



Extra-Familial Harm and Missing Team

A leaflet for practitioners working with young
people at risk of extra-familial harm



@lb_southwark



facebook.com/southwarkcouncil

Who are the Extra-Familial Harm and Missing Team?

The Extra-Familial Harm (EFH) and Missing Team are based within Southwark Children's Services, under the Adolescent Safeguarding Service. The role of the team is to ensure there is a coordinated and effective approach to children and young people exposed to risks around extra-familial harm across Southwark and for Looked after Children placed outside the borough. The team supports young people, families and practitioners in coordinating a consistent and effective multi-agency response to extra-familial harm including the prevention, identification and disruption.

What support does the team provide to professionals?

Case consultation

The team offers specialist case consultations where there are presenting concerns around extra-familial harm, including but not limited to:

- Criminal exploitation
- Sexual exploitation
- Grooming
- County lines and drug trafficking
- Gang association
- Missing episodes
- Serious youth violence
- Organised begging
- Harmful sexual behaviour
- Extremism



During consultation, we will support you to explore and identify the presenting risks, protective factors, safety plans and intervention to mitigate the risk of harm. The consultations will consider whether the case should be escalated to the multi-agency Extra-Familial Harm Panel and/or whether the case meets the criteria for EFH co-working.

Co-working

For cases that meet the criteria for EFH co-working, we offer full intensive intervention whereby we will work directly with young people and their wider network of support to prevent and disrupt extra-familial harm. The social work team will maintain case responsibility and the EFH team will work alongside the allocated social worker.

Mapping

The team builds and shares intelligence on networks around young people, the risk and strengths within these networks, the places and spaces where extra-familial harm is occurring for young people and work closely with the Police and partner agencies to disrupt harm in the community. Where it is identified that a mapping meeting is required, we will lead on these meetings even if the case is not being co-worked within the team.

Long-arm support

For cases that are not co-worked by the team we will still provide you guidance and support in ensuring that the individual young person is safeguarded as well as contributing to the development of effective disruption plans. Subject to capacity within the team, we will attend strategy meetings and professionals meetings.



Return home interviews

The team offer independent return home interviews to all children residing in Southwark, as well as to our Looked after Children placed outside the borough that have been reported missing. For enquiries relating to missing, please email our inbox (missingchildren@southwark.gov.uk)

How do I access the team?

Consultation, co-working and mapping:

To request an EFH consultation please complete the EFH referral form, which can be found in the start menu on Mosaic. Once complete, the referral will be screened and assigned to an EFH Lead who will make contact with you to arrange a consultation date.

If you are requesting EFH co-working, please outline this within the referral and have a discussion with the EFH Lead about this as part of your consultation. Please note that we work a limited number of cases at one time so there may be a waiting list for our intervention. In these instances, we can signpost you to other organisations that can offer similar support.

A mapping meeting may be required prior to or following your consultation. This can be discussed as part of your consultation or you can email the Team Manager, Koren Wallis (Koren.Wallis@southwark.gov.uk)

Co-working criteria:

The criteria for EFH co-working is as follows:

- The young person is experiencing or highly vulnerable to extra-familial harm and there are no specialist agencies working directly with them to support in mitigating the risk
- The young person is aged between **11 and 17** (in rare instances exceptions can be made)
- The case remains open to Southwark Children's Services for the duration of our involvement.
- The parents/carers consent to our involvement and are ready to begin a period of intensive intervention. Similarly, the young person is open to working with the team.

What does co-working consist of?

- Agreeing clear goals for change with the young person and their carers
- Support with safety planning and where safeguarding concerns arise, we will immediately inform the allocated social worker
- Offer intervention that is informed by a clear process of multi-systemic analysis, which is updated at our fortnightly unit meeting
- Support young people and their wider network to make sustainable change