

Two Learning Reviews were carried out by **Nicki Pettitt**, an experienced social worker, manager and reviewer, in 2019, regarding young women, **Q and S from Kingston and Richmond**. They were vulnerable adolescents, who were Children Looked After. They both moved back to London as Care Leavers. We have identified nine key headlines for all practitioners around the themes **Vulnerability, Responses to Exploitation & Being Missing, Information Sharing and Transitions**, and we wish to highlight the good practice that was found.

8. Information Sharing

Timely two-way information sharing, including required notifications, when a Child who is Looked After moves area is vital. **Communication** about plans for adoption must be shared sensitively with the parents and other family members in a timely and appropriate way.

9. Information Sharing

The placement commissioning service confirms that their **notifications** are being received. This should include enquiring about the communication that is undertaken with agencies in the areas where children are being placed, to ensure they are aware of potential risks and support available.

7. Response to Exploitation & Being Missing

Early identification of children who are vulnerable to exploitation when **moving back into the area** requires consideration at the **MARVE** prior to the concerns escalating. Terms of Reference for the MARVE (Multi-Agency Risk & Vulnerability to Exploitation) have been reviewed to ensure they include the provision for vulnerable young people to be considered until age 25, in-line with the Leaving Care Act. Please find the MARVE Terms of Reference and guidance here: <https://kingstonandrichmondsafeguardingchildrenpartnership.org.uk/news-resources/policies-and-procedures-87/child-exploitation-marve-88.php>

1. Vulnerability

When a child has known vulnerabilities and is at risk, **therapeutic support should be provided flexibly and coordinated with other support that is in place**, and the therapist should be an integral part of the Team around the Child. A local review should be undertaken into whether a trauma-informed health and care approach for responding to Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation could be implemented, and used by those working with young people

2. Vulnerability

It is not necessarily enough to provide a child with good quality care and to have committed and hard working professionals working together to support and protect the child. **Young people who are at risk of exploitation and extra-familial abuse require services that address the wider context**. Come to our Contextual Safeguarding Conference in January 2020. More here:

<https://kingstonandrichmondsafeguardingchildrenpartnership.org.uk/training.php>

3. Vulnerability

If a child can be placed within their **home borough**, this will enable the provision of appropriate and timely support. They benefit from known processes, structures and networks

4. Vulnerability

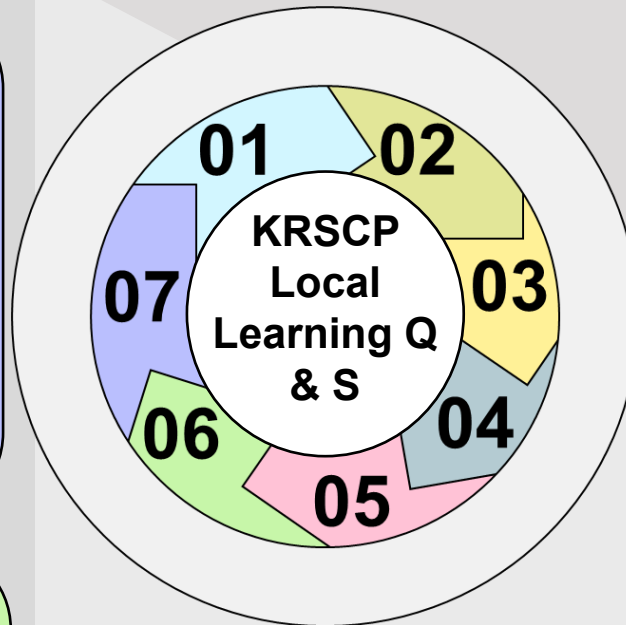
Sexual health workers can be an important member of any team working with vulnerable young people, and are not just a crisis service

5. Transitions

At a time of transition, whether a placement move or a transfer to adult services and other teams, the key professionals need to be available or a robust cover/contingency plan should be agreed and shared

6. Transitions

Children Looked After need to be registered with a **local GP** as soon as their placement changes. GP surgeries near semi-independent units for Children Looked After and Care Leavers need to be aware of the units and the young people residing there, and their particular potential vulnerabilities.



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