

Appendix 6

Case Study - Girl S

Girl S was 14 years of age. She lived with her maternal grandmother who had given notice on the placement due to her inability to keep S safe, and her frustrations that the LA had identified that S needed to be placed in foster care but after 7 months, no placement had been identified.

Girl S was NEET (not in education, employment or training) therefore did not have a school nurse. Health promotion and support remained with the CYPiC Health Team.

The CYPiC Health Team were asked to attend a MASE meeting, as significant concerns were raised in relation to CSE. There needed to be a disruption to the relationship between S and the perpetrator and building a relationship with S was felt to be key.

S had identified health needs including poor sleep, delayed immunisations and back pain – which had not been explored thoroughly. There were also concerns about cannabis use. There were weekly attempts made by professionals to engage with S.

What was noted at the MASE review was that there had been a delay in finding S a placement – the courts had identified the need for a therapeutic placement with access to education. It was escalated via the CYPiC nursing team, to heads of service that there was a significant delay, increasing the risk of further harm to S by the perpetrator. The CYPiC nursing team supported the social worker to arrange a multi-agency meeting to prepare for the External Placement Panel (EPP). CYPiC nurse attended the EPP to share concerns once more – and represented health in the absence of a school nurse.

S was placed in a secure placement out of area within a further month.

It is key to note it was felt that the escalation of concerns to heads of service by the CYPiC nursing team, and by supporting the social workers with the process of EPP and MASE is the reason that S is now in a safe environment. S had not received any consistent education for a number of years.

Since being in placement S has been noted to be only functioning at level 1 academically and is attending education provision 75% of the time. There are now no further concerns regarding the perpetrator and her case has been closed to MASE.