

Complex abuse procedures – process mapping

The following flow chart is identified as good practice when considering and implementing complex abuse procedures. Each step is cross referenced with the LSCB organised and complex abuse investigations criteria where further detail is provided (see page ref.)

Step 1 - Allegation of abuse – strategy discussion to be held within 24 hours – Does this meet the organised and complex abuse (oca) criteria? “one or more abusers; occurs both as part of a network of abuse across family, community and/or institutions” (para 1.1)



Step 2 - Strategy meeting to be held within 72 hours (para 6.0) – ensure all agencies in attendance who may be asked to contribute to oca process, including decision makers (para 2.3) – **Consider and agree if organised and complex abuse criteria met; this can be considered at any point or stage during an investigation**



Step 3 – OCA criteria agreed; Consider at initial/early stage a dedicated team (police/social care/health); this ensures consistency and continuity of information and assessment of risk, leadership and understanding networks (para 2.5)



Step 4 - Complete early mapping of geographical and operational boundaries– think cross border issues, police, social care and health – are there any conflicts of interest? E.g. allegation against professional/perpetrator/victim conflict (para 2.6 – 2.8)



Step 5 - Essential – agree confidentiality process, considering recording and disclosure issues – train staff across agencies (para 2.9)



Step 6 - Alert LSCB chair in each LA of organised and complex abuse criteria being met (para 7.1)



Step 7 - Agree information sharing process – for joint working partner agencies, social care, police, health, education – including CPS (para 3.0)



Step 8 - Essential - compile a central spreadsheet or database; inc. details of the enquiry (abusers, victims, potential victims, witnesses) - Consider resource for compiling police profiles (para 2.15)



Step 9 - Assemble leadership team across agencies – seniority required; Gold, Silver and Bronze command structure (police), SMG and IMG membership (see separate flow chart) (para 3.6)



Step 10 - Agree reporting mechanisms A. LSCB, B. Consider role of third sector and information sharing processes to be agreed (para 6)