

CONTEXTUAL SAFEGUARDING

EXTRA-FAMILIAL HARM PROFILE ANNUAL REPORT

1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Contributors: Emily Verlander - Data Analyst, Laura Demetriades -
Service Manager Safeguarding & Reviewing, Carly Buchecker -
Contextual Safeguarding Practice Lead

Contents

	<u>Pag</u>
· Introduction	2
· Practice Context	2
· Local Context and Key Issues	3
4. Partnership Working	14
· Quality of Practice	15
· Progress against priorities for 2022-23	20
· Priorities for 2023-24	21
·	

1. Introduction

In April 2017 Hackney Council was awarded funding from the Department for Education's Children's Social Care Innovation Fund, with the aim to overhaul the way local authorities approach child protection. Hackney - in partnership with the University of Bedfordshire – set out to develop a radical new approach to safeguarding, which shifts the focus of social work from the family home, to consider much wider influences. The aim was to find effective ways to protect children from risks outside the family home, recognising that children are increasingly being influenced by their peer groups and surroundings, which are outside the control of their families and cannot necessarily be addressed by traditional social work interventions, which focus on individual children and families. This traditional approach limits the extent to which social workers and multi-agency partners can safeguard children who experience abuse or exploitation outside of the family environment.

The set-up and implementation phase of the project was April 2017 to March 2019, followed by an embedding phase April 2019 to March 2020. A number of tools and practice guidance was developed during the years the Contextual Safeguarding Project ran in Hackney, which are now used by practitioners across the partnership.

The Context Intervention Unit (CIU) was formed in late 2020 to continue the embedding of contextual safeguarding in Hackney, focusing on our partnership work as well as continuing to develop contextual safeguarding practice within Hackney's Children and Families Service. The primary role was to co-ordinate and Chair the Extra-Familial Risk Panel, run a weekly Case Consultation Forum to support practitioners to take a more contextual approach to safeguarding children at risk outside of the home and complete context assessments where the appropriate level of risk has been identified. This iteration of the service was brought to an end in March 2023.

The Contextual Safeguarding Practice Lead now sits within the Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Service, along with the Contextual Safeguarding Coordinator. The primary focus continues to be to Chair the Extra-Familial Risk Panel, offer consultation to other parts of the service, lead on individual Child Protection Conferences, where the significant harm is taking place outside the family home, manage the Children's Rights Service and oversee missing children.

2. Practice Context

A contextual safeguarding approach seeks to create a response to extra-familial forms of harm that can: target the contexts in which that abuse occurs, from assessment through to intervention. Providing a framework to address extra-familial risk through the lens of child welfare, as opposed to crime reduction or community safety.

Contextual Safeguarding has been in development since 2011 to inform policy and practice responses to harm that children experience in contexts and relationships beyond their families. Initially emerging from a three-year review of practice responses to cases of peer-on-peer abuse (Firmin, 2017), the framework has been adapted to advance safeguarding responses to a range of extra-familial risks that compromise the safety and welfare of children in school, public spaces and peer groups (Firmin, 2016).

Since the inclusion of the term in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, there has been significant strategic and operational uptake of the approach in England, Wales and

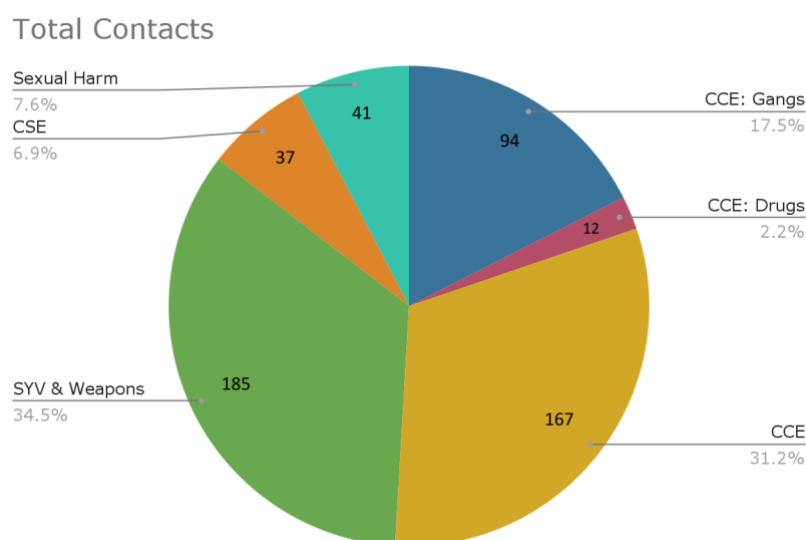
Scotland – uptake that has helped the research team understand, and articulate, the implications of the framework for practice.¹

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 includes a specific section that considers extra-familial harm (chapter 1, paragraphs 33-34). The section details expectations of how local authorities, and wider partners, should respond to extra-familial harm. These paragraphs assert that:

- extra-familial risks and/or experiences of abuse – including, for example, harm caused by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as exploitation via county lines, and sexual exploitation – are safeguarding and child protection issues;
- intervention plans for extra-familial harm need to consider, and address, environmental factors associated to the abuse, ‘which are likely to be a threat to the safety and welfare of a number of different children who may or may not be known to local authority’ (DfE 2018:22); as well as meet the individual needs of identified young people; contextual factors that undermine young people’s welfare should be assessed for young people who harm others as well as those who are harmed

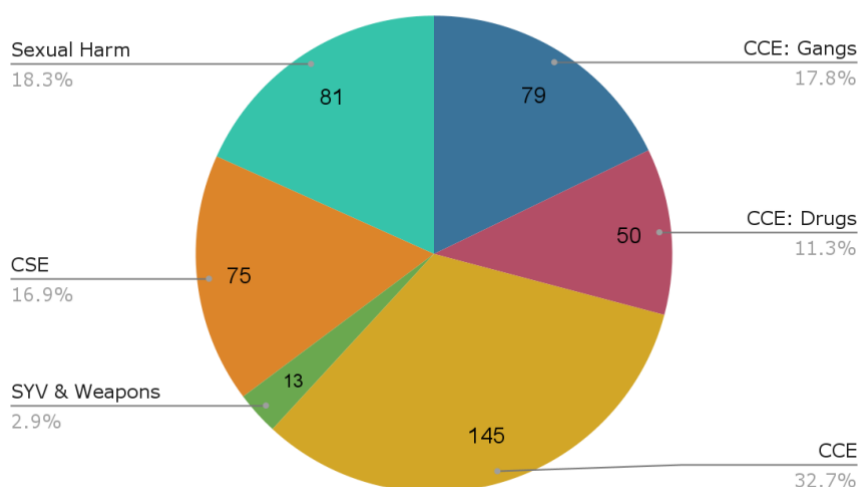
3. Local Context and Key Issues

A range of data is collated by Hackney Children and Family Services and partner agencies to inform the understanding of extra-familial harm, impact of this upon Hackney children, and response from the multi-agency partnership. Extra-familial harm is broken down into a number of categories, however it is acknowledged that children can be experiencing or at risk of multiple types of harm at any one time.



¹ <https://www.contextualsafeguarding.org.uk/media/lkmbb2m2/cs-briefing-2020-final.pdf>

Total Assessments



3.1 Child Criminal Exploitation

Criminal exploitation like many forms of extra-familial harm can be multifaceted. In Hackney we have broken this down to look at Criminal Exploitation in its widest sense; and Criminal Exploitation linked specifically with drugs and Criminal Exploitation linked specifically with gang involvement. There can be many times when these, however, all overlap.

Contacts for 167 children were received where Criminal Exploitation had been identified as a potential concern. This represents **1.7% of all children who had contacts** received in the year.

- **49 (29.3%)** of those children had contacts that progressed to **Assessment**
- **10 (6%)** of those children had contacts that progressed to **Early Help Assessment**
- **91 (54.5%)** of those children had contacts that had a next action of **No Further Action**
- **5 (3%)** of those children had contacts that progressed to **Review of Contact and Referral**
- **15 (9%)** of those children had contacts that had **cancelled next actions**

145 children had Assessments³ where Criminal Exploitation was listed as an Assessment Factor. This represents **3.2% of all children who had Child and Family Assessments** received in the year.

- **83 (57.2%)** of those children had assessments that had a next action of **No further Social Work Action (C&F)**
- **53 (36.6%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Develop or Update Child or Young Person in Need Plan**
- **6 (4.1%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Progress to Strategy Discussion**
- **1 (0.7%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Looked After Child Planning**

- **10 (6.9%)** of those children had assessments that had **cancelled next actions**²

On 31/03/2023, there were **74 children open to Children and Family Services** who had a contact with Child Criminal Exploitation flagged as a concern during the financial year 2022/23.

3.1.1 Criminal Exploitation in relation to Drug Dealing

Contacts for 12 children were received where Criminal Exploitation in relation to drug dealing had been identified as a potential concern. This represents **0.1% of all children who had contacts** received in the year.

- **8 (66.7%)** of those children had contacts that progressed to an **Assessment**
- **4 (33.3%)** of those children had contacts that had a next action of **No Further Action**

50 children had Assessments³ that took place where Criminal Exploitation: Drugs was listed as an Assessment Factor. This represents **1.1% of all children who had Child and Family Assessments** received in the year.

- **20 (40%)** of those children had assessments that had a next action **No further Social Work Action (C&F)**
- **20 (40%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Develop or Update Child or Young Person in Need Plan**
- **3 (6%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Progress to Strategy Discussion**
- **7 (14.%)** of those children had assessments that had **cancelled next actions**

On 31/03/2023, there were **7 children open to Children and Family Services** who had a contact with CCE: Drugs flagged as a concern during the financial year 2022/23.

3.1.2 Criminal Exploitation in relation to Gangs

Contacts for 94³ children were received where **Criminal Exploitation: Gangs** had been identified as a potential concern. This represents **1.0% of all children who had contacts** received in the year.

- **48 (51.1%)** of those children had contacts that progressed to an **Assessment**
- **3 (3.2%)** of those children had contacts that progressed to **Early Help Assessment**
- **41 (43.6%)** of those children had contacts that had a next action of **NFA**
- **3 (3.2%)** of those children had contacts that progressed to **Strategy Discussion in Progress**

² A 'cancelled next action' is where a next action has been given, and then at a later date it's been cancelled. For example, a workstep where the next action was Assessment, but then due to some circumstances (e.g. moving out of borough), that next action gets cancelled.

³ The total numbers given are total individual children. Some children may have had more than one contact in a year with different next actions. Therefore, the total next actions when counting children might be higher than the total children who have received contacts.

- **2 (2.1%)** of those children had contacts that had a **cancelled next action**

79 children had Assessments³ that took place where Criminal Exploitation: Gangs was identified as an Assessment Factor. This represents **1.8% of all children with Child and Family Assessments** received in the year.

- **45 (57.%)** of those children had assessments that had a next action of **No further Social Work Action (C&F)**
- **31 (39.2%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Develop or Update Child or Young Person in Need Plan**
- **2 (2.5%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Assessment Withdrawn**
- **1 (1.3%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Progress to Strategy Discussion**
- **2 (2.5%)** of those children had assessments that had a **cancelled next action**

On 31/03/2023, there were **40 children open to Children and Family Services** who had a contact with Criminal Exploitation: Gangs flagged as a concern during the financial year 2022/23.

It is notable that the majority of referrals in relation to Criminal Exploitation Drugs or Gangs are in relation to male children from Black and Global Majority backgrounds. See figure 1 and 2 on page 9 and 10.

Professionals have been encouraged by Hackney Integrated Gangs Unit to highlight any possible concerns about gang exploitation as early as possible, therefore this means that children who are lacking adult supervision or excluded from school may be considered more likely to be at risk from exploitation by gangs. On further assessment or scrutiny there may not be any evidence at that time to suggest that this is happening, however it is helpful for the professional network and family to be aware and alert to these risks, so they can be prevented or disrupted at the earliest opportunity. Assessments which take place where there is potential gang based criminal exploitation may also have numerous other factors associated with them, and this may not be a priority consideration, but an element that requires further exploration.

3.2 Child Sexual Exploitation

Contacts for 37 children were received where **Child Sexual Exploitation** had been identified as a potential concern. This represents **0.4% of all children who had contacts** received in the year.

- **15 (40.5%)** of those children had contacts that progressed to **Assessment**
- **2 (5.4%)** of those children had contacts that had a **cancelled next action**
- **20 (54.1%)** of those children had contacts that had a next action of **No Further Action**

75 children had Assessments that took place where **Child Sexual Exploitation** was listed as an assessment factor. This represents **1.7% of all children with Child and Family Assessments** received in the year.

- **46 (61.3%)** of those children had assessments that had a next action of **Close Case (C&F)**
- **17 (22.7%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Develop or Update Child or Young Person in Need Plan**
- **3 (4%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Progress to Strategy Discussion**
- **2 (2.7%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Family Support Service Plan**
- **8 (10.7%)** of those children had assessments that had **cancelled next actions**

On 31/03/2023, there were **10 open children to Children and Family Services** who had a contact with Child Sexual Exploitation flagged as a concern during the financial year 2022/23.

It is notable that referrals in this category are more highly weighted towards females than with other forms of extra-familial harm. See figure 1 on page 9.

3.3. Harmful Sexual Behaviour/Sexual Harm

Contacts for 41 children were received where **Sexual Harm** had been identified as a potential concern. This represents **0.4% of all children with contacts** received in the year.

This is in relation to children where it is specifically noted that the sexual harm is extra familial or both intra and extra familial. It is still not possible at present to break this data down further to understand if referrals are in relation to children being the victim of sexual harm or children potentially perpetrating sexual harm towards others.

- **11 (26.8%)** of those children had contacts that progressed to **Assessment**
- **1 (2.4%)** of those children had contacts that progressed to **Early Help Assessment**
- **25 (61%)** of those children had contacts that had a next action of **No Further Action**
- **4 (9.8%)** of those children had contacts that had a **cancelled next action**

81 children had Assessments that took place where **Harmful Sexual Behaviour/Sexual Harm** was listed as an assessment factor. This represents **1.8% of all children with Child and Family Assessments** received in the year.

- **51 (63%)** of those children had assessments that had a next action of **Close Case (C&F)**
- **16 (19.8%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Develop or Update Child or Young Person in Need Plan**
- **4 (4.9%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Progress to Strategy Discussion**
- **3 (3.7%)** of those children had assessments that progressed to **Early Help Support Plan**

- **7 (8.6%)** of those children had assessments that had a **cancelled next action**

This is lower than in cases of other types of extra-familial harm, this may be due to the large categorisation of this type of harm and the data that is therefore linked to it.

On 31/03/2023, there were **8 open children** to Children and Family Services who had a contact with Sexual Harm flagged as a concern during the financial year 2022/23.

3.4 Serious Youth Violence and Weapons

Contacts for 185 children were received where **Serious Youth Violence and Weapons** had been identified as a potential concern. This represents **1.9% of all children with contacts** received in the year.

- **44 (23.8%)** of those children had contacts that progressed to **Assessment**
- **5 (2.7%)** of those children had contacts that progressed to **Early Help Assessment**
- **138 (74.6%)** of those children had contacts that had a next action of **No Further Action**
- **3 (1.6%)** of those children had contacts that progressed to **Review of Contact and Referral**
- **11 (5.9%)** of those children had contacts that had **cancelled next actions**

13 children had Assessments that took place that had **Serious Youth Violence and Weapons** related assessment factors. This represents **0.3% of all children with Child and Family Assessments** received in the year.

- **13 (100%)** of those children had assessments that had a next action of **Close Case (C&F)**

On 31/03/2023, there were **70 open children** to Children and Family Services who had a contact with Serious Youth Violence and Weapons flagged as a concern.

3.5 Missing Children

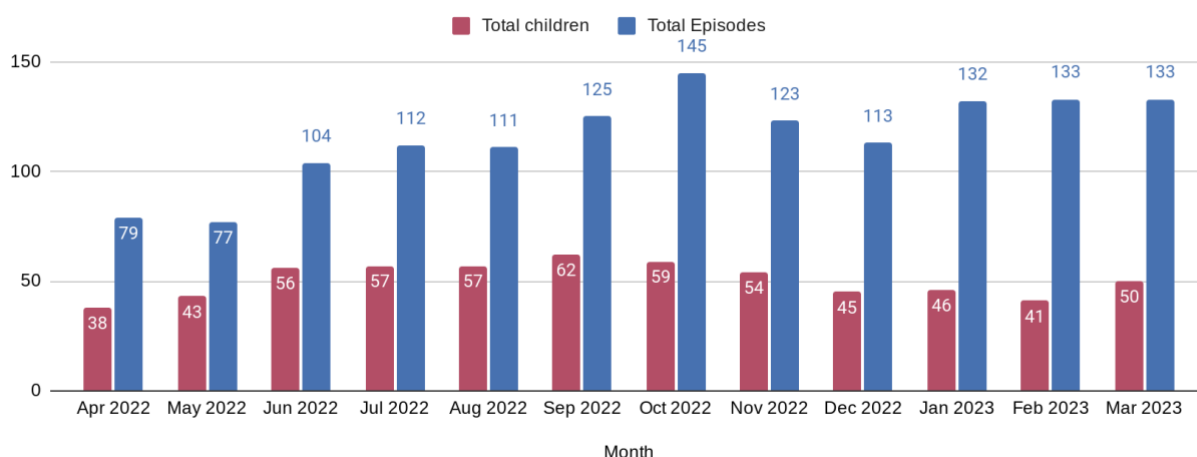
There were **1,301 missing episodes** which took place between 01/04/2022 and 31/03/2023. A total of **265** children reported missing (an average of 4.9 missing episodes per person)

69% of children reported missing were reported **missing from home**, and accounted for **28.4%** of all **missing episodes** (an average of 2 missing episodes per person)

37% of children reported missing were **Looked After at the time of the missing episode**, and accounted for **71.6%** of all **missing episodes** (an average of 9.5 episodes per person).

In relation to missing children there is less discrepancy in relation to gender, and both males and females are fairly evenly split in being reported as missing. **57% male, 43% female.**

Missing episodes and children by month



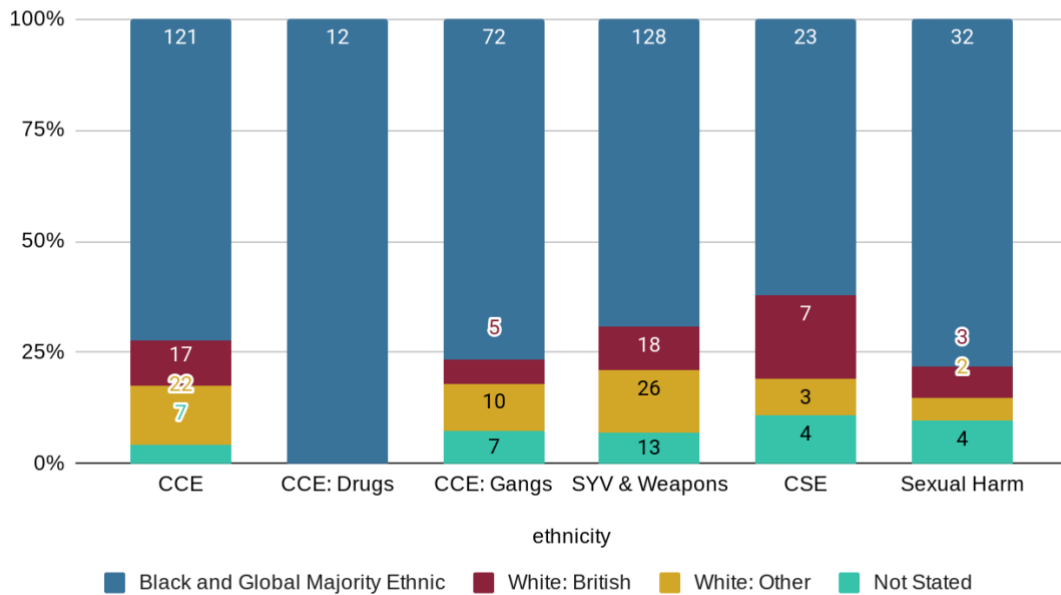
It is clear that children in care are more likely to be reported missing multiple times, when compared with children living at home. There are a number of possible reasons for this; carers have clearer guidelines around reporting children in their care as missing, children living at home may not be reported even when their whereabouts are unknown, children in care have experienced significant trauma and loss and may be pulled back to their family, friends or previous carers, they may be more vulnerable to exploitation and gangs to gain a sense of belonging and identity, or not feel settled and accepted in their current care arrangement.

The missing child data also aligns with other extra-familial harm categories in that the majority of children reported missing, between 74-91% each month, as children from Black and Global Majority backgrounds.

Ethnicity, gender and age of children who experience extra-familial harm

Figure 1

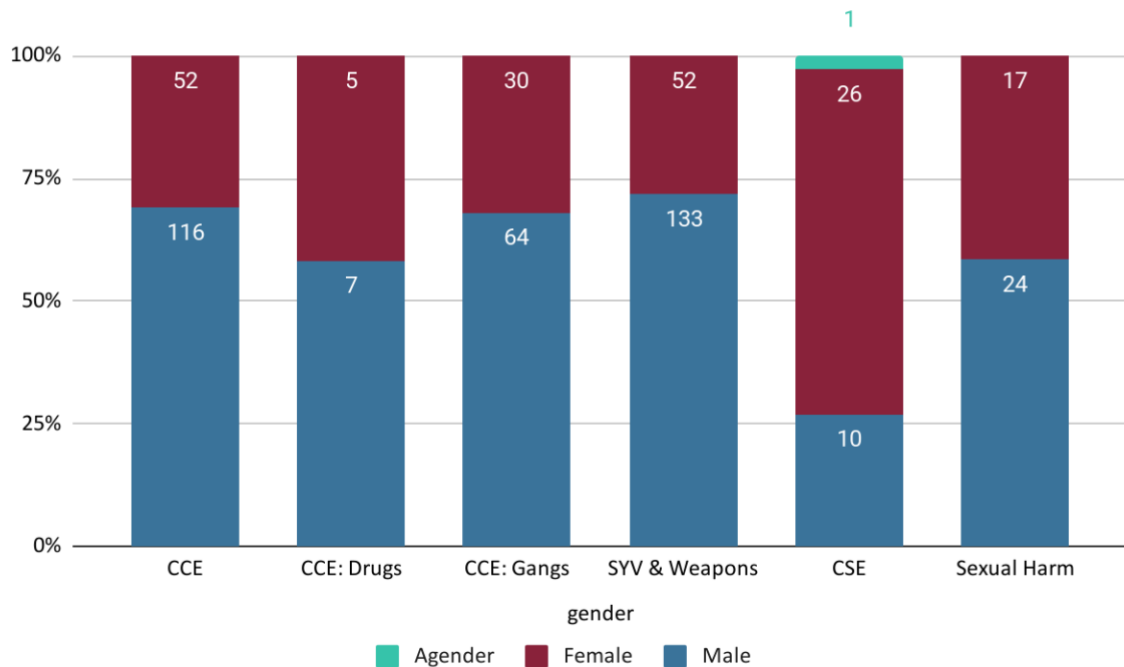
Total children with EFH contacts broken down by vulnerability category and ethnicity category



As outlined it is notable that the majority of referrals in relation to all extra familial harm categories are for children from Black and Global Majority backgrounds. This means that Black children in Hackney are at an increased risk of harm in the community and means that we need to ensure that our support and interventions are able to address their specific needs

Figure 2

Total children with EFH contacts broken down by vulnerability category and gender



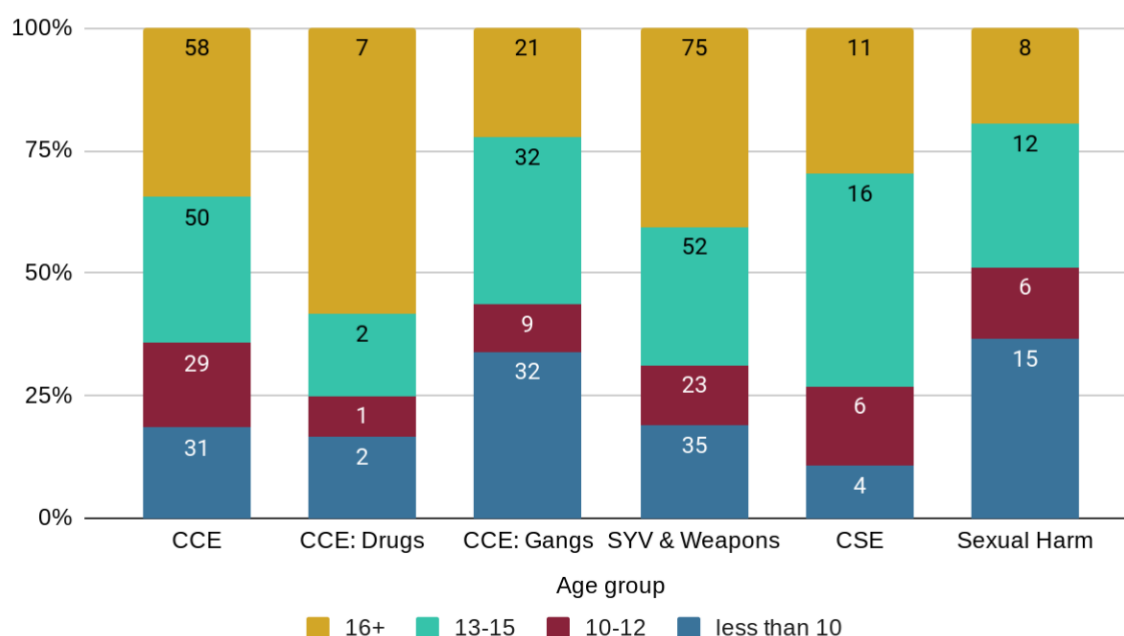
Agender⁴

As outlined in the above data but demonstrated by this chart there are more boys being identified in relation to criminal exploitation, drugs, and serious youth violence and weapons, and more girls identified in relation to sexual exploitation and sexual harm. This may be a reflection of the types of harm experienced by children, but may also reflect a gendered approach to identifying and categorising extra-familial harm.

Figure 3

⁴ Agender (adj.) is not having a gender or a “lack of” a gender. Agender people see themselves as neither a man nor a woman, or both. They’re gender-neutral and often are described as genderfree or genderless.

Total children with EFH contacts broken down by vulnerability category and age group



In relation to age, children aged 16 years plus (31.2%) were most likely to be identified as at risk of or experiencing extra-familial harm. This was closely followed by children aged 13 - 15 years (31.7%), which was last year's 2021/22 highest cohort. However, it is difficult to identify in a sibling group referral which child(ren) may be the ones experiencing extra familial harm, so all children in the referral are counted which will affect the quality of the data.

However, in 17 (16.5%) requests for support there were children under 10 years old with an extra familial harm contact where there were no linked children aged 10 years or older in the contact, implying that the extra familial risk was for the child aged under 10 years. Whilst it is very concerning for such young children to potentially be exploited, it is also important that extra familial harm is considered in relation to children of all ages. 7 of these children subsequently had an assessment and 10 were closed with no further action, indicating the extra familial harm concerns were not evidenced.

It is expected that adolescents are at increased risk of extra familial harm given this is the development stage where children are likely to be given additional freedoms, have more networks outside of the family home, and are heavily influenced by their peers. Children aged over the age of 16 have increased levels of independence and are at risk of being viewed, or wishing to be viewed as older than their years. Their physical appearance as young adults can mask their developmental levels as children, and lead to adultification that prevents professionals, services, and general society from recognising their innocence and vulnerability as children.

4. Partnership Working

We recognise that safeguarding children from harm in the community is everyone's responsibility. In order to effectively keep these young people safe we need full engagement from all our partners. This requires good attendance and engagement from; Police, Hackney Integrated Gangs Unit, Health, Education, Housing, Adult's Social Care, Parks Service, Hackney Voluntary and Community Services, Probation and the City and Hackney Safeguarding Children's Partnership to develop clear and effective ways of working together.

The operational forum in which plans and actions are devised in order to reduce risk for individual children, groups of peers, and locations of harm is the Extra Familial Risk Panel ([EFRP Protocol](#)). This Panel meets every fortnight and is a strong multi-agency network of a range of statutory and voluntary services, which are able to mobilise resources and capacity to meet emerging needs to reduce harm.

Prior to presentation at the Extra-Familial Risk Panel there are consultations available with the Contextual Safeguarding Lead to map out information, bring together evidenced concerns, perceived or possible concerns, concerns within the wider known network or community. This helps focus the discussion in the Extra-Familial Risk Panel on established information, to assign actions to try and clarify any grey areas, and to intervene with evidenced risks of harm.

This Panel acts to fulfil the function of the Pre-MACE meeting⁵ to ensure that there is clear action taken to address issues of extra-familial harm, and to escalate any strategic issues or barriers to safeguarding children, ensuring themes are shared at the main MACE meeting to be addressed.

Data from the Extra-Familial Risk Panel is then fed to MACE⁶ which is co-chaired between Hackney Children and Family Services and the Public Protection Police which covers missing children and child exploitation. This meeting is held once a month and in the past year has focused on ensuring that there is a strong data analysis of the monthly profile and risks in the Borough.

This data set comprises data not only from the Extra-Familial Risk Panel but also extra-familial harm categories identified in contact and referral information, and through the outcomes of assessments. This is triangulated with current available education data such as any additional diagnosed needs, Education Health and Care Plans in place, and children attending alternative provisions. Work still needs to be done in relation to data about school exclusions and children missing from school.

There are ongoing complications with Police being able to consistently report on data in relation to arrests or children being victims of crimes, action taken against adults perpetrating crimes against children, serving of specific orders e.g. Child Abduction Warning Notices, Sexual Harm Prevention Orders.

Now that a new data analyst has been recruited within the Youth Offending Team they will work together with the MACE data analyst to ensure that their data is reported consistently within the MACE dashboard.

Going forward we would like to incorporate health data for example any specific mental health needs, communication needs, or children who may be young carers, to understand what

⁵ [The London Child Exploitation Operating Protocol 2021](#) accessed 31/08/2022

⁶ [MACE Terms of Reference](#)

additional vulnerabilities might make children more likely to be at risk of or experiencing extra-familial harm. However, within our current data parameters it is hard to differentiate which individuals in a family this information relates to, so it requires further investigation.

The result of developing this robust monthly dataset is so that the partnership is able to actively understand the current needs and pressure of children in Hackney, take informed action to intervene and provide appropriate support to upskill their staff to respond to the emerging trends. Data remains a complicated multi-agency picture, but good progress has been made with internal collation and presentation in internal Children's Social Care data.

It has been noted that as services continue to feel stretched in terms of resources, attendance at MACE and the Safeguarding Adolescent Group managed by the CHSCP has been inconsistent. Therefore, there are plans in place to merge these forums to develop one robust panel that has access to the data needed to inform and progress the Safeguarding Adolescents Action Plan.

5. Quality of Practice

The Contextual Safeguarding Practice Lead continues to embed a Contextual Safeguarding approach across CFS. The Contextual Safeguarding Practice Lead provides twice-weekly online Contextual Safeguarding Case Consultation Forums for staff within Children and Families Service since October 2020. Since then, 395 consultations have taken place in relation to children, peer groups or contexts.

The Contextual Safeguarding Practice Lead continues to Chair Peer Group Strategy Meetings outside of EFRP and convened and or facilitates Peer Group Network Safety Planning Meetings. Prior to its cessation, the CIU, in partnership with the IGU also provided service wide briefings to CFS following serious incidents of extra-familial harm including gang related violence and provided practitioners with guidance on undertaking safety planning in relation to the wider location risks. The CIU and IGU have also undertaken large scale peer mapping exercises to inform direct and peer work for young people impacted by gang related violence.

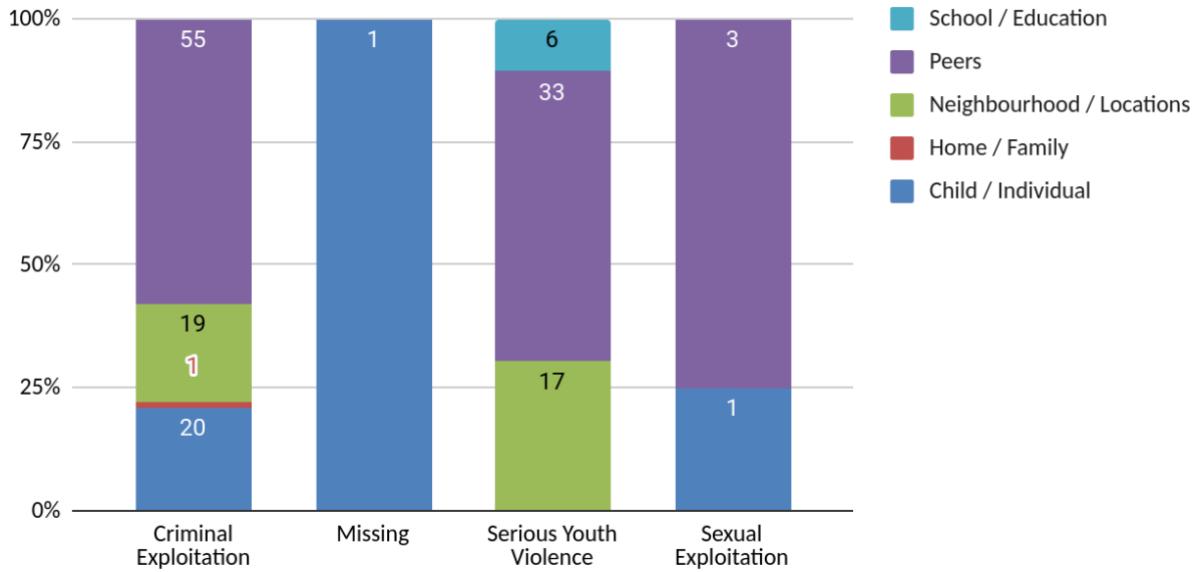
Extra Familial Risk Panel:

The Contextual Safeguarding Practice Lead began chairing EFRP in October 2020. Since this time there have been 60 EFRP panels, with 230 case discussions, relating to 247 children and young people (some of whom may have discussed on multiple occasions).

In the last financial year 24 EFRP's were held, comprising 104 case discussions and 119 children.

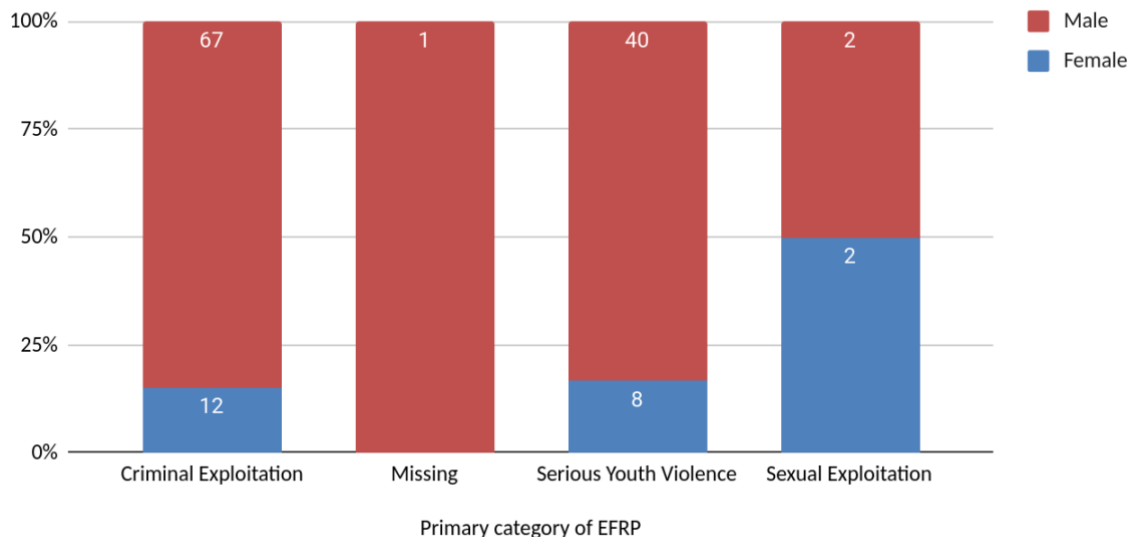
Criminal Exploitation is the primary category of harm young people who are presented to EFRP experience with 55 children out of 119 presenting with this as the primary category of harm. 33 young people presented with the primary category of harm identified as risk from Serious Youth Violence. Peer discussions account for the majority of discussions with only 22 children discussed as individuals experiencing harm.

Primary category of harm and Primary Context: total children



Boys continue to represent the majority of young people discussed at EFRP. This correlates to the predominant type of harm they experience being Criminal Exploitation and Serious Youth Violence. There is equal representation in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation. There continues to be an under representation of females and Sexual Exploitation as a category of harm at EFRP.

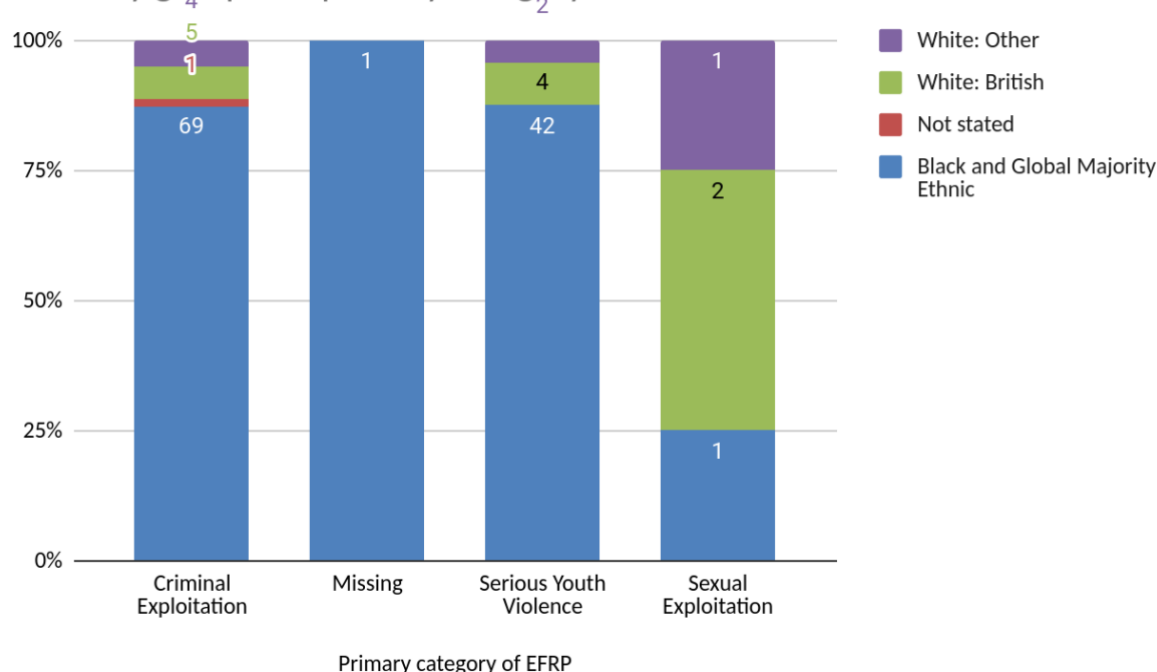
Gender and Primary Category of EFRP: total children



Children and Young People of Black and Global Majority identity are experiencing harm at a significantly disproportionate rate. Less so in relation to sexual exploitation, however these numbers are particularly low in terms of referral to EFRP. Similarly young people for whom there are primary concerns around missing, do not appear to be being referred to EFRP for

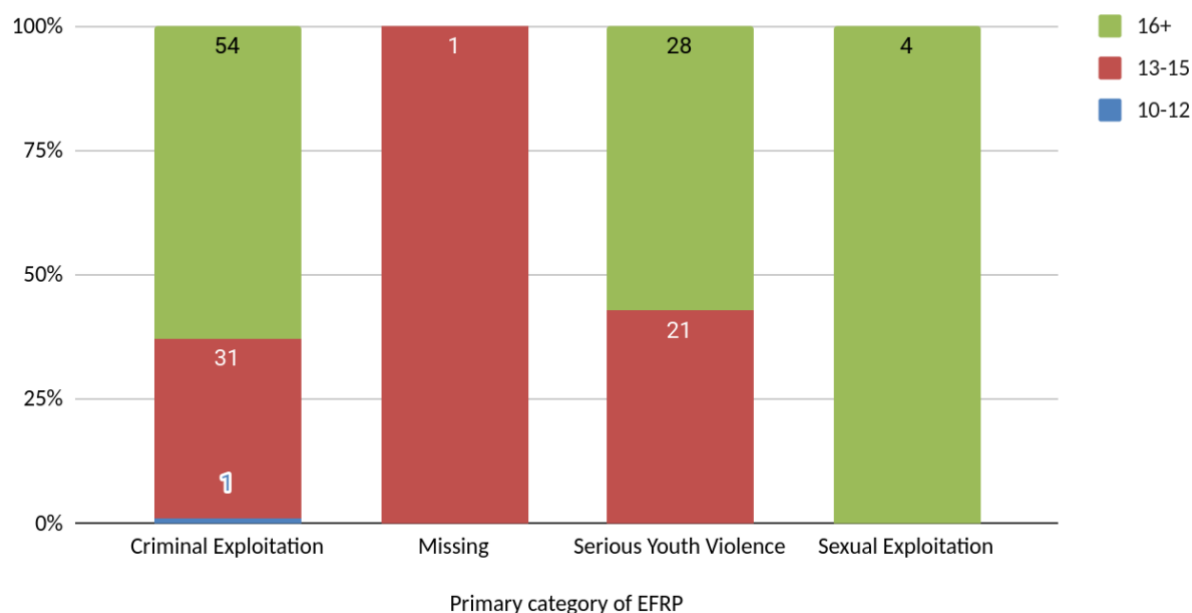
discussion. This may be due to Social Work Units having effective processes and resources to hand to intervene for missing children where additional EFRH concerns have not arisen. This may also suggest that there is further work to do to raise awareness of the added value that EFRP can offer to children who go missing and/ or limitations in categories of harm that have been captured from EFRP. Currently there are two categories of harm recorded, primary and secondary, however we know from these discussions and research informing the Contextual Safeguarding approach, that children can experienced multiple forms of harm at any given time, therefore there is a need to expand and adapt the way we capture the data relating to harm at EFRP.

Ethnicity group and primary category of EFRP: total children



The data in relation to the ages where young people are experiencing harm suggests that older children (16+) are experiencing harm from criminal exploitation more so than young children aged 15 and under. There is less discrepancy in age in relation to harm from serious youth violence.

Age group and primary category of EFRP: total children



Context Intervention Unit:

The Context Intervention Unit ceased in December 2022. With this saw the conclusion of two Neighbourhood Context in Need plans; one in Hoxton and one in Pembury. Both Hoxton and Pembury were referred to EFRP by the IGU in 2020 and 2021 respectively due to concerns regarding gangs and serious youth violence and therefore concerns about risk of significant harm to young people in these locations as they correlate to gang territories. A peer intervention was also undertaken with Young People in Hoxton who were at risk of significant harm from serious youth violence associated with gangs and criminal exploitation. This Peer group are mostly now aged over 18. Some have been successful in moving beyond the group and gang associated risks. Some have ended up receiving custodial sentences for different offences including weapons, drug offences and serious youth violence.

An assessment was initiated in Harry Zeital Way E5 following a referral from a resident raising concerns about young people and possibly young adults congregating in the location of Harry Zeital Way with allegations of drug use and dealing and possible weapons. The Detached Youth outreach team and gangs team undertook visits and did not identify significant concerns that would warrant ongoing support via a Context in Need Plan. The Detached Youth Outreach Team also ceased in 2022 and as there were no identified gang concerns to warrant input from the Integrated Gangs Team, the concerns fell to the Safer Neighbourhood Team to respond to issues as they arose.

The Hoxton Context in Need Plan was successful with all areas of the plan addressed. There was regular and consistent engagement from a range of professionals during the Team around the Context Meetings (TAC). Youth and resident voices obtained through surveys and consistent attendance by youth representatives at the TAC, however less so from Resident

representatives. Resident meetings were held separate to the TAC, however again inconsistent attendance. The plan included outreach from Turning Point to address concerns around street based substance misuse, two youth events held in conjunction with Hoxton Hall to promote young people access to services including Legal Services and advice around stop and search and policing. Targeted sports program initiated in conjunction with the Sports Unit, Hackney Education and Primary Schools in the area to encourage young people at risk of exclusion due to EFRH to attend Football Sessions. These also provided targeted intervention to older young people at serious risk of exploitation and youth violence who were open to CIU and or the YOT who also participated in sessions in a leadership / mentoring capacity. The plan improved relationships between police and young people by supporting the roll out of the Trading Place program between the Crib and Hackney Education in several schools in Hoxton. The Police Territorial Support Group (TSG) went into New City College with a view to improving relationships between older young people and police. IGU and CIU outreach was undertaken in the area regularly to engage young people at risk of exploitation. Some young people were referred to Hackney Works for employment support. Overall there was a reduction in concerns in relation to Gangs and serious youth violence in this location. There was also targeted intervention to a group of young people experiencing harm through gangs, serious youth violence and child criminal exploitation which worked jointly with the Neighbourhood Context in Need Plan.

The CIU undertook a survey with the team around the context members and the majority stated (81.1%) that the context in need plan had been effective or very effective in reducing the risk of harm to young people in the location. Feedback was also obtained from young people working with the CIU around the impact of Neighbourhood and Peer Interventions. All reported positive responses to the interventions.

In July 2022, the CIU and the Integrated Gangs Unit provided 6 peer group interventions in a location of concern focused on issues associated with gangs, youth violence, exploitation and social media. The intervention centred around a Young Hackney Youth hub and focused a group of young people who were considered most at risk of extra-familial harm. External partners also participated in delivery of these sessions. Work planned in an alternate provision around similar concerns with a particular focus on young girls who are becoming increasingly involved in gangs and serious youth violence did not proceed. That particular school was offered a School Context Assessment but did not take up the offer

A primary school that received an intervention from CIU in the previous financial year contacted the Contextual Safeguarding Lead for additional support following concerns regarding Year 5 and Year 6 pupils making reference to weapons and gangs. As the CIU had ceased, this intervention was passed to the Young Hackney Health and Wellbeing Team and external community support service commissioned by the Integrated Gangs Team; Mentivation to deliver in school targeted support.

6. Priorities for 2022/23 and progress against these

1. Implement the recommendations from Contextual Safeguarding Evaluation, due to be completed in November 2022. **Specific recommendations have not been made within the Independent Evaluation completed by the University of Sussex.**

However, services have transitioned further since that time to continue to embed contextual safeguarding practice

2. Review management of individual extra familial harm plans and the link up with Child in Need or Child Protection Plans - **where individual children are at risk of or experiencing significant harm outside the family home they are now supported by Child Protection Plans to recognise and manage this risk. The Contextual Safeguarding Practice Lead works alongside our Independent Chairs who chair Child Protection Conferences for both intra and extra-familial harm and also chairs conference where EFRH are the predominant concerns**
3. Continue to develop the MACE dataset to ensure partner data is included to inform the multi-agency overview of extra-familial harm in the Borough - **the MACE dataset is now quite comprehensive and work is ongoing to review how best to share this data in a meaningful and accessible way with partners so that action can be taken in relation to known and emerging risks and trends**
4. Review MACE and CSHCP Safeguarding Adolescent Steering Group arrangements and amalgamate these forums to improve contribution and ensure best use of data to inform and progress the Safeguarding Adolescent Action Plan - **this is in progress the MACE Panel has now progressed to combine these two groups. A workshop is taking place in September 2023 including both groups to develop the next phase of the Safeguarding Adolescents Action Plan**
5. Embed Anti-Racist Practice Standards across CFS and monitor the impact on this on addressing the disproportionality of children from Black and Global Majority backgrounds linked to extra-familial harm - **Anti-Racist Practice Standards are in place and each Service area has an action plan about embedding these in practice.**
6. Finalise and embed the CHSCP Anti-racist Charter to ensure that we are both consider the impact of racialised trauma upon children and families and consciously consider the impact of our own prejudices in partnership practice - **this is in progress**
7. Review the support available to children and their families to ensure that these are able to meet the specific needs of Black boys and girls. **We have worked tenaciously to develop anti-racist practice across all of our services and this was positively commented on within the Joint Youth Justice Inspection in 2023. This is something that we will continue to discuss with practice leads across CFS and Young Hackney, as well as the Race Inclusion and Diversity Lead to think about any unmet needs that need addressing in terms of the specific needs of Black and Global Majority children.**
8. Ongoing work in relation to adolescents entering care, their care stability, and outcomes when this does occur - **A new permanent Edge of Care team has been established, which is a joint social care and clinical endeavour. The team aims to practise in a systemic, trauma informed and anti-racist way and has a key focus on reducing disproportionality. The overlap between children on the edge of care, edge of custody, edge of exclusion and edge of tier 4 admission is also significant. The team now has an educational psychologist and is overseen by the clinical lead for Surge, as it continues to try and ensure a siloed approach to children and families and their presenting issues does not happen.**

9. Development of a clearer and more robust pathway for adolescents with mental health needs, and other diagnosis (specifically Autism) when in need of care - **The SURGE team have been co created and funded between CAMHS and Children's Social Care to support children and families where mental health is a significant issue and it is a challenge to meet the care needs of children either in hospital or in the community**
10. The development of a Children and Education system wide model/approach to working with children and their families to more clearly define the way in which we practise and ensure the best possible outcomes for our children - **the OBIS team has been created to work alongside the Directorate to develop a clear practice model which support positive outcomes for children and families and this work is progressing through 2023 into 2024.**

7. Priorities for 2023/24

1. Embed the effective and refreshed MACE ensuring effective multi-agency interventions that respond to the data profile shared to increase safety for children at risk of, or experiencing EFRH.
2. Refresh the Safeguarding Adolescent Action Plan to ensure an effective 3 year strategic response and intervention to increase safety for children at risk of EFRH.
3. Finalise and embed the CHSCP Anti-racist Charter to ensure that we consider the impact of racialised trauma on children and families and consciously consider the impact of our own power, privilege and prejudices within partnership practice.
4. Review the effectiveness of the use of Child Protection Plans for managing and reducing the risk of extra familial harm, developing a tool box of successful interventions and approaches which have created positive change for children.
5. Embed longer term plans for multi-agency leadership in context assessment and interventions including peer group, school and neighbourhood locations