Southend, Essex and Thurrock (SET) Missing People Strategy

2019 – 2024

Version 1 (Nov 2019)

Essex Safeguarding Adults Board

THURROCK SAFEGUARDING ADULTS

ESSEX Safeguarding Children BOARD

SOUTHEND Safeguarding Partnership

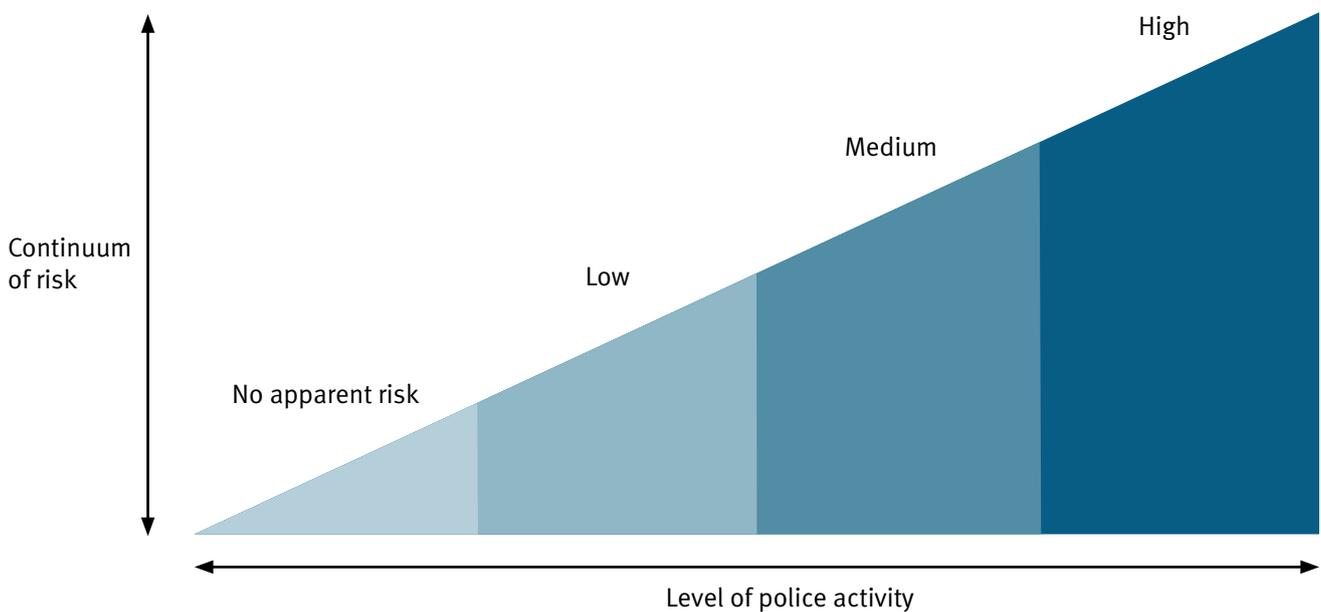THURROCK SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP

Contents

'I wanted to come back as I didn't realise it would be so bad and scary. I wasn't happy when we got (there), but I still went with them because I didn't want to be on my own. Parts of it were fun because we had a laugh. We saw a police car at 3 in the morning and they didn't stop to talk to us. I hoped they would, just so we could get a lift home'.

(Essex young person feedback in a missing chat)

Why Have this Strategy?

Not every person who goes missing is vulnerable and in need of support or protection; people can be reported as missing when they are, for instance late returning home, but forgot to update someone. It is recognised that a person over 18 years with mental capacity may be missing with no apparent risk through their own choice. For this reason, it is vital to assess the level of risk involved when someone goes missing, and to be able to communicate this to others. Through risk assessment, and proportionate risk management process, agencies are able to recognise that all reports of missing people sit within a continuum of risk, ranging from relatively little risk, through to high risk cases which require immediate, concerted collaborative action. Actively reviewing risk levels on an ongoing basis remains important for all agencies involved to enable them to assess changing circumstances which will inform a responsive, proportionate response.

Missing Definition

Vision

Our aim with this strategy is to build upon existing good work in Southend, Essex and Thurrock. We want to:

- Prevent people from going missing in the first place, and
- Limit the harm associated with people going missing

This Strategy sets out how organisations can play a positive role in meeting these aims by working together, and seeks to raise the profile of the issues connected with people going missing. It does not propose to change policy direction, or create new systems alongside those which already exist. Rather, its purpose is to ensure that by identifying successful practice, we adapt where necessary, and increase the positive impact of our existing systems. It also sets out some organisational roles and responsibilities to deliver the best outcomes possible for missing people (see Appendix 4).

Families, friends and communities can be confident that when people go missing in Southend Essex and Thurrock, the agencies responsible for finding them are already working together to minimise the likelihood that they will come to harm. These same agencies are highly effective in resolving cases as quickly as possible and provide - or guide people to - specialist aftercare to support them and their families. However, to date, there has not been a unifying Strategy such as this one, encompassing services working with children and adults to support agencies in co-ordinating activity to reduce the number of people going missing and limiting the harm related to those who do.

This Strategy focuses on four closely interconnected objectives:

- To **Prepare,** and introduce **Preventative** measures to reduce the number of episodes of people going missing

- To **Pursue** and **Respond** consistently, appropriately and proportionately, to missing persons episodes

- To provide the best possible **Support** to missing people and their families

- To **Protect People at risk**, to reduce the risk of harm.

All four Objectives are mutually supportive, and are underpinned by a series of Commitments. They are primarily targeted at the groups most likely to go missing; children and young people; adults at risk, and particularly older people with dementia. The shared Objectives are interlinking and support the overall aim of this Strategy; the Commitments, require action locally. However, it is important to note that most – if not all – of this local activity should already be taking place through multi-agency partnerships. No new requirements are being placed on local authorities and their partners. Through this Strategy, partnerships will be provided a means to share best practice.

While standalone, this Missing Strategy comprises one of four associated Southend, Essex and Thurrock Strategies which are: Sexual Abuse Strategy; Exploitation Strategy and Gangs and Youth Violence Strategy 2019-2024 (Links to 3 strategies to be added here) Further associated SET strategies can be located in Appendix 3.

Definitions

Essex Police are the lead agency responsible for the initial risk assessment and management of missing person inquiries and ensuing investigation. The College of Policing Authorised Professional Practice (APP) places all missing persons within a continuum of risk ranging from 'no apparent risk' (previously referred to as 'absent'), through to 'high risk' cases requiring immediate, intensive action. The risk assessment and response for missing persons is a guide to the appropriate level of response based on initial and ongoing risk assessment in a case, and can be found in Appendix 1:

Missing: 'Anyone whose whereabouts cannot be established will be considered as missing until located, and their well-being or otherwise confirmed'.

While adults can be deemed to be 'no apparent risk' Essex Police do not deem a child to be 'No apparent risk' or 'Low risk': given their age and associated vulnerability; they will be classified as either 'Medium' or 'High risk' Missing. *(Authorised Professional Practice, in Essex Police, 2018). (See Appendix 1)*

The Context

The past decade has been punctuated by numerous high-profile inquiries into sexual exploitation of children and adults across the UK. During the latter part of this same decade, cases of children and adults at risk exploited criminally by groups and gangs, often in the context of County Lines, have proliferated. Incrementally, our collective understanding of those targeted and exploited has been re-conceptualised from their being 'offenders' to be pursued and prosecuted to 'victims of exploitation' in need of support and protection. These same children, young people and adults, are often recognised as experiencing overlapping types of exploitation - coalescing to require ever-more sophisticated, collaborative, contextual safeguarding and disruption responses to these evolving, complex safeguarding threats. Less prominent in media coverage, are adults who go missing, variously, in the contexts of relationship breakdown, diagnosed or undiagnosed mental health issues, or dementia.

Indeed, a sometimes-important associated indicator that harm may be being experienced by someone, is reflected in their being reported missing. According to Missing People, someone is reported missing every 90 seconds, with 186,000 people being reported missing in the UK every year. Of this total, 100,000 are accounted for by adults, and 86,000 are children. There are a wide range of reasons children and adults go missing; each individual person has varying degrees of intentionality and agency, sometimes with more than one reason for having gone missing. Some of these missing people will be accounted for by children and adults who are unintentionally missing: they may be home later than planned, having forgotten to tell someone. They may simply have lost track of time. For children and young people, going missing may be means of rebelling against boundaries and taking back control. Some people over 18 years with mental capacity may be missing with no apparent risk, through their own choice. Their right to privacy must be observed and details of their location not divulged if this is their expressed decision. If there are however, concerns about the safety and well-being of the person, a decision may have to be taken to share the details of the location with relevant agencies and within the context of statutorily duties and powers to enable safeguarding actions to be taken. Thankfully, many people who go missing are found safely, experiencing no harm during their missing episode.

Research and practice experience however, recognises that some people are more vulnerable than others because of their circumstances, and that there can be an association between people going missing and harm: Nationally, Missing People (2019), assessed that of sexually exploited children, seven in ten had been reported as missing. For children assessed to have been trafficked, one in four were looked after by a Local Authority and had been reported as missing: Nearly one in ten children had been victim of criminal or other forms of exploitation. Among the most common reasons for adults being missing, are diagnosed or undiagnosed mental health issues, accounting for eight in every ten episodes. A person who has been compulsorily admitted to hospital for treatment or assessment (under Mental Health Act), may be granted leave of absence. If the person fails to return to hospital on time, or for some reason the leave has been be terminated early, then they become a missing person. *(SET, 2017)*

For adults with dementia, four out of every ten of those will go missing at some point, often unintentionally, (Missing People, 2019) People living with dementia are especially at risk if they go missing. They may find themselves in an unfamiliar situation and feel confused and frightened. Their condition makes them especially vulnerable and they may be unable to seek help. Around 1% of adults who go missing have markers indicating concerns of vulnerability including Dementia or Alzheimer's; these adults account for around 2.5% of missing episodes for adults.

Locally, across Southend, Essex and Thurrock, the average number of missing episodes seen each day is currently 2.5 times higher than it was five years ago. This increasing trend is expected to continue. Whilst more individual adults go missing each year than children, there are higher numbers of episodes for children than adults. This is due to the numbers of children who go missing multiple times a year. Whilst the majority of children who go missing do so from their family home, around a quarter of episodes originate from Children's Residential Care Homes *(Essex Police, 2019)*

Over the last five years the age and gender group of "14 -15 year old girls" accounted for the highest volume of missing episodes across both children and adults episodes each year. However, the amount of episodes for "16 – 17 year old boys" has been the fastest growing and is predicted to overtake those for "14 – 15 year old girls" within the next five years. Currently, around a quarter of the children who go missing have markers that indicate concerns of possible exploitation; these children account for around a half of missing episodes for children. Around 1% of adults who go missing have markers indicating concerns of vulnerability including Dementia or Alzheimer's; these adults account for around 2.5% of missing episodes for adults *(Essex Police, 2019)*

In 2015, Southend, Essex and Thurrock (SET) Local Safeguarding Children's Boards (LSCBs) responded to many of these inter-related threats by launching a SET Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy, which outlined a coordinated, multi-agency response to exploitation and missing children.

Southend, Essex and Thurrock Safeguarding Adult Boards have been looking at the issue of missing people since early 2015. Working together, the SET adult group developed a missing persons protocol in 2017, which was reviewed again 2019. The protocol provides guidance on adults that are at risk of going missing.

Since then, evolving research and practice-informed understanding of the inter-related nature of extra-familial threats has informed the development of this2019 – 2024 five-year Pan Essex Missing Strategy. This Strategy challenges partners to identify children and adults who are at risk of going, or who have gone missing, and consider how they will be identified. They are challenged too, to identify when a missing episode is associated with a risk of harm and develop a proportionate pathway of continuing, bespoke safeguarding and support; equally, to proactively pursue and prosecute perpetrators associated with the missing person.

Key Objectives

VISION: To prevent people going missing and limit the harm to those who have gone missing

OBJECTIVES:	COMMITMENTS:
Prepare & Prevent To prepare, we will understand the nature and scale of missing children and adults pan-Essex, informing our collaborative response to tackling the factors leading to people going missing in the first instance, and then going missing again. We will recognise the particular vulnerability of children nearing adulthood, who have been missing and are victims of modern slavery and human trafficking, who are transitioning to become adults and who have no automatic right to support from Adult Services. The vulnerability of women or girls with unborn babies going missing is recognised. We will, across-agencies develop pathways of identification and support between children and adult services, and bridge this recognised gap. To prevent people going missing, communities need to be informed and knowledgeable about the reasons for, and possible impact on people going missing. While each missing person episode is unique, when grouped and analysed, we can draw out patterns. There exists compelling evidence of the value of conducting well-structured and reflective discussions with the person who has gone missing after they have returned home or to care (see Commitment 5). The information revealed can be used both to protect the individual and prevent them from going missing again, and to target, pursue and disrupt those people and places influencing the person into going missing.	**1. Agencies to ensure that prevention planning takes place locally for vulnerable individuals and groups** There are already a number of statutory frameworks, planning for missing protocols which capture key details of those who are at risk of going missing, and support for vulnerable children and adults; we will ensure that, where appropriate, these support efforts are directed at preventing people going missing in the first instance. **2. Agencies to ensure that people at risk of going missing are treated as a priority locally** Through better data sharing and appropriate use of intelligence held by a range of agencies, local multi-agency partnerships can build and maintain an oversight of the scale and nature of missing episodes in the area. This will then inform required preventative activity.

OBJECTIVES:	COMMITMENTS:
Pursue and Respond: When someone goes missing, a judgement needs to be made about the most appropriate way to respond. This is achieved by Essex Police undertaking a risk assessment which will seek to identify where risk involves perpetrators within missing episodes and taking enforcement action to target, disrupt and prosecute perpetrators.	**3. Agencies to exchange relevant and proportionate information to ensure that missing people are located quickly** Risk is not static but will increase and decrease due to factors internal to the missing person such as their emotional / physical health and understanding, and factors external to the missing person such as the weather conditions and influence of possible perpetrators. The timely, proportionate sharing of information from families and between agencies will inform ongoing risk assessment, and the plan of action to locate and safeguard the missing person. For adults, the Herbert Protocol, designed for adults with dementia and SET Missing Persons Protocol are useful for adults with other care and support needs more widely, should be accessed. **4. Agencies to adopt a consistent approach to risk assessment when someone goes missing**

OBJECTIVES:	COMMITMENTS:

Support:
 	
After a missing person has been located, the underlying causes which led the individual going missing will be identified and where appropriate, addressed including, for people with dementia, seeking the support of an advocate or carer. Every person who goes missing and is found has their needs assessed and is given the right support. There may be multiple complex reasons which lead to the individual going missing; these issues do not simply disappear after a missing person has been located. Individuals who return to circumstances which are unchanged from when they left, and where there is little prospect of them changing in the future, may be driven to further episodes of going missing, having a negative impact on them and their families.
 	
All people who go missing are at risk of having to sleep rough – outdoors and exposed to the elements – or having constrained choice about where to spend the night, or with whom.
 	
For families of those who are missing, practical information is available from the National Missing Person Bureau which has developed a range of factsheets. Missing People, the national charity dedicated to bringing missing children and adults back together with their families, also provide services across the UK including a free and confidential 24/7 helpline
	5. Agencies to hold return discussions with young people and adults after they have been missing
	
	A return discussion can help to support a person following their return, provide a platform to identify underling issues and obtain information that could prevent future missing episodes.
	
	The purpose of a return discussion is to:
	
	• Support the individual who has gone missing and identify the underlying causes so that these can be addressed
	
	• Provide an opportunity for them to talk about their experience when missing, and their feelings following their return
	
	• Use relevant information gathered to help prevent further missing episodes by:
	
	  - Determining any on-going risk of harm and relevant local risk information
	
	  - Referring the individual to appropriate support services.
	
	6. Commitment 6: Support is made available to people who have been missing and their families
	
	When someone goes missing, it is often not only the missing person who is affected; families of missing people can face significant emotional turmoil and practical difficulties. Everyone who has a loved one go missing should be provided with some form of support. Essex Police, as well as any other agencies involved with the missing person, should refer people to the appropriate services available.

OBJECTIVES:	COMMITMENTS:
	There are a range of local and national voluntary organisations that may be able to offer support to people with specific needs; people who have been missing and their families should be encouraged to contact these organisations. These include national services such as Missing People or the Runaway Helpline,Altzeimer's Society Barnardo's, Children's Society, ChildLine, the Samaritans, Parentline and Shelter
Protect The links between going missing and sexual exploitation, homelessness and abuse are widely recognised. Children and young people who go missing are at particular risk as research indicates some will sleep rough or with strangers, some will experience fear, and in some cases, sexual exploitation or serious violence when missing.	**7. Southend, Essex and Thurrock to oversee a programme of activity to raise awareness of people who go missing** Southend, Essex and Thurrock will ensure that where appropriate, messaging about missing persons is included in, for example, wider information relating to sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, human trafficking (where the person is reported as missing, but may in fact, be being trafficked for the purpose of exploitation), or mental health. **8. Southend, Essex and Thurrock to ensure that risks of harm are highlighted in all relevant training and guidance** There arealready a wide range of existing relevant guidance and training for professionals, at both local and national levels. Through this Strategy, Southend, Essex and Thurrock will ensure, where relevant, that missing people are accounted for in multi-agency Southend Essex and Thurrock strategies, guidance and approaches.

'There is always a reason they go missing. Find it out'

(Essex Young Person feedback in a missing chat)

Appendices

Appendix 1: Essex Police Missing Person

PROCEDURE - Missing Persons

Number: B 1601 Date Published: 22 March 2018

There is however a minimum standard for attendance at MP incidents it is the responsibility of the police officer allocated to the incident to ensure these actions are completed.

The College of Policing APP Risk assessment and response for missing persons is a guide to an appropriate level of response based on initial and ongoing risk assessment in each case and is shown below:

No Apparent risk

There is no apparent risk of harm to either the subject or the public

Actions to locate the subject and/or gather further information should be agreed with the informant and a latest review time set to reassess the risk.

Low risk

The risk of harm to the subject or the public is assessed as possible but minimal.

Proportionate enquiries should be carried out to ensure that the individual has not come to harm.

Medium risk

The risk of harm to the subject or public is assessed as likely but not serious

This category requires an active and measured response by the po li ce and other agencies in order to trace the missing person and support the person reporting

High risk

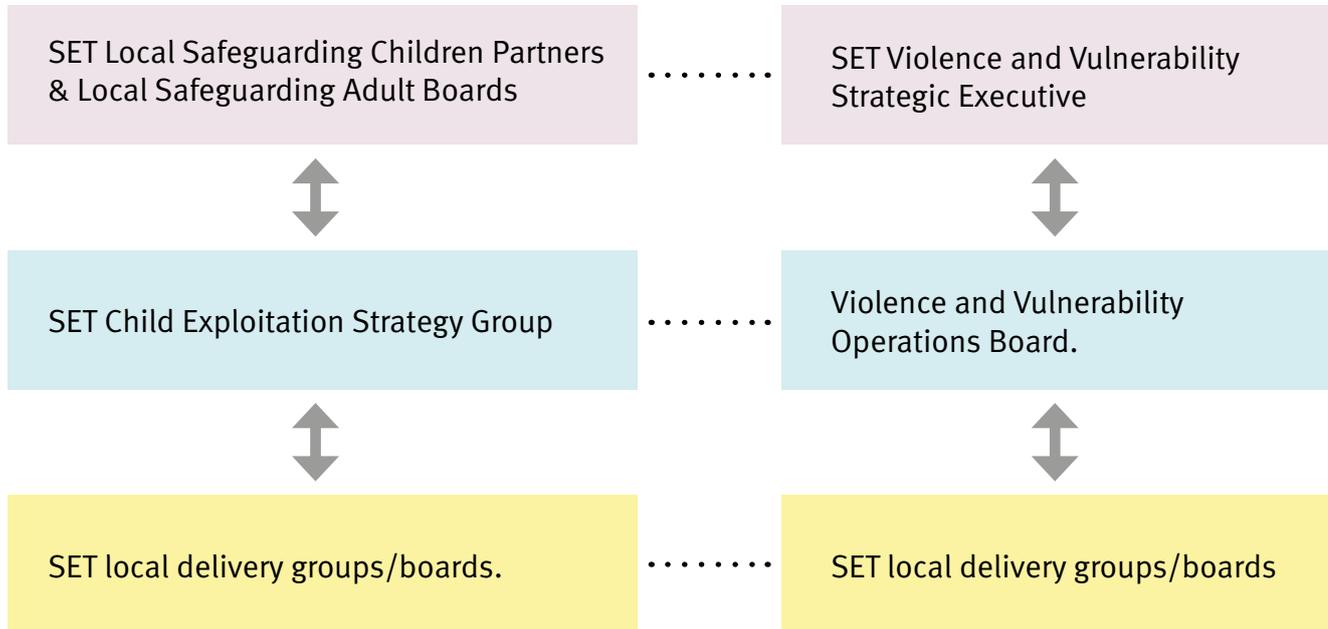The risk of serious harm to the subJect or the public is assessed as very likely.

This category almost always requires the immediate deployment of police resources -action maybe delayed in exceptional circumstances, such as searching water or forested areas during hours of darkness. A member of the senior management team must be involved in the examination of initial lines of enquiry and approval of appropriate staffing levels. Such cases should lead to the appointment of an investigating officer (IO) and possibly a Senior Investigating Officer (SIO) and police search advisor (PoLSA).

Risk of serious harm has been defined as (Home Office 2002 and OASys 2006):

'A risk which is lite threatening andror traumatic, and from which recovery, whether physical or psychological, can be expected to be difficult or impossible.'

Appendix 2: Governance Structure

Local Safeguarding Adult Boards and Local Safeguarding Children Partners act as the strategic governance for this strategy (formally approved through the Southend, Essex, and Thurrock Safeguarding Adult Boards; Essex Safeguarding Children Board; Thurrock Safeguarding Children Partnership; and Southend Safeguarding Children Partnership).

SET Local Safeguarding Children Partners & Local Safeguarding Adult Boards	SET Violence and Vulnerability Strategic Executive
↕	↕
SET Child Exploitation Strategy Group	Violence and Vulnerability Operations Board.
↕	↕
SET local delivery groups/boards.	SET local delivery groups/boards

Commitment to, and engagement from partners and stakeholders will be supported and driven through wider partnership boards, including:

- SET Child Exploitation Strategic Group
- SET Safeguarding Adults Working Group
- Violence and Vulnerability Strategic Executive Group & Operational Board
- Essex Children's Partnership
- Safer Essex
- Health and Well-being Board
- Criminal Justice Board
- Essex Safeguarding Children Board Child Exploitation and Missing Sub-committee
- Thurrock Safeguarding Children Partnership MACE
- Southend Safeguarding Children Board MACE
- Local Community Safety Partnerships

Appendix 3: Key Documents Informing the Strategy

Crown Copyright (2017) *National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland.* Edinburgh: Crown Copyright

Department for Education (2011) *Safeguarding children who may have been trafficked Guidance for those working with children who may have been recruited or transported for the purpose of exploitation.* London: Department for Education

Department for Education (2011) *Tackling child sexual exploitation: action plan.* London: Department for Education

Department for Education (2014) *Statutory guidance on children who run away or go missing from home or care.* London: Department for Education

Department for Education (2018) *Working Together to Safeguard Children.* London: Department for Education

Department for Education (2017) *Child sexual exploitation: Definition and a guide for practitioners, local leaders and decision makers working to protect children from child sexual exploitation.* London: Department for Education

Essex Police (2018) *Missing from Care Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between Essex Police, Southend, Essex and Thurrock Childrens' Social Care and Residential care Home/16+ Supported Living Provider/Local Authority Foster Care Provider/Independent Foster Care Provider.* Chelmsford: Essex Police

Essex Police (2019) Herbert Protocol. Essex: https://www.essex.police.uk/advice/herbert-protocol

Essex Police (2018) *Missing Person's Procedure* Number: B 1601 Essex Police (22nd March 2018)

Home Office (2011) *Missing Children and Adults Strategy.* London: Crown Copyright

Home Office (2015) *Modern Slavery Act* London: Crown Copyright

National Crime Agency (2018) *National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime.* London: National Crime Agency

Ofsted (2016) *Time to Listen: A joined up approach to child sexual exploitation and missing children.* London: Ofsted

Ofsted (2018) *Protecting children from criminal exploitation, human trafficking and modern slavery: an addendum.* Manchester: Crown Copyright

Southend Essex and Thurrock Boards (2019) *SET Child Protection Procedures: Part 3 BSET Child Protection Procedures:* Part 3B (p.392): 'Safeguarding children practice guidance Children missing from care, home or school (2018) Essex: SET

Southend Essex and Thurrock Councils (2017) *SET Adults Missing from Care Homes, Hospitals and Mental Health Establishments Essex: SET Southend Essex and Thurrock Safeguarding Boards (2019) SET Safeguarding Adults Missing Protocol (Essex: SET)*

Southend Essex and Thurrock Safeguarding Adult Board (2019) *SET Safeguarding Adults Guidelines version 5 (April 2019)* Essex: SET

Appendix 4: Roles and Responsibilities

Key Partner & Stakeholder	Prepare Objectives	Protective Objectives	Support Objectives	Pursue and Respond Objectives
Local Partnership: May differ from area to area but will include a combination of lead departments from communities, businesses and all agencies below.	May differ from area to area but will include a combination of lead departments from communities, businesses and all the agencies below to: • Ensure that 'missing people' is a priority in local structures - for example Community Planning or Community Safety Partnerships • Create and embed SET Missing Strategy and for adults SET Missing Person Protocol • Identify Missing Persons champion.	May differ from area to area but will include a combination of lead departments from communities, businesses and all the agencies below to: • Identify opportunities for shared learning and training.	• Work with partners to agree who will conduct return discussions from relevant setting in the local area • Review local support services available and build reference file to refer and sign post when appropriate.	May differ from area to area but will include a combination of lead departments from communities, businesses and all the agencies below to: • Establish information sharing protocol/agreement • Promotes common understanding of risk assessment across agencies.
Local Authorities: Children Social Care Adult Social Care Youth Offending Service Council Public Health	• Ensure assessment and prevention planning takes place for vulnerable children and at risk adults • Agree and continue to develop local protocols with Essex Police regarding children missing from care, vulnerable people and people with dementia going missing from care/community	• Ensure messages about the risks of going missing are included in relevant local guidance and training.	• Work with partners to ensure adults, children and young people receive an appropriate return discussion • Review the provision of emergency accommodation and other therapeutic support.	• Agree information sharing protocol with partners • Agree to work to single definition of missing persons with local partners • Adopt common understanding of risk assessment.

Key Partner & Stakeholder	Prepare Objectives	Protective Objectives	Support Objectives	Pursue and Respond Objectives
District Councils	• Ensure that Exploitation and Missing are adequately addressed under the Council's corporate safeguarding responsibilities and that there is an appropriate level of training and awareness • Ensure that the local Community Safety Partnership is tackling exploitation effectively and that "vulnerability" remains an strategic priority (subject to annual strategic assessment) • Identify a Exploitation and Missing Champion within the organisation	• Ensure that Exploitation and Missing is appropriately resourced whilst undertaking their strategic housing function (this may differ depending on whether the authority has a housing stock)	• Support local community safety partnership hub arrangements to enhance the response to Exploitation and Missing by improving data sharing, enforcement and safeguarding arrangements	• Ensure that Exploitation and Missing is appropriately resourced, including undertaking their licensing function (protection of children from harm)

Key Partner & Stakeholder	Prepare Objectives	Protective Objectives	Support Objectives	Pursue and Respond Objectives
Health*	• Agree local protocols on information sharing with Essex Police • Ensure prevention planning takes place for patients at risk of going missing • Provide early identification of a person causing concern or showing signs of distress • Agree local protocols on information sharing with Essex Police.	• Ensure messages about the risks of going missing are included in relevant guidance and training • Review the provision of emergency and other therapeutic support	• Work with partners to ensure adults, children and young people in their care receive an appropriate return discussion • Review the provision of emergency and other therapeutic support.	• Agree local protocols on information sharing with Essex Police and partners • Agree to work to single definition of missing persons with local partners • Adopt a common understanding of risk assessment

*Health components

National/Strategic/Commissioning

Department of Health
NHS England/NHS Improvement
Clinical Commissioning Groups/
Sustainability & Transformation
Partnerships/Integrated Care Systems

Primary Care (Independent Contractors)

GPs
Dentists
Pharmacists
Opticians

Providers

Acute hospital trusts
Community services
Adult mental health services
Child mental health services
Ambulance service
Patient transport services

Out of hours services (IC24/NHS111)
Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)
Sexual health services
0-19 services (health visitors & school nurses)

Private health care services

Key Partner & Stakeholder	Prepare Objectives	Protective Objectives	Support Objectives	Pursue and Respond Objectives
Essex Police	• Provide local analysis and data for partners about missing episodes • Co-ordinate with SET Local Authorities, Health Boards and partners appropriate roll-out of pilot protocols, following evaluations, regarding children missing from care, NHS patients going missing, and vulnerable people / going missing from care homes.	• Ensure messages about the risks of going missing are included in relevant guidance and training.	• Work with partners to ensure adults, children and young people receive an appropriate return discussion.	• Agree information sharing protocol with partners • Agree to work to single definition of missing persons with local partners • Adopt common understanding of risk assessment
Community Rehabilitation Company and National Probation Service	• Agree local protocols on information sharing with Essex Police. • Provide early identification of a person causing concern or showing signs of distress. • Ensure that the person is provided with specialist support, where appropriate. • Agree to work to single definition of missing persons with local partners • Adopt common understanding of risk assessment	• Ensure messages about the risks of going missing are included in relevant guidance and training. • Use duty to refer at the earliest opportunity to support accommodation needs of adult offenders	• Use of supervisory powers to monitor appropriateness of domestic arrangements • Support adult offenders to access services to meet their needs • Deliver interventions to adult offenders in custody and community to increase resilience and support crime free lives.	

Key Partner & Stakeholder	Prepare Objectives	Protective Objectives	Support Objectives	Pursue and Respond Objectives
Education (schools, colleges and higher education)	• Provide early identification of a person causing concern or showing signs of distress • Ensure that the person is provided with specialist support, where appropriate.	• Provide early identification of a person causing concern or showing signs of distress • Ensure that the person is provided with specialist support, where appropriate. • Share appropriate intelligence with Police and other partners. • Provide early, holistic and continuous education, utilising all potential avenues of communication, on healthy relationships / staying safe online / sex education / risk of exploitation. • Be alert to targeted primary prevention, providing messages about exploitation in a safe and non-judgemental environment.		• Agree information sharing protocol with partners • Agree to work to single definition of missing persons with local partners • Adopt common understanding of risk assessment.
Third Sector	• Provide specialist support and share information with relevant agencies. • Ensure assessment and prevention planning takes place for vulnerable children and adults at risk	• Provide specialist support and share information with relevant agencies. • Provide training or sign posting to appropriate sources of information or contacts.	• Work with partners to build awareness of support services available • Work with partners to highlight support available to those affected by missing episodes.	• Agree information sharing protocol with partners • Agree to work to single definition of missing persons with local partners • Adopt common understanding of risk assessment.

Appendix 5: Missing strategy on a page

AIM: Prevent people from going missing in the first place, and limit the harm associated with people going missing

Objectives:	Commitments:
Objective 1: To Prepare and introduce Preventative measures to reduce the number of Missing Persons episodes	1. Agencies to ensure that prevention planning takes place locally for vulnerable individuals and groups 2. Agencies to ensure that people at risk of going missing are treated as a priority locally
Objective 2: To Pursue and Respond consistently and appropriately to missing persons episodes	3. Agencies to exchange proportionate information to ensure that missing people are located quickly 4. Agencies to adopt a consistent approach to risk assessment when someone goes missing
Objective 3: To Provide the best possible Support to both missing people and their families	5. Agencies to hold return discussions with young people and adults after they have been missing 6. Support is made available to people who have been missing and their families
Objective 4: To Protect vulnerable missing people and reduce the risk of harm	7. SET to oversee a programme of activity to raise awareness of people who go missing 8. SET to ensure that risks of harm are highlighted in all relevant training and guidance