has already undertaken a survey of over 2000 young people, to understand what risk they see for themselves in extra familial contexts. This has fed into the partnership work plan and will be undertaken periodically through the course of this development work to ensure young people influence our collective approach.*
- *Training around contextual harm themes and underpinning theory has been developed and delivered by the WSCP; further training is being supported by the University of Bedfordshire in conjunction with the Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership.*

**Prevent: Minimising the risk of harm to vulnerable cohorts through early identification, intervention, and support.**

Outcomes

- Multi-agency information and intelligence is gathered to identify risks and vulnerabilities in groups, communities, and individuals – to enable appropriately targeted support and interventions.
- Early help and prevention for EFH is well developed and delivered by professionals who understand the nature of contextual risk, promoting resilience – preventing deterioration and escalation.
- Children, young people, and their parents/carers are informed about the risks, can identify forms of contextual harm, and know how to access early support.
- Preventative and support programmes are delivered in early years/schools/colleges and in the community to promote their education and understanding of the extra familial risks and self-protection.
- Agencies work together to prevent young people going missing from home, care, and education.

*So Far:*

- *Daily partnership tasking and coordinating takes places where information relating to contextual harm themes is shared and responses coordinated. This includes the partnership response to missing young people.*
- *Insight work has been developed around contextual themes, feeding into service tasking and development work for resources such as school-based programmes of prevention.*
- *Compass, the missing and exploitation service, has collated and developed tools and resources that support children and families subject to, or at risk of exploitation.*
- *Catch 22 work alongside professionals and families to understand why children and young people go missing, working in partnership to identify push and pull factors and reduce missing events.*
- *In-school events have been developed and delivered to raise awareness of contextual harm for young people.*
- *Local and regional marketing campaigns have been developed and delivered across traditional and social media, raising awareness of contextual harm issues, one example being the 'Eyes Open' campaign developed by the Violence Reduction Partnership in response to the county lines model of child exploitation.*
- *Youth Justice have developed a cohort of mentors for young people, offering a prevention service for those on the cusp of offending.*

- *The Attendance Team within Children's Services have provided support for schools at the earliest opportunity to prevent escalating absence and increasing vulnerability.*
- *Multi Agency Vulnerable Children's coordination has been set up to identify those children not accessing education – this forum identifies appropriate support to re-integrate into educational settings.*
- *Partnership coordination takes place for those children and young people open to Children's Social Care who are not accessing full time education.*

**Protect: Establishing effective and coordinated responses to children and young people harmed/at risk of harm.**

**Outcomes**

- Safeguarding practice will be informed by best practice, guidance, research, and innovation.
- Professionals identify, assess, and effectively respond to children and young people involved in complex criminal, contextual, exploitation and abuse networks.

**So Far:**

- *Wirral has partnered with The University of Bedfordshire and the Contextual Safeguarding Network as a Local Area Interest Network member. This entails the development of strategic and operational champions; and access to colleagues working on the national pilots for Contextual Safeguarding Practice.*
- *The youth justice service has partnered with Edge Hill University to seek an enhanced understanding of factors leading to youth offending.*
- *Professionals development sessions have been delivered to enhance understanding of the National Referral Mechanism (NRM), used to identify victims of trafficking.*
- *Case management systems across children's services have been reviewed and developed to incorporate contextual factors.*
- *Social Work champions have been identified to provide peer support and coaching to colleagues where extra familial harm has been identified in referrals and assessment.*
- *Multi Agency tools, specific to exploitation, have been reviewed and enhanced to reflect current contextual safeguarding theory.*
- *Operating to the Pan Merseyside Child Exploitation Protocol, The Multi Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) panel provides oversight of those young people subject to, or at risk of, exploitation. This ensures young people have specific exploitation plans set against Prepare, Prevent, Protect and Pursue.*

**Holly**

*I didn't want to meet my worker, and I tried hard to avoid her, but after a few weeks we started getting on well and I have been able to talk to her a lot. My worker has helped me when things have been bad, and has come round when I've needed her, or come to other places to help me. I didn't speak to the Police, you don't speak to the Police about your family, and when other things have happened, I haven't wanted to remember them or have to talk about them. There have been some times when I've agreed for my worker to speak to the Police for me. This really helped.*

## **Pursue: To deter, target and pursue perpetrators – Embedding contextual partnership responses and interventions at all levels.**

### **Outcomes**

- The partnership routinely utilises intelligence-led disruption in relation to places, individuals or groups associated with contextual harm.
- Robust civil and law enforcement responses are used to respond to identified risks from themes/places/perpetrators (Including young perpetrators) and their networks.
- Robust offender management is in place to reduce the risk presented by known perpetrators (Including young perpetrators).
- Investigations are undertaken in line with working together principles: and ministry of justice guidelines for joint investigation.

### **So far:**

- *Wirral has established the Multi Agency Response to Threat, Harm and Risk (MARTHR). This is a partnership forum, which focuses on coordinating enforcement and disruption activity to reduce the risk of exploitation.*
- *The Problem Oriented Partnerships Group (Formerly ASB Governance) considers patterns and themes where young people may be engaging in activities and behaviour that could expose them to increased risk of harm. Our Youth Matters team operate as part of this collective to respond and support young people in key locations, as part of the wider partnership response. In 2021 this governance will further develop into a wider Problem Oriented Partnerships group – focusing on Community Safety and Vulnerability. This group will play a key role in supporting the contextual safeguarding operations framework at Level 2 and Level 3.*

## **8. Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership (WSCP) Governance**

The WSCP will maintain oversight of partnership activity aligned to this strategy to determine effectiveness against the identified aims. Actions to deliver the strategic aims are set out at Appendix A.

The WSCP also supports strategic and operational developments through the WSCP Contextual Safeguarding Committee Work Plan and associated task and finish, or development groups as referenced in Section 7.

Partners operating within the context of the safer adolescence strategy will identify their own respective internal governance arrangements, which should align to the partnership's strategic approach, principles and aims.

### **Dom**

*I was made to sell drugs for adults, I don't and won't do that anymore. I was arrested and nearly went to prison – that would have had a big effect on my future, and I know I would have hated it. I got support from a court diversion programme and was not given prison.*

*I have come a long way since being arrested. I think the police could see that I was being used by adults. I have a nice social worker and justice worker. I am more in control of my life than I have ever been since 12 years old.*

## **9. Wider Governance**

The issues referenced within this strategy are cross cutting and as such feature within other areas of governance. The WSCP recognises the need to ensure links are established between the committee and work plan with other strategic forums. These include, but may not be restricted to, the following.

The Partnership for Children, Young People and Families (PFCYP&F).

This is a newly formed and developing forum. The overall purpose of the partnership for children is to provide strategic direction to ensure Wirral partners work together to identify and address key priorities and work together to improve outcomes for children, young people, and their families.

The PFCYP&F also seeks to ensure Wirral Council undertake their statutory responsibility for establishing and maintaining the co-operation and partnership arrangements for children, young people, and their families, and facilitating the inclusion and participation of all key partners in these arrangements.

The contextual safeguarding committee has a link member within the PFCYP&F and will ensure any cross-cutting activity is coordinated between the forums. The PFCYP&F will be a key component in reducing vulnerability and driving opportunities for young people in Wirral.

The Community Safety Partnership (Safer Wirral).

The community safety partnership has a five-year strategy for Safe and Pleasant Communities as part of the 'The Wirral Plan'. Themes within this arena would include the reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour, improving the environment in Wirral and protecting those most vulnerable in our communities. Members of the WSCP Contextual Safeguarding Committee sit within the CSP and can ensure workstreams supporting this strategy are aligned and given appropriate focus amongst community safety partners.

The Merseyside region is also currently supported by the Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP). This partnership links primarily into the Community Safety Partnership, via an identified Violence Reduction Group lead.

The Youth Justice Management Board.

The Youth Justice Service (YJS) leads on the partnership response to young people at risk of being drawn into crime and anti-social behaviour. The work of the YJS is overseen by the Youth Justice Management Board. The Youth Justice Service also works closely with the Merseyside Criminal Justice Board (MCJB) and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC).

The Youth Justice Management Board will set the strategic direction for the YJS, oversee performance, and provide resources to ensure the identifies priorities and outcomes can be met. There are established links between the WSCP Committee and the YJMB, ensuring a connected and complimentary approach to those young people being drawn into crime and anti-social behaviour.

Corporate Parenting Board

The aim of the Corporate Parenting Board is to ensure that Wirral fulfils its corporate parenting responsibilities and monitors performance in terms of improving outcomes for children looked after and care leavers. Section 5 of this strategy highlights the vulnerabilities that can exists within the cohort of children looked after, the work of the corporate parenting board will be a key factor in supporting the overall aims of this strategy.



Photograph of young people in a fast-food take-away.

## **10. Operational Delivery in Wirral – Specific Harm Themes**

The following sections provide an overview of the services, forums, or processes through which specific contextual harm themes are addressed.

### **Exploitation & Missing from Home/Care**

The Pan Merseyside Child Exploitation Protocol sets out the framework for identifying and responding to exploitation.

<https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/child-exploitation/>

The approach to missing children is set out in the Pan Merseyside Missing Protocol.

<https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/children-who-go-missing/>

Wirral have a dedicated child exploitation team, Compass. They operate as part of a multi-agency response to exploitation and missing from home or care. The multi-agency approach comprises Children's Services, Police, Catch22, Health, Probation and includes close working with other partners. Operational delivery in this area comprises the following forums.

#### **Daily Multi Agency Coordination:**

The purpose of the morning briefing is to facilitate multi-agency information gathering and decision-making around those cases where the child in question has been missing or there is information that suggests they may be vulnerable to exploitation.

#### **MACE – Multi Agency Child Exploitation Panel:**

The aims of this meeting are as follows.

- To share information to increase the safety, health, and wellbeing of children at risk.
- To construct and implement a risk management plans that provides professional support to all those at risk and that reduces the risk of harm.

## MACE Plans:

The plans are constructed under the following headings:

### Prepare

- Actions relating to flagging on case systems, lines of communication, intelligence gathering, coordination and information sharing.

### Prevent

- Actions to reduce the vulnerability of children and young people to exploitation or missing episodes. For example, but not exhaustive - Education and health care packages, support for SEND young people, education employment and training, engagement, and participation. Trusted relationships support or direct engagement/work, including support from education psychologists. Youth Justice Prevention work. Support for parents/carers with resources and advice/guidance.

### Protect

- This part of the plan will cross reference the care planning or multi agency work being undertaken in line with safeguarding procedures and Working Together 2018. Actions should be raised here which may be considered to strengthen existing child level plans, specific to the risk of exploitation. The young person may be identified as a victim of modern slavery and a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) submitted to the Home Office.

### Pursue

- Actions to investigate exploitation events and crimes. Disruption of perpetrators, places, or themes. Cross referenced to MARTHR (see below). Crimes relating to the young person as a victim will be recorded here and updates tracked at MACE.

## Multi Agency Response to Threat, Harm and Risk (MARTHR):

The monthly Multi Agency Response to Threat, Harm and Risk is chaired by the Wirral Local Policing Chief Inspector and has representation from statutory and non-statutory agencies. The meeting focuses on coordinating enforcement and disruption activity to reduce the risk of exploitation.

## Non-CE Contextual Support

Often, CE screening or assessment may identify wider contextual factors that may not necessarily meet the definition of exploitation, or there may be no signs of evidence of exploitation based on the information at hand.

Safeguarding professionals can seek a consultation on non-exploitation contextual safeguarding by contacting the Wirral Complex and Contextual Safeguarding Team on.

[complexandcontextualsafeguardingteam@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:complexandcontextualsafeguardingteam@wirral.gov.uk)

## Serious Organised Crime – OCGs, Gangs and Factions

Local Policing colleagues in Wirral lead a weekly Threat, Harm and Risk process where current or emerging issues are identified, and oversight is provided on the activity undertaken in Wirral to reduce the risk of harm from such issues.

Events and incidents that may require additional coordination can be identified through this process; and more urgent critical incidents will generate bespoke coordination meeting into which partners are included

to ensure safeguarding responses are considered and coordinated. The Wirral Safeguarding Partnership has established practice in this area under the 'WSCP Response to Critical Incidents' guidance developed in early 2020.

Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) are mapped and tasked through the Merseyside Police Force Intelligence Bureau (FIB) for targeted activity and Wirral Local Policing has a dedicated Serious and Organised Crime operational lead who links with Children's Services and partners in relation to OCG and serious organised crime related matters where there are safeguarding concerns.

Those organised crime groups who are assessed as impacting upon vulnerable people, including children, are the subject of focused disruption and prevention activity to tackle their offending behaviour.

#### Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Harmful Sexual Behaviours

The Youth Justice Service (YJS) leads on the partnership response to young people at risk of being drawn into crime and anti-social behaviour. This may include offences or concerning behaviour linked to 'Teenage Relationship Abuse'. The work of the YJS is overseen by the Youth Justice Management Board.

The YJS adopts a multi-agency approach and is developing practice towards adopting an Enhanced Case Management style of working. This is aimed at working differently with the smaller cohort of young people with complex needs and considering ACEs and Trauma Informed approaches to working alongside them. The below link provides further information on the activity undertaken by the Wirral YJS.

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/crime-reduction/youth-offending-service>

The YJS provide support for young people where Harmful Sexual Behaviours have been identified. HSB (also called sexually harmful behaviour) is the term used to describe children or young people who display sexually harmful behaviours to other children, young people, or adults.

This support may be through a statutory intervention, or a preventative work with a young person and their family. More information can be found via the following link:

<https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/harmful-sexual-behaviour/>

#### **Lauren**

*I started carrying a weapon to protect myself – I was referred to the Youth Justice Service. Professionals were really worried about me, especially my Youth Justice Worker whom I have an okay relationship with, like, she understands me a bit more than most. Sometimes I'm aggressive, it's because I'm frustrated. I'm my own person and I just want to be treated like an adult, but then sometimes I don't even know myself why I get so angry.*

#### Radicalisation

Extremist messages can have a powerful impact on someone who is young and vulnerable; possibly unsure of their path in life, and who may lack confidence. Channel is a national project that has been put in place to safeguard individuals who may be vulnerable to recruitment by violent extremists.

Channel assesses the nature and extent of the potential risk to an individual and, where necessary, provides an appropriate support package tailored to their needs. This decision is made by a multi-agency



panel and may include diversionary activities and/or support from services such as education, housing, employment, and mentoring designed to help them resist those who may be seeking to harm them or others.

The response to radicalisation is overseen by the local Counter Terrorism Prevent partnership governance, supported by Children's services. The safeguarding partnership link, below, can provide further information.

<https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/radicalisation-and-extremism/>

#### Wider Contexts:

Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership have resources and briefings relating to Exploitation, Missing and Contextual Safeguarding. The below website should be accessed to review current resources and partnership activity.

<https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/contextual-safeguarding/>

The Contextual Safeguarding Network has very useful tools and research on responding to contextual safeguarding concerns: school, peers, community and neighbourhood or online risks.

[www.contextualsafeguarding.org.uk](http://www.contextualsafeguarding.org.uk)

#### Issues raised by young people locally:

- Hate Crime and Mate Crime

Disability hate crime is the general term used to describe any criminal offence that is motivated by hostility or prejudice based upon a person's disability.

Mate crime happens when someone pretends to be a friend, then uses a young person instead. A 'mate' may be a friend, family member, supporter, paid staff, or another person with a disability.

The Wirral Children's Safeguarding Partnership has provided some further information for professionals and children experiencing these issues.

<https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk/hate-crime-and-mate-crime/>

- Bullying

In consultation, young people highlighted bullying as a concern they have. This may not develop into something as formal as a Hate crime but can have a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of young people – and has the potential to make them more vulnerable to other type of harm.

Our activity to support and protect vulnerable adolescents will include those issues highlighted by our young people locally.

#### Other Services

##### Adolescent Response Team:

Children's Services have a dedicated team working with young people who may be at the edge of statutory services.

The Adolescent Response Team (ART) purpose is to prevent young people becoming looked after and support their transition back into the family home, after becoming looked after.

ART will also work within level 3 of the continuum of need, to provide interventions over a period to prevent cases being escalated to social care. ART works with families where there is a young person present (age 11-18) and they may require some additional help and support.

#### Early Help:

Under the banner of 'Community Matters' agencies and commissioned partners work with Children's Services at lower thresholds of need. Community Matters is developing the Early Help model, working with the community and providers; and supported by Capacity Lab. It is recognised that the work undertaken within the Early Help arena connects with the aims of this strategy. Colleagues from within the Early Help arena are represented within the governance arrangements associated to the Safer Adolescence Strategy.

#### Youth Matters and The Youth Collective:

Youth services within the council operate under the collaborative brand of Youth Matters. These services engage and support young people through direct work, group work and therapeutic support – using outreach, activity, play and creative platforms. The Wirral Council Youth Matters teams form part of a wider Youth Collective, incorporating youth workers and services across Wirral. This collective has come together through 2020, with the common purpose of working with young people.

## **11. Evaluation and Monitoring**

Wirral Safeguarding Children's Partnership is a multi-agency partnership of organisations who agree how to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The WSCP is led by the three statutory safeguarding partners of the Local Authority, Merseyside Police and Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group.

The delivery plan supporting this strategy will be subject to partnership oversight via the WSCP Contextual Safeguarding Committee and reporting the WSCP executive on progress.

Where appropriate, activity that is led or developed through other forums will be cross referenced in the WSCP CSC work plan and a lead member of the committee identified to report on progress.

The strategy is aligned to priorities of Wirral Council's Plan 2025:

- Brighter Futures: For our children, young people, and their families.
- Safe and Pleasant Communities: Protecting our most vulnerable residents.

Progress against the delivery of this strategy will be subject of reporting into the Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council Children, Young People and Education Committee.

**Holly**

*Soon I'm going to be 18, and I work part time and after my birthday I have got a full-time job lined up, in a role I've wanted to do for ages. I have got plans to go to college to do more training and I want to spend more time with my mum.*



Photograph of a young person sat at a train station.

**Lauren**

*I am about to start attending an alternative provision and getting support with an education plan. Professionals understand me better, although I am still trying to make sense of the world.*

**Dom**

*Life is now more normal. I feel safe now and am building up my confidence. I have new friends; I enjoy learning and go to college 2 days a week doing mechanics.*



Photograph of a young person riding in a skate park.

## Appendix A – Delivery of Strategic Aims

The delivery plan identifies activity that will embed the strategic aims into core business. The development of the contextual safeguarding framework and associated operational processes will form part of the WSCP Contextual Safeguarding Committee Work Plan for 2021/22 and be tracked through the WSCP committee structure and Executive.

Data tracking and auditing through 'deep dive' activity and statutory audit work throughout the period of this strategy will allow the partnership to track impact.

Action Ref	Action	Lead	Timescale
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### 1. Promote a more strategic preventative approach to adolescent safety by raising awareness of associated vulnerabilities.

1.1	Develop communications for key stakeholders.	WSCP	April 2021
1.2	Create a partnership data set to track levels of associated vulnerability and specific harm categories. Reporting to WSCP and wider governance as appropriate - identified through Actions 1.3 and 4.1 below.	Performance and Improvement/Wirral Intelligence Service.	May 2021
1.3	Ensure WSCP CSC links to wider Wirral Governance forums (Section 9, Page 21).	WSCP CSC	May 2021
1.4	Establish WSCP SAS link to WMBC Prevention development.	WSCP CSC Chair	March 2021

### 2. Enhance our collective understanding of what is meant by 'extra-familial harm', or 'risk outside the home'.

2.1	As with Action 1.1. Include associated/linked vulnerabilities and specific harm types as per Section 1 of the WSCP SAS.	WSCP	April 2021
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### 3. Embed a shared set of partnership principles and values for working with adolescents.

3.1	Develop specific training resource for partners against the principles and values of the WSCP SAS.	WSCP CSC	June 2021
3.2	Include Principles and values within scheduled WSCP Audits for extra familial harm/risk outside the home and other audits/QA activity linked to adolescents.	WSCP CSC	April 2021

<b>3.3</b>	<b>Develop Youth Voice engagement &amp; feedback across areas aligned to WSCP SAS.</b>	<b>WSCP CSC</b>	<b>June 2021</b>
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<b>4. Develop a Wirral contextual safeguarding framework.</b>			
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Create specific task and finish strand for WSCP Contextual Safeguarding Committee.</b>	<b>WSCP CSC</b>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Review the WSCP CSC Work Plan and Terms of Reference to consider WSCP SAS themes.</b>	<b>WSCP CSC</b>	<b>April 2021</b>

The above table shows the WSCP action plan for delivering the strategic aims.

**WSCP CSC:** Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership Contextual Safeguarding Committee.

**SAS:** Safer Adolescence Strategy.

## **Appendix B – Contextual Safeguarding Committee**

### **Purpose**

- To ensure effective multi-agency action is taken to combat the exploitation of children and those who go missing, to develop an approach to contextual safeguarding and provide assurance to the safeguarding partners about the effectiveness of arrangements.
- To provide strategic oversight of the MACE (Child Exploitation) process.

### **Responsibilities**

- Oversee the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard children from contextual extra familial risks.
- Ensure the effectiveness of the MACE process.
- Challenge and hold each other to account.
- Oversee development and completion of the multi-agency Contextual safeguarding work plan.
- Oversee the multi-agency approach to Contextual Safeguarding across the continuum of need, including training.
- Lead on awareness raising activity.
- Undertake/ commission audit and quality assurance activity.
- Ensure all missing and exploitation, contextual safeguarding and related policies and procedures are fit for purpose and up to date.
- Share information and intelligence, including that related to gang and criminal groups.
- Maintain oversight of police intelligence, and disruption activities.
- Ensure activity is understood by and informed by the voice of children and young people.

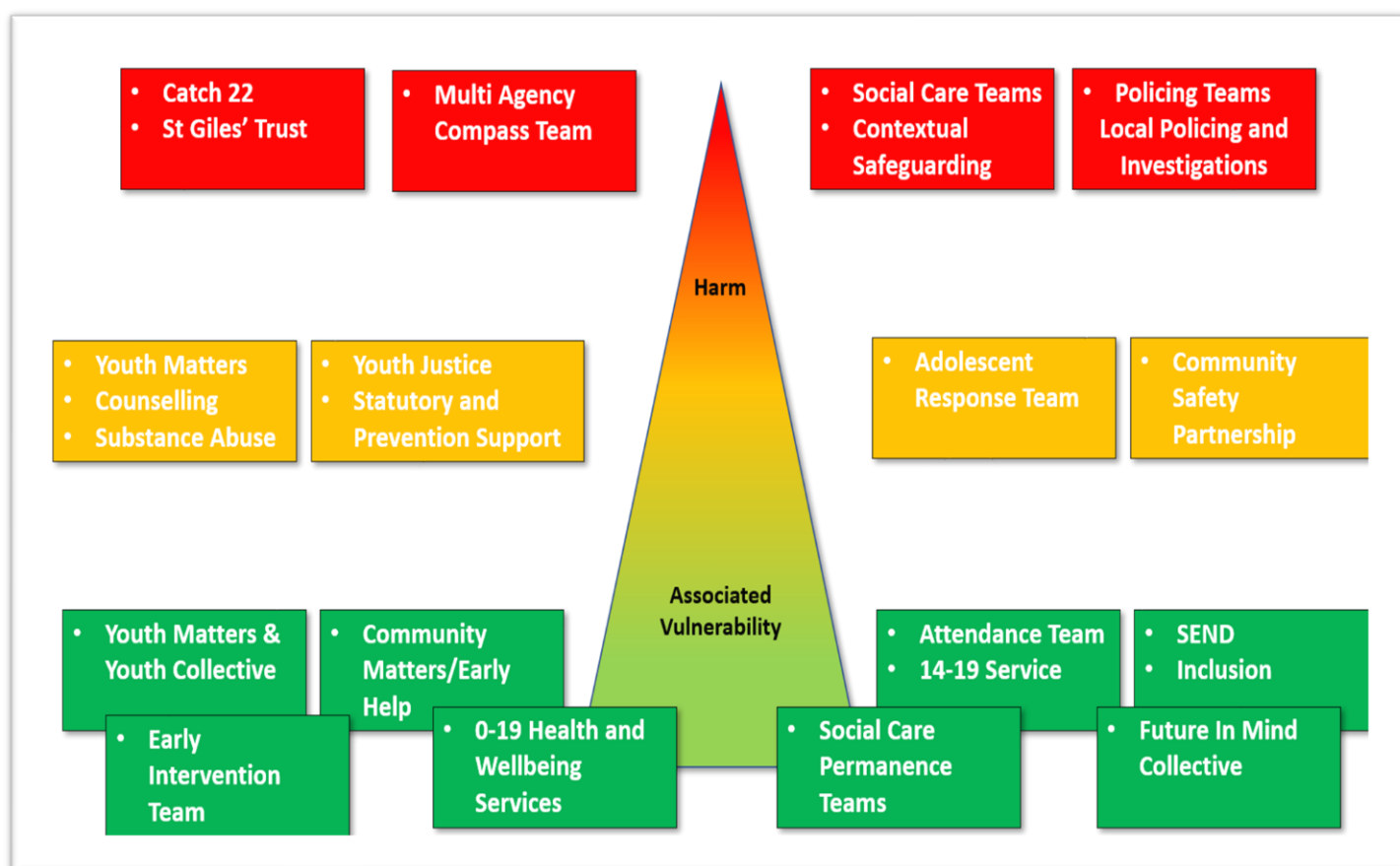
### **Membership**

- Head of Service Contextual Safeguarding.
- Detective Chief Inspector, Merseyside Police.
- Head of Service, YJS.
- Head of Service Family Matters.
- Head of Service, Children's Social Care.
- Service Manager, Safeguarding Unit.
- Head of Service, School and Communities.
- Head of Service, School Effectiveness.
- Local Policing Representative.
- Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children and CLA.
- Named Nurses for Safeguarding.
- Public Health Consultant.
- Headteacher Secondary.
- Consultant Headteacher Primary.
- Team Manager, Complex Safeguarding Team.
- Team Manager, Detached Youth Work.
- Anti-social Behaviour Manager.
- Compass Team Manager.
- Service Manager, Catch22.
- LA Licensing Manager.
- WSCP Lay Member.
- WSCP Manager and Quality Auditor.
- Safeguarding Adults Board Manager.

## Appendix C – Services Aligned with Vulnerabilities and Harm

The below graphic shows some of the teams and services operating within the context of the WSCP Safer Adolescence Strategy. The teams and services are aligned to the level at which they may typically interact with the associated vulnerabilities and harm.

Many services operate across this spectrum and can support young people both in a preventative context and with more acute need.



The above graphic shows services and teams that operate in Wirral and their relationship to associated vulnerability and harm.