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policing
west mercia

Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme

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Scheme



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Aims and Objectives

- Better understanding
- What it's not and misuse
- Examples of good use
- Case study example
- Alignment with MAPPA
- Value added, evidence it works

What it's not and misuse

- CRB
- Circumventing other procedures
- Fishing expedition
- Mechanism for matrimonial disputes

Case Study Example

- Registered Childminder
- Rumours about brother
- Disclosure
- MAPPA
- Ofsted

Value added

- Disclosures nationally
- Enquiries = Intelligence
- Public Education
- Public confidence and satisfaction
- Empowerment
- Recent Judicial Review

Case Study 1

Given the below circumstances - consider

- Are there 'CONCERNS' or 'NO CONCERNS' raised?
- The appropriate forum for making the decision? e.g. MAPPA meeting, safeguarding children strategy meeting/discussion/case conference or other.
- What do you think the disclosure decision should be? i.e. should a disclosure be made?
- Who should a disclosure be made to?

CASE STUDY 1 - Answers

- **Decision would be for a disclosure to be made**
 - This case would raise ‘concerns’. Graham is known for child sexual offences and there are concerns around his behaviour towards Carly (interest and expensive gifts). There are also concerns that his previous offending was against his stepdaughter who was a similar age to Carly.
 - Disclosure would be confirmed and outlined in a MAPPA meeting.
- **Disclosure would be made to Julie SMITH**
 - She is the parent of the child concerned. Although Edna SMITH has made the enquiry she is not the parent, carer or guardian of the child concerned so would not have a disclosure made to her. This would need to be handled sensitively as Julie has not made an application herself for disclosure. Also bear in mind that Edna does not want Julie to know she has made the enquiry.
- **Learning Points**
 - Shows how an enquiry by a third party may still lead to a disclosure to a parent, carer or guardian where the subject raises ‘concerns’.
 - Shows that disclosure should only be made to a parent, carer or guardian and the person best placed to protect the child from harm
 - Alignment to MAPPA.

Case Study 2

Given the below circumstances - consider

- Are there 'CONCERNS' or 'NO CONCERNS' raised?
- The appropriate forum for making the decision? e.g. MAPPA meeting, safeguarding children strategy meeting/discussion/case conference or other.
- What do you think the disclosure decision should be? i.e. should a disclosure be made?
- Who should a disclosure be made to?

CASE STUDY 2 - Answers

- **Decision would be for a disclosure to be made**
 - This case would raise ‘concerns’ as Colin is known (for child sexual offences) and is a current ViSOR nominal and previous offending against girls of similar age to Kylie.
 - Disclosure would be confirmed and outlined in a strategy discussion / liaison between Police and Children’s Services.
- **Disclosure would be made to Sharon STRANGE**
 - She is in the best position to protect the child. The father making the application has no involvement with his daughter. Sharon has co-operated with agencies in the past to protect her child.
- **Learning Points**
 - Shows an example of where even though an applicant is a parent, carer or guardian they may not be best placed to safeguard the child and the other parent should receive disclosure. This may be a frequent situation with estranged parents who may make enquiries for legitimate or malicious reasons.

Case Study 3

Given the below circumstances - consider

- Are there 'CONCERNS' or 'NO CONCERNS' raised?
- The appropriate forum for making the decision? e.g. MAPPA meeting, safeguarding children strategy meeting/discussion/case conference or other.
- What do you think the disclosure decision should be? i.e. should a disclosure be made?
- Who should a disclosure be made to?

CASE STUDY 3 - Answers

- 'Concerns' – not known for child sexual offences but known for other offences and concerns relating to serious domestic violence history involving children on occasion.
- Non – MAPPA nominal but safeguarding children concerns therefore likely to be a safeguarding children strategy discussion/meeting. Group MAY have decided to try and refer to MAPPA meeting if criteria is met. Either option would be correct.
- Disclosure – under safeguarding children/MAPPA guidance if criteria is met to refer to MAPPA.

Learning Points

- Illustrates a non-Disclosure Scheme disclosure relating to other offences (in this case Domestic Violence) that raise safeguarding children concerns.