

**Request:**

1. How many children (up to 18 years) in the 2017/2018 financial year did you provide services to where the primary support need was due to a child exhibiting problematic or harmful sexual behaviour (HSB)?
2. How many referrals were for children who were:
  - a) 9 years and younger
  - b) 10 – 12 years
  - c) 13-15
  - d) 16+
3. Of those children referred for problematic or harmful sexual behaviour, how many were:
  - a) Boys
  - b) Girls
  - c) Not stated
4. Do you have any trained specialists providing child HSB services?
  - a) Social Care specialists
  - b) NHS
  - c) Commissioned private healthcare provider
  - d) YOT
  - e) Commissioned voluntary sector
  - f) Other
  - g) None

If you wish to state what 'other' provision you have or what non-specialist provision the child receives, please give details.

5. What is your local child specific HSB service offer?
  - a) Specialist risk assessment service,
  - b) Court reports
  - c) Therapeutic intervention service
  - d) Family support
  - e) Offender resettlement
  - f) Other (please specify)
6. What guidance frames your current HSB practice?
  - a) NICE guidelines on 'harmful sexual behaviour among children and young people'
  - b) NSPCC HSB Framework
  - c) Locally developed safeguarding guidance



Reference: FOI0262

- d) Other guidance
- e) No specialist guidance

**Response:**

1. We do not record this information. The LA uses the DfE referral reason codes which does not breakdown into problematic or harmful sexual behaviour.
2. As question 1.
3. As question 1.
4. Members of the Youth Offending Team are trained in AIM2 assessments. We also commission from the voluntary sector if appropriate.
5. Children and young people who are survivors of sexually harmful behaviour are supported by the Local Authority in a variety of ways, usually through Social Worker co-ordinated Children in Need work. Occasionally, the seriousness of the abuse requires that the young person be supported by the Authority to access specialist support. These include the 'Someone Cares' counselling service, Barnado's 'Mosaic' therapeutic service and the NSPCC 'Letting the Future In' in which children and young people are provided with therapy, often messy play, writing, storytelling and art to help express feelings that they can't put into words.

Understanding and reducing the risk posed by those who perpetrate sexually harmful behaviour is an essential part of the work of the Authority in safeguarding children and young people. The Authority uses the Assessment, Intervention and Moving On (AIM) approach, a nationally recognised evidence-based programme of work for children and young people who perpetrate acts of sexually harmful behaviour. Specialist assessments and risk reduction work with perpetrators may also be necessary and the Authority works with with NSPCC Kaleidoscope service to support children and young people whose sexual behaviour is harmful to others.

6. Locally developed safeguarding guidance (available on TNSCB website)