

# Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership



BUSINESS UNIT NEWSLETTER – 11TH JUNE 2020

## EXPLOITATION – PART 1

### Shropshire's Definition of Exploitation

Exploitation is a form of abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child, young person or adult (including those with care and support needs) into any activity that results in financial or other advantage for the perpetrator or facilitator. Activity includes arranging or facilitating the involvement or travel (trafficking) of a child, young person or adult (including those with care and support needs)

The victim may still be exploited even if the activities that they are engaging in appear consensual. Multiple types of exploitation can occur alongside or as part of other forms of abuse.

Specific types of exploitation include: Modern Slavery (including human trafficking); Sexual Exploitation; Criminal Exploitation; Financial Exploitation; any other Exploitation that enables services or benefits of any kind, (including removal of organs, forced marriage, illegal adoption).

### Updates from partners



Shropshire Council have published their first edition of [Together Reducing and Ending Exploitation in Shropshire \(TREES\)](#) quarterly newsletter; to provide updates on the latest information regarding child exploitation in Shropshire.

The West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner and West Mercia Police have been asking partners to promote the [Get Safe Online Campaign](#) and online safety advice. The campaign is particularly raising awareness to parents and carers with top tips from online safety experts to help them keep their children safe online. The Campaign Poster for Parents can be accessed [here](#)



WeAreWithYou provide drug and alcohol support services to children and adults in Shropshire. Children and adults who use drugs or alcohol can be at greater risk of being exploited. Sonya Jones, Service Manager (Children's) and the Safeguarding Lead for both the children's and adults WeAreWithYou Service in Shropshire is now a member of the National County Lines Co Ordination Centre Advisory Group, which will ensure that the experiences of people being criminally exploited in Shropshire are explored nationally and that national learning can be shared here. If a young person wants support, professionals should complete the SMARTER Screening Tool which can be accessed via the Substance Misuse Toolkit link on the Early Help Website or call the Single Point Of Contact (SPOC) to make a third-party referral. If a young person does not want support from WAVY, a Meet and Greet Service is now available. WAVY will work with the professional to initiate a meeting with the young person and a worker from WAVY to introduce themselves and explain about their work. There is normally a 90% take up of this offer and the young person agrees to a service. If following completion of the Child Exploitation Initial Assessment Tool, substance use is highlighted but the young person does not want a service, professionals can contact WAVY Single Point of Contact on 01743 294700.



[Shropshire Council Community Protection Team](#) have been seeing lots more Coronavirus Scams and would like partners to be aware of the advice and promote the [Friends Against Scams](#) "Wash your hands of coronavirus scams!" Poster. They have particularly seen a rise in the number of romance and befriending scams; targeting people who are struggling with the social isolation that has come with staying at home.. More on Financial Exploitation in our next newsletter.

Test and Trace Scam - To find out how you can verify you are actually being contacted by the government's Test and Trace service [click here](#)



## World Elder Abuse Awareness Day



15<sup>th</sup> June is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Each year on this day people come together throughout Shropshire, the United Kingdom and the world to send out a clear message that the abuse and neglect of our older generation will not be tolerated.

Our most recent reportable data from 2018/19 suggests that nationally 2,462 people per 100,000 aged 85 and over are involved in enquiries about abuse that must be undertaken by the local authority. This compares with 125 per 100,000 under the age of 65. In Shropshire in the same year this was 248 per 100,000 aged 85 or over in comparison with 42 per 100,000 under the age of 65. This provides us with clear evidence that those aged 85 and over are at a higher risk of being abused, usually by people they know.

Ivan Powell, Independent Chair of Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership said, "Help us empower older people and our communities this World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Show your support by discussing this safely with them and wearing purple."

## Review of Children's Escalation Policy

SSCP is currently reviewing its Children's Escalation Policy through a multi-agency case file audit and an online survey. The survey has been developed to ascertain professionals' awareness of the policy and any barriers they've experienced in putting the policy and guidance into practice.

Could we please ask that you disseminate the survey link to all staff in the children's workforce and ask them to complete the survey to assist us with the review of the policy and to make the necessary improvements. It should only take approximately ten minutes to complete and the survey will close on 19th June

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/EscalationPolicySurvey>

## SSCP COVID-19 webpages

Visit our websites for information and resources on safeguarding issues and responses during the Covid-19 Pandemic.



[Adult Safeguarding Resources](#)



[Children's Safeguarding Resources](#)

## SSCP BUSINESS UNIT

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[Safeguarding Shropshire's Children](#)

[Keeping Adults Safe in Shropshire](#)

[Crime and Community Safety](#)

**Independent Chair:** Ivan Powell

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Corinne Chidley