

## 1) What is disruption?

Action taken to prevent, interrupt or reduce the risk of harm to a child by targeting the people, places, networks or situations associated with that harm.

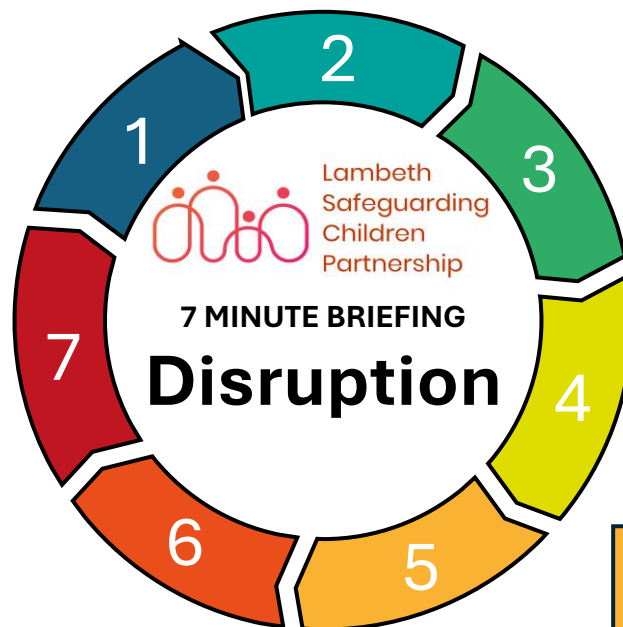
**2) Why does disruption matter?** It aims to reduce the risk at the source, break cycles of exploitation and shifts responsibility away from relying on children to keep themselves safe. Despite the critical importance of disruption, learning from serious child safeguarding incidents repeatedly shows limited evidence of disruption. Disruption activity is split into 'offender', 'victim' and 'location', to help you focus on different aspects of the problem.

## 3) Disrupting offender tools

- Over 20 disruption tools available
- Some are proactive, some reactive
- There are variations in who can apply
- Legal thresholds differ
- A range of restrictions can be imposed, e.g. limiting who someone can contact, restricting movement or imposing monitoring requirements.

## 7) Further resources and support

- [Home Office Child Exploitation Disruption Toolkit](#) – free toolkit
- [NWG Disruption Toolkit](#) - membership needed, Lambeth staff have access)
- [LSCP training](#) – includes 'risk outside the home: contextual safeguarding in practice'
- [LSCP website](#) – further info & resources
- [Contextual safeguarding network](#) – free resources
- [Safeguarding adolescents in London guidance](#) – multiagency guidance



## 4) Disrupting victim tools

- Different tools available according to children's circumstances
- Parents and carers can help disrupt
- Families will need support to help with disruption
- Consider what else might make it harder to exploit this child

## 6) Reflective questions for practice

- To what extent does this plan rely on the child or their family to manage risk, and what action are we taking to reduce or disrupt the sources of harm?
- Have we considered the full range of disruption tools available? Which partners might be missing who could contribute to disruption?
- How much has the planned disruptive action made a difference and is there a need to consider different approaches to disruption?

## 5) Disrupting location tools

- Practitioners must understand environmental factors that allow the exploitation to take place, and should consider a location-based risk assessment
- Tools exist around closing premises, evicting people and preventing behaviours
- Consider involvement from local teams like Anti-Social Behaviour, Licensing, Trading Standards, Housing & Youth Outreach