APPENDIX 16: Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Risk Identification Tool

This ‘Traffic Light Tool’ forms part of a resource designed to help professionals who work with children and young people to identify, assess and respond appropriately to sexual behaviours. By identifying sexual behaviours as GREEN, AMBER or RED, professionals across different agencies can work to the same criteria when making decisions and protect children and young people with a unified approach. The normative list aims to increase understanding of healthy sexual development and distinguish it from harmful behaviour. Have any of these been identified in the adolescent history. If so please tick and discuss with the investigating officer.

LOW LEVEL INDICATORS – ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING INDICATORS IDENTIFIED

- Regularly coming home late or gone missing
- Overtly sexualised dress, sexualised risk taking (including on the Internet)
- Unaccounted for monies or goods
- Associating with unknown adults
- Associating with other sexually exploited children
- Reduced contact with family and friends and other support networks
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Experimenting with drugs and alcohol
- Poor self-image, eating disorders or self-harm
- Non schools attendance

MEDIUM LEVEL INDICATORS – ANY OF ABOVE AND TWO OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING INDICATORS

- Getting into cars with unknown adults or associating with known CSE adults
- Being groomed on the Internet

- Receiving rewards of money or goods for recruiting peers into CSE
- Disclosure of physical sexual assault and then refusing to make or withdrawing complaint

- Having a much older boyfriend/girlfriend
- Missing school or excluded from school due to behaviour
- Staying out overnight with no reasonable explanation
- Unaccounted for money or goods including mobile phones, drugs and alcohol
- Multiple sexually transmitted infections (STI’s)
- Self-harming
- Repeat offending
- Gang member or association

HIGH LEVEL INDICATORS – ANY OF THE ABOVE AND ANY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING INDICATORS

- Child under 13 engaging in penetrative sex with another young person over 15 years

- Child under 16 meeting different adults and engaging in sexual activity
- Removed from known ‘red light’ district by professionals due to suspected CSE
- Being taken to clubs and hotels by adults and engaging in sexual activity
- Disclosure of serious sexual assault and then withdrawal of statement
- Abduction and forced imprisonment
- Being moved around for sexual activity
- Disappearing from the ‘system’ with no contact or support
- Being bought
- Multiple miscarriages or terminations
- Chronic alcohol and drug use
- Indicators of CSE alongside serious self-harming