



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date: 16/06/2026

2026/592 - A child sexual abuse material (CSAM)

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

Aim: to explore how a child is protected from future harm after a parental guardian is suspected of a child sexual abuse material (CSAM) offence in the UK.

NOTE: this is regarding children who are not thought to have been a direct victim of intra-familial child sexual abuse by a parent.

1) Does the current police data system capture whether an individual being investigated for a CSAM related offence has parental responsibility (PR) for a child?

North Wales Police (NWP) uses the Niche Record Management System. This system allows for persons to be linked as parent / child but does not have stipulations around PR.

2) Do police officers purposefully undertake a search warrant at a family residence at a time where any children registered at the address are likely to be present?

This answer is solely in relation to the Online Child Abuse Investigation Team – Yes, warrants are typically conducted early in the morning (before school hours) during the week to facilitate any necessary arrests before a suspect attends work / leaves home. Early morning warrants are also preferred because it reduces the risk to the suspect and their family by reducing the likelihood of attracting attention from neighbours / the wider community.

3) If a search warrant is undertaken in a family residence would the non-suspect parent be left with access to the NPCC Family Pack? If yes:

a) In what format do you share the Family Pack?

b) Does the Family Pack contain information about support services available locally and are any of these specifically for children (please state which ones)?

We utilise a support pack designed by Lucy Faithful and used in South Wales as an alternative to the NPCC Family pack.

4) Would a police officer routinely make a safeguarding referral to social services before beginning a CSAM investigation if it is known that the individual has regular unsupervised access to a child?

A referral is always made to social services when it is identified that an individual suspected of accessing CSAM has access to children. The referral is usually made to coincide with the warrant, often submitted beforehand and is never submitted any later than the day of the warrant.

5) If a safeguarding referral has been made by police in relation to a CSAM investigation, would social services routinely be sent updates in the following circumstances?:

a) Suspect held on remand after the initial arrest.

Yes

b) Suspect bailed to an alternative address away from a family residence.

Yes

c) Suspect bailed with conditions that limits contact with children under 18.

Yes

d) Suspect released under investigation without bail conditions.

Yes

e) Suspect has bail conditions lifted however remains under investigation.

Yes

f) Investigation has concluded with no further police action required.

Yes

g) Crown Prosecution Service has authorised charges for the suspect.

Yes

h) Date of the first court hearing.

Not routinely

i) Outcome of the court case.

Not routinely

6) When a suspect shared a primary residence with a child under the age of 18 at the start of an investigation and a search warrant was undertaken at that property, would the investigation team directly update the non-suspect parental guardian in the following circumstances?:

a) Suspect held on remand after the initial arrest.

Yes

b) Suspect bailed to an alternative address away from a family residence.

Yes

c) Suspect bailed with conditions that limits contact with children under 18.

Yes

d) Suspect released under investigation without bail conditions.

Yes

e) Suspect has bail conditions lifted however remains under investigation.

Yes

f) Investigation has concluded with no further police action required.

Yes

g) Crown Prosecution Service has authorised charges for the suspect.

Yes

h) Date of the first court hearing.

Not routinely

i) Outcome of the court case.

Not routinely

7) When it is known that a suspect has established unsupervised contact arrangements with a child who resides elsewhere, would a police officer directly contact the child's primary parental guardian in the following circumstances?:

a) Suspect held on remand after the initial arrest.

Yes

b) Suspect bailed with conditions that limits contact with children under 18.

Yes

c) Suspect released under investigation without bail conditions.

Yes

d) Suspect has had bail conditions lifted however remains under investigation.

Yes

e) Investigation has concluded with no further police action required.

Yes

f) Crown Prosecution Service has authorised charges for the suspect.

Yes

g) Date of the first court hearing.

Not routinely

h) Outcome of the court case.

Not routinely

8) Does the current police data system capture whether an individual found guilty of a CSAM offence has parental responsibility for a child?

NWP uses the Niche Record Management System. This system allows for persons to be linked as parent / child but does not have stipulations around PR.

9) Would a sex offender manager update social services in the following circumstances?

a) An offender initially registering as a sex offender.

Most sex offenders would be managed by probation as the lead agency at the point of beginning their notification requirements either after release from custody or beginning of sentence if they did not receive imprisonment, so probation will usually take ownership of additional referrals. However, unless there was a new information that identified a child at risk, then this would not need to be done simply due to initial registration. It is highly likely the relevant information would have been referred well before this point. Additionally, disclosures could be made either by the police offender manager, probation officer or children's social services depending on the nature of the disclosure and whom is best placed to make this.

b) An offender had demonstrated an increase in risky behaviour.

Again, this would only be done if there was an identified child at risk as a result of this behaviour.

c) The offender breached a sentencing requirement

This would only be done if there was an identified child at risk as a result of this.

d) An offender completed their Sexual Harm Prevention Order.

This would only be done if there was an identified child at risk.

e) An individual is no longer required to register as a sex offender

This would only be done if there was an identified child at risk

10) Would a sex offender manager directly update a primary parental guardian of a child under 18 for whom an individual is likely to see regularly of the following?:

a) That the individual was now a registered sex offender.

Yes, disclosures can be made under the MAPPA framework to inform individuals with care responsibility for a child where a risk has been identified from an RSO towards that child. This would be determined on a case-by-case basis and with regard to any previous disclosures made.

b) The offender had demonstrated an increase in risky behaviour.

Yes, disclosures can be made under the MAPPA framework to inform individuals with care responsibility for a child where a risk has been identified from an RSO towards that child. This would be determined on a case-by-case basis and with regard to any previous disclosures made.

c) The offender breached a sentencing requirement.

Yes, disclosures can be made under the MAPPA framework to inform individuals with care responsibility for a child where a risk has been identified from an RSO towards that child. This would be determined on a case-by-case basis and with regard to any previous disclosures made.

d) The offender has completed their Sexual Harm Prevention Order.

Yes, disclosures can be made under the MAPPA framework to inform individuals with care responsibility for a child where a risk has been identified from an RSO towards that child. This would be determined on a case-by-case basis and with regard to any previous disclosures made.

e) The individual is no longer required to register as a sex offender.

Yes, disclosures can be made under the MAPPA framework to inform individuals with care responsibility for a child where a risk has been identified from an RSO towards that child. This would be determined on a case-by-case basis and with regard to any previous disclosures made.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 15/06/2026