

Glebe House



Friends Therapeutic Community Trust

SAFEGUARDING CCE AND COUNTY LINES POLICY SEPTEMBER 2023

Role	Name	Contact Details
School DSL	Janet Corr	janet.corr@glebehouse.org.uk
School DSL	James Rock	james.rock@glebehouse.org.uk
DSL	Ray Hampford	ray.hampford@glebehouse.org.uk
DSL	Victoria Kellett	victoria.kellett@glebehouse.org.uk
DSL	Stephen Mullender-Lock	Stephen.mullender-lock@glebehouse.org.uk

1.9 CCE and County Lines

Child criminal exploitation: county lines

Criminal exploitation of young people is a geographically widespread form of harm that is a typical feature of county lines criminal activity, drug networks or gangs groom and exploit young people to carry drugs and money from urban areas to suburban and rural areas, market and seaside towns.

Young people are assessed at admission for their susceptibility to and experience of CCE and County Lines activity, if this is highlighted then it will become a specific element of their therapeutic programme. Key to identifying potential involvement in county lines are missing episodes, when the victim may have been trafficked for the purpose of transporting drugs and a referral to the National Referral Mechanism [15] should be considered. Like other forms of abuse and exploitation, county lines exploitation:

- Can affect any child or young person (male or female) under the age of 18 years;
- Can affect any vulnerable adult over the age of 18 years;
- Can still be exploitation even if the activity appears consensual;
- Can involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and is often accompanied by violence or threats of violence;
- Can be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and young people or adults; and
- Is typified by some form of power imbalance in favour of those perpetrating the exploitation. Whilst age may be the most obvious, this power imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors including gender, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources.

Whilst living in Glebe House Community, the young people have restricted internet access and supervised interaction with the local community. This allows Glebe House to be able to significantly limit the opportunities for coercion or exploitation from outside sources. The staff team are encouraged to recognise and be alert to the vulnerabilities of students and the way that they might be influenced once they have left Glebe House; giving us opportunity to educate and guide toward safe practice. Our Transitions Programme, which runs for 18 months after a young person has left Glebe House, enables us to keep in contact with them through regular support visits. These visits and the continuing contact that we have with local authority professionals help to ensure their safety and protection, beyond the scope of this placement.

September 2023