

## *PRACTITIONER BRIEFING*

*Group work as a  
mechanism for the  
collective participation of  
children and young people  
with lived experience of  
child sexual abuse and  
exploitation*

# Introduction

## Background to the study

Every child and young person who has experienced child sexual abuse and exploitation has a right to be involved in decisions that directly affect them. The level of their involvement, and the weight given to their views are determined by their evolving capacities. Young survivors<sup>1</sup> may also have opportunities to be involved in decision-making processes or activities that seek to address the sexual abuse and exploitation of other young people, for example, working with different organisations to inform the development and implementation of research and advocacy, co-produce resources, engage in peer-to-peer education or mentoring, or take part in advisory groups, training or conferences.

Engaging young survivors in participatory initiatives is both important and complex. Professionals can worry that a young survivor's involvement in such activities may cause them (or others) further harm or distress, or have a negative impact on their recovery. However, young survivors not only have a right to be heard, but research and practice show that there can be benefits to supporting children and young people who have experienced sexual abuse and exploitation to inform and influence change for themselves and for others.

Researchers at the University of Bedfordshire wanted to understand more about the complexities and potential outcomes associated with participation for young survivors. We consulted with a panel of 58 'experts' from 18 countries (including researchers, practitioners and young survivors) to understand their perspectives on this<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> We recognise that not everyone with lived experience of sexual abuse and exploitation will identify with the term 'survivor'. The term 'young survivor' is used in this paper to ensure consistency across the study's outputs. The term describes all children and young people who have had these experiences – however they identify themselves.

<sup>2</sup> For the purposes of the briefing papers, when quoting participants, we identify them as either 'professionals' or 'young experts'.

## About our practitioner briefings

We have developed four practitioner briefings to share some of the learning from our research. They present findings from a questionnaire and subsequent focus group discussions. The questionnaire involved our panel of 58 experts rating and responding to a series of statements to determine how far they agreed or disagreed with them. This was to identify if there was consensus<sup>3</sup> around certain complexities and outcomes associated with participation for young survivors. Some of these statements are shown in our briefing papers with their associated percentages.

These figures are contextualised with learning from the supplementary qualitative data gathered from the questionnaire and focus group discussions. This data highlights that nothing is 'guaranteed' when it comes to participation and that there are a number of factors that may determine the final outcomes<sup>4</sup>. Each of our briefing papers explores a specific element of these findings.

We have also produced a separate briefing paper which sets out our methodology in more detail.

<sup>3</sup> We define consensus as 70%+ of participants agreeing or strongly agreeing with the statement.

<sup>4</sup> See 'Factors that influence outcomes when supporting the participation rights of children and young people with lived experience of child sexual abuse and exploitation: Practitioner briefing.'

## This briefing paper

Every young survivor of child sexual abuse and exploitation is different. Some may be interested in joining a participatory project or initiative that involves working with others in a group, while others are not.

We have produced this briefing to share what our panel of experts felt were some of the potential positive outcomes for young survivors who engage in collective, group-based participation.

While there was agreement that participatory group work could support a number of positive outcomes, it was also highlighted that this very much depended on the focus, aims, content and activities included in these sessions. Often there is potential for both positive and negative outcomes to co-exist. Facilitators are key to moderating the potential outcomes for young survivors engaged in participatory group work. Facilitators being equipped with the right skills, experience and knowledge is central to supporting positive outcomes.

# The potential benefits of engaging in participatory group work

## Engaging in participatory group work can help young survivors to develop a different understanding of their experiences of abuse

Overall, participants agreed or strongly agreed that when young survivors come together in participatory group work, it may help them to:

- recognise that they are not the only one who has experienced abuse
- minimise a sense of blame and shame connected to those experiences
- understand their emotions and feelings surrounding the abuse
- critically reflect on the topic of sexual abuse and exploitation and its wider political and social dimensions

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E<sup>5</sup>, **it can help them realise they are 'not the only one'**

 **98% of participants** agreed or strongly agreed with this statement and shared how they had seen and heard from young survivors how important it was to meet other young people who had experienced abuse.

*'Young people tell us how powerful this is over and over again.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA

*'This is the comment young people have most often made to me after attending group events.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

However, one participant reflected on how knowing you are 'not the only one' could also be difficult in that it may highlight the pervasiveness of child sexual abuse and exploitation in society. Some participants also expressed how group work could potentially be overwhelming for young survivors, particularly if they chose to share personal experiences<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>5</sup> In the questionnaire, instead of using the full wording of 'child sexual abuse and exploitation' we used the acronym CSA/E.

<sup>6</sup> However, it is important to note that participants who had experience of participatory group work also shared how infrequently young survivors do share details of their personal experiences within this setting.



When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can reduce the feelings of shame and self-blame they may feel due to their experiences**

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can reassure them about how normal it is to have certain feelings and emotions connected to the abuse (e.g. feelings of guilt or anger)**

**97% of participants** agreed or strongly agreed with the two statements above that participatory group work could reduce young survivors' feelings of shame and blame and reassure them about how normal it is to have a range of responses to their experiences of abuse.

*'I blamed myself too. But realised it was not myself [that was to blame] through the girls' clubs and support groups.'*

FEMALE YOUNG EXPERT, ZIMBABWE

*'I personally don't think [these different emotions] are discussed enough. I think there are a lot of taboo discussions around this that aren't addressed i.e. if the abuse occurred by/ from a family member – that you may still miss that person, care about that person, but also hate that person.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

While agreeing that participatory group work could help young survivors make sense of certain feelings, participants also spoke about the potential for group work to exacerbate certain feelings or lead to young survivors comparing their experiences.

*'Care groups could help with these feelings [shame and self-blame] but it could also worsen them.'*

FEMALE YOUNG EXPERT, GUYANA

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can lead to group discussions which can help them make sense of their experiences and emotions connected to the abuse**

**91% of participants** agreed or strongly agreed that group discussions can help young survivors understand their experiences and emotions, however they again noted that this could have positive or negative outcomes for those involved.

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can help them to understand child sexual abuse and exploitation as a social and political issue**

**91% of participants** agreed or strongly agreed that group work can provide an opportunity to explore and pick apart the issue of child sexual abuse and exploitation.

*'I think all of these items around group work are important. This one stands out to me because critical consciousness raising played such an important role in empowering survivors throughout history. I think there is something really powerful about connecting over a shared experience which can then reduce self-blame and activate a desire to advocate for change.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA

Throughout the statements related to group work, participants continued to draw attention to the important role of group facilitators. They reflected on how the potential for positive outcomes may depend on the expertise, capacities, knowledge and approach that different facilitators bring to the group.

*'Support for facilitators is critical to all of this but especially linking beyond individual/group experiences to wider social and political issues.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA

## Engaging in participatory group work may provide opportunities to build friendships and networks of trust and support to reduce feelings of isolation

A number of statements in the questionnaire asked whether participatory group work could help to build and strengthen relationships and opportunities for peer support for young survivors who may feel isolated in the aftermath of abuse.

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E,  
**it can provide opportunities to build friendships with others which can reduce feelings of isolation**

**98% of participants** agreed or strongly agreed that engaging in participatory group work could potentially build connections to help reduce isolation.

*'One of the biggest strengths in my experience is the strength of friendships and sisterhoods, to give advice and emotional support and wisdom. Older young people often give advice on how to navigate social care systems, to demand better support/resources from children's and young people's services.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E,  
**it can provide opportunities for peer support and advice which feels credible and makes them feel good about themselves**

**97%** agreed or strongly agreed with this statement, reflecting that opportunities for mutual peer support are *'definitely a major strength of group work and a reason why young people repeatedly come back to group work'*. Though again, one participant drew attention to how challenging this could be for some young survivors:

*'Appreciation for how this leaves people feeling – sometimes it is quite draining, destabilising etc.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can help them to develop trust with other children and young people**

**95% of participants** agreed or strongly agreed that participatory group work could help to build trust between young survivors, with a number of participants expanding on why this is important:

*'One young person I worked with had only spent time around abusive adults so being around peers was very important.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

*'Yes, especially girls in gangs. Most girls [are] socialised not to trust other young women within gang contexts.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can support them to set their own boundaries around what and how to share information related to their experiences**

**89% of participants** agreed or strongly agreed that participatory group work could support young people to create personal boundaries, with some sharing how this worked in practice:

*'Group processes teach children to learn to respect others by setting boundaries in what to share.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, PHILIPPINES

*'This also extends to being able to say [no] to being involved or withdrawing from a project. Super important for a young person who has experienced sexual violence.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

However, comments also suggested how boundary-setting had to be supported and should be part of the group activities, noting that it was important *'that boundaries are drawn'* and that *'this needs to be done from the offset and continued all the way through engagement in services to ensure safety in participation'*. Without this, as one participant shared, the opposite effect may happen:

*'I've seen the opposite happen. Where survivors feel so glad to be able to share that they are indiscriminate.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

## Engaging in participatory group work can strengthen children and young people's capabilities, skills and knowledge

Consensus was reached on a number of statements about participatory group work providing the space and opportunity for young survivors to develop new knowledge and skills which may help them in the future.

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can increase their knowledge of different issues such as help seeking, health and wellbeing, sexual violence, child rights, laws and policies, research, and advocacy**

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can help them recognise signs of abuse and seek help for themselves, friends and others**

→ **91% of participants** agreed or strongly agreed with the above two statements that engaging in participatory group work could potentially increase young survivors' knowledge in a range of areas – if this was an intentional and explicit aim of the initiative.

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **they can develop their group communication skills (e.g. how to listen and respect others' views, and how to deal with conflict)**

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can help them learn new skills such as design, presentation, advocacy, photography, campaigning and research**

→ **97% of participants** agreed or strongly agreed that participation in group work could develop communication skills together with different types of skills such as advocacy and campaigning. The potential for this was again felt to be dependent on the purpose, design and content of the activities.

*'Definitely another major strength of group work – listening to others, managing difficult relationships, team working, presenting skills – all major tools young people can apply to different spaces.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

*'Gives young people an avenue for expressing themselves, potentially helps them to develop a new hobby, and allows them to connect with others.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA



When asked to consider how outcomes such as acquiring new skills and knowledge could support young survivors in their future studies or careers, **88%** agreed that it could boost their prospects but also pointed out a range of structural barriers that young survivors experience around this, and that more work was needed to promote such outcomes<sup>7</sup>:

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can boost their prospects for future education and work**

*'This requires helping them have language for what they accomplished and know how to speak about it in an interview and put it on a resume. It is important they learn how to do this without sharing that they were clients as well – they don't need to share their stories to share this work.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA

*'Orgs need to ensure this is a part of the work done with young people – giving young people tools to apply to other work areas and not just "platforming their voices".'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA

<sup>7</sup> See 'Factors that influence outcomes when supporting the participation rights of children and young people with lived experience of child sexual abuse and exploitation: Practitioner briefing.'

## Engaging in participatory group work can provide opportunities for young people to recognise their strengths and support feelings of pride and hope

A number of statements asked participants to consider how engagement in participatory group work may affect young survivors' self-esteem and feelings about the future.

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can contribute to new positive identities (e.g. 'youth advocate', 'advisor' or 'expert') which can build self-esteem**

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can be motivating and provide hope**

**93% of participants** agreed or strongly agreed with the above two statements, with some sharing examples of how group work had contributed to new identities:

*'Yes – the process of recovery is about building new identities different from the ones the exploiter and the sex trade gave them.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA

*'I am now the leader of our boys' forum.'*

MALE YOUNG EXPERT, ZIMBABWE

*'This was another valued benefit reported by adolescent girls in our participatory action research.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA

Again, participants shared the complexities associated with this, noting that becoming associated with group work and developing an identity that is linked to experiences of abuse could also be difficult for some young people<sup>8</sup>.

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can make them feel proud when they see the finished 'outputs' of their work and/or see changes to policy and practice based on their inputs and ideas**

Although it was acknowledged that it can take a relatively long time to produce outputs from participatory work young people have been involved in, **95%** agreed or strongly agreed that engagement in such work could provide opportunities to feel proud.

*'For me that is the most important.'*

FEMALE YOUNG EXPERT, SERBIA

*'I am blown away by how young people talk about this – it is an enormous sense of pride to have made a difference. They often remark that it gives meaning to the bad things that happened to them if they can help another child.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA

<sup>8</sup> See 'Complex issues in supporting the participation rights of children and young people with lived experience of child sexual abuse and exploitation: Practitioner briefing.'

## Supporting recovery and healing

While all the potential outcomes discussed above arguably relate to healing and recovery, one of the questionnaire statements asked directly about the link between engagement in participatory processes and healing and recovery.

When children and young people are involved in participatory group work with other children and young people affected by CSA/E, **it can contribute to their healing and recovery**

**88% of participants** agreed or strongly agreed that there was the potential for participatory group work to contribute to healing and recovery – with the caveat that recovery will be a unique and individual process for everyone. Given that key principles of a trauma-informed approach include opportunities for voice, choice, peer support, collaboration and empowerment, it is not surprising that opportunities to engage in participatory group work may contribute, in some way, to healing and recovery.

*‘This is such an important outcome that young people have expressed after being involved. Some young people have told me that working with peers was more healing than therapy.’*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

*‘This is a massive positive by-product of participating.’*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

Within the focus group discussions there were further conversations about the link between participatory group work and healing, with some participants sharing their own personal experiences:

*‘It helped me move on from my experiences... and it helped me change them into something really positive... that is very powerful, you know. And for me personally, I think it was more powerful than any hospital admission I had... [or any] kind of work I’ve done with statutory services.’*

MALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

*‘We’ve had people in participatory research projects say, ‘It didn’t ask me directly to heal or recover from my own trauma. It just asked me for my views. I was an important member of a project. It was about social action but it was more therapeutic than anything I could have engaged with otherwise. I couldn’t do the deep therapy work. I could just do this thing that allowed me to touch around the edges of it and feel a part of something.’*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

## *The complexities and challenges associated with participatory group work*

While the panel on the whole agreed or strongly agreed about the potential for positive outcomes to emerge through collective participatory group work, participants also drew attention to potential negative outcomes. Participants mentioned the potential for:

- young survivors feeling overwhelmed, drained or destabilised
- young survivors being triggered
- attention being drawn to how widespread and pervasive abuse is
- feelings of shame being exacerbated
- young survivors comparing their experiences with those of other people
- personal identities being negatively affected
- disclosures being made
- breaches in confidentiality

While these concerns were noted, very few of the statements on the questionnaire that specifically asked about the potential risks of group work reached consensus. Most participants emphasised that these risks, while present, could be managed or mitigated by skilled facilitators and should not be used as reasons not to engage young survivors in participatory group work.



*All of the above are not reasons to not do this work but rather things to be aware of.*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

In the section below, we highlight those areas where participants shared a variety of views and experiences related to some of the concerns listed above.

## Keeping children and young people safe

Involving children and young people in participatory group work is a risk because **they may be triggered during activities and/or find the experience emotionally draining**

**86% of participants** agreed or strongly agreed with this statement, with some participants reaffirming that this does and can happen:

*'We have definitely had young people who step out of the group saying, "I can't do this right now".'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA

However, participants also went on to say that this is not a reason to exclude young survivors from participatory group work. Furthermore, it was noted that triggering may be a common experience for young survivors that can happen in a range of settings where there may be no, or limited support available<sup>9</sup>.

*'Young people are triggered all the time. Workers/peers can provide a much safer space to deal with the triggering than the wider world.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

*'Young survivors have survived unimaginable pain, distress and suffering and tend to know their own limits. Even when they become emotional and tired they can be healing and learning.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

*'I would expect that to be the case, but that could still play an important role in recovery from trauma.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA



ILLUSTRATION BY MARIA STOIAN

<sup>9</sup> See 'Complex issues in supporting the participation rights of children and young people with lived experience of child sexual abuse and exploitation: Practitioner briefing.'

## Managing group dynamics where children and young people may judge one another or compare experiences

A number of participants mentioned the potential for young survivors in a group setting to compare or judge one another.

**71%** agreed or strongly agreed that there was potential for young people to feel judged by others.

Involving children and young people in participatory group work is a risk because **if they feel they don't fit in or are judged by others in the group, this can increase feelings of isolation**

There were a mix of views on this. Some participants had had direct experience of participants judging others, while some had only experienced young survivors as caring and supportive of each other.

*'I have found young survivors to be caring of each other.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

Again, a key comment in response to this statement was around the importance of good facilitation in mitigating any negative judgements between young survivors.

*'However, this can be mitigated by really strong facilitation.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA

*'If correct support is in place this can be reduced.'*

FEMALE YOUNG EXPERT, UK

Involving children and young people in participatory group work is a risk because **they may compare their experiences with others which can leave them feeling upset or with a sense of injustice**

A statement about the potential for engagement in participatory group work to lead to comparisons and upset people did not reach consensus. Some participants noted that this could be a problem if it was not addressed by facilitators:

*'Sometimes the comparisons can put them at risk. If the facilitators don't nip any glamorization in the bud, it can result in a trauma Olympics with young people wanting to share worse and worse stuff.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA

*'This can also be managed by workers, i.e. using distancing techniques so young people don't feel a need to talk about personal experiences.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

*'Overall, I think the training of facilitators is critical to group work. Most of these items address aspects that could be minimized if the facilitator is well equipped to engage in this type of work.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA



## Public identity disclosure

While consensus was reached on the potential for participatory work to contribute to new positive identities, there were a number of comments about the potential for this also to have negative impacts on young survivors. A number of participants shared the complexities involved when a young person's identity is linked to such a painful time in their lives<sup>10</sup>.

*'This can be problematic when a young person's identity becomes linked to their experience of trauma and that there isn't a separation from that trauma but staying in work that is based on their traumatic experiences.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

A number of participants with lived experience of child sexual abuse and exploitation also spoke of how exposing it could be for young people to be associated with work on this issue:

*'Not everyone would like to hold a title because of [child sexual abuse]. Also some persons would rather keep their experience among themselves.'*

FEMALE YOUNG EXPERT, GUYANA

*'For some people this work can be quite exposing, particularly in their personal lives... I speak as someone in the UK, in a Western country. But I'm also thinking about young people in societies where there's [a greater] element of shame associated with sexual abuse. And I'm also speaking as a young man who experienced sexual abuse as a boy. And, you know, it can feel very exposing actually.'*

MALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

<sup>10</sup> See 'Complex issues in supporting the participation rights of children and young people with lived experience of child sexual abuse and exploitation: Practitioner briefing.'

Involving children and young people in participatory group work is a risk because **it means they are continuously being labelled and viewed as a victim/survivor not an expert**

Although concerns were raised about young people being associated with the topic of child sexual abuse and exploitation, when asked to respond to the above statement, participants did not reach consensus.

Participants shared that this could be avoided through:

- young people choosing how they wished to be defined
- not labelling young people as victims or survivors
- ensuring that the group discuss and feel comfortable with whatever language is used
- good facilitation and clear communication regarding how group members are described
- societal shifts

Although some participants felt language such as 'advocates', 'consultants' and 'experts based on experience' were more appropriate than 'victim' or 'survivor', others felt that alternative language could be just as problematic and exposing:

*'Being labelled 'expert by experience' can be equally as harmful!'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK



ILLUSTRATION BY MARIA STOIAN

Participants also shared how young people should feel safe and empowered to identify as experts with lived experience, and that the problem was how society continues to view and respond to survivors:

*'I don't see these as mutually exclusive. I think they should be given the space to define how they view themselves, but also empowered to identify as experts on their own lived experiences and needs.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, USA

*'This is 100% true. However, I think this requires society to change, not survivors.'*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

## Maintaining confidentiality within a group setting

Involving children and young people in participatory group work is a risk because **it is difficult to maintain confidentiality as young people may share information about other group members**

Some participants drew attention to the risk of young people not maintaining confidentiality over what was shared in the group. However, a statement on this did not reach consensus. Again, participants agreed this could happen but many went on to share that it had never been their experience. Others went further to emphasise how thoughtful young people were when it came to maintaining confidentiality of their peers:

*That is not my experience at all.  
Young people are excellent  
at confidentiality.*

*It's adults who can't keep  
things to themselves  
in my experience.*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

*This has never happened;  
young people respect  
confidentiality of other  
young people.*

FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, UK

# Key Messages

- **Participatory group work can take many different forms** and each may have a different aim, focus and way of working, which makes it difficult to predict the outcomes for young people.
- **Group work can be unpredictable.** It can lead to complex dynamics, risks, and challenging scenarios. Facilitators of group work are key to minimising such risks. They should therefore possess the necessary skills, capacities, knowledge and experience, and be adequately supported, to anticipate and negotiate these risks - which can often co-exist with potential benefits.
- **Engaging in participatory group work can help young survivors develop a different understanding of, and feelings about, their experience of abuse.** It may help them to recognise that they are not the only one to have experienced it and therefore minimise feelings of blame and shame connected to the abuse. It can also support critical reflection and an understanding of wider structures and norms that underpin and contribute to the abuse of children.
- **Working in a group as part of a participatory process can support young survivors to build friendships and support networks,** which may reduce feelings of isolation. Such spaces may also provide opportunities for peer support and help to build trust between young people.

- Depending on the focus, content and approaches taken within a participatory group project, **it may provide space and opportunities for young survivors to develop new knowledge and skills in a range of areas.** Such experiences may, dependent on the focus, contribute to new interests and provide a foundation to support young people in their future work or study paths.
- **Engaging in participatory group work can provide opportunities for young people to recognise their own strengths** and support feelings of pride and hope, contributing to self-esteem.
- The opportunity to engage in participatory group work **may contribute to healing and recovery.**
- **There are a number of potential risks** involved in supporting young survivors to engage in participatory group work. However, there was a clear message that the presence of risk should not be a reason not to engage young survivors in this type of work. Participants shared that such risks need to be acknowledged and anticipated, but that many could be mitigated by good group facilitation and through setting clear boundaries<sup>11</sup>.
- **Thinking about risks at the outset**, and continuing to consider risk throughout the process, are key to achieving positive outcomes<sup>12</sup>.

<sup>11</sup> See 'Complex issues in supporting the participation rights of children and young people with lived experience of child sexual abuse and exploitation: Practitioner briefing.'

<sup>12</sup> See 'Thinking about 'readiness' and risk assessment processes when supporting the participation rights of children and young people with lived experience of child sexual abuse and exploitation: Practitioner briefing.'

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