

Out of Area Placements of Children in Care - Police Force Notification Pilot

As colleagues will be aware, ADCS hosts a resource which brings together the secure email contact details for local authorities to use when notifying other local authorities of out of area placements of children in care. Several DCSs have suggested that it would also be helpful if secure email contact details for police forces were available.

In collaboration with the College of Policing we will be trialling a pilot project which aims to encourage LA colleagues to notify the relevant police force when a child is being placed out of area, based on the needs/risk of the child. It is hoped that this additional notification channel will assist in the safeguarding of some of the most vulnerable children in the care system.

The pilot will take place for 3 months starting on 1 March.

The criteria for when to notify a Police Force is when a child placed out of area meets **1 or more** of the following:

- Is a victim of CSE
- Believed/suspected to be at risk of CSE
- Suspected/known to be a CSE perpetrator
- Has past episodes of missing/absent from care or home
- Has a gang involvement or association
- Is a trafficked child
- Is an unaccompanied asylum seeker.

Seven police forces will be taking part in the pilot:

- Greater Manchester Police
- Lancashire Police
- Kent Police
- Durham Police
- South Wales Police
- Norfolk Police
- Essex Police.

Details regarding the information to provide and police force contact details have been added to the existing Out of Area Placements of Children in Care contact resources on the ADCS website:

- English local authorities: www.adcs.org.uk/contacts/out-of-area-looked-after-children-notifications-england
- Welsh local authorities: www.adcs.org.uk/contacts/out-of-area-looked-after-children-notifications-wales