



Referral

Date of referral	13/06/2023
Referring local authority	Hampshire
Court applying to for S.25	Southampton
Primary reason for order	Danger to self
Expected/requested start date of placement	27/06/2023

Social worker

Name	Social Worker
Telephone number	01234 567891
Additional phone number	
Mobile number	07723 456789
Additional mobile number	
Secure email	Social.Worker@locaut.gov.uk

Team manager

Name	Team Manager Name
Telephone number	01234 567891
Additional phone number	
Mobile number	07723 456789
Additional mobile number	
Secure email	Team.Manager@locaut.gov.uk

Placements team

Name	Placements Contact Name
Telephone number	01234 567891
Additional phone number	
Mobile number	07723 456789
Additional mobile number	
Secure email	Placements@locaut.gov.uk

IRO

Is there an IRO contact for this referral?	Yes
Name	IRO Name
Telephone number	01234 567894
Additional phone number	
Mobile number	07723 456789
Additional mobile number	
Secure email	IRO@locaut.gov.uk

YOT worker

Is there any current involvement with the Youth Offending Team (YOT)?	No
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Is the young person:

Currently in hospital	No
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Currently missing	Yes
Currently in Police custody	No
Agreement to pay a bed retainer in principle	Yes
Subject to a current Threat to Life Warning or Osman Warning from the Police	No

Personal information

First name	Julia
Last name	Robertson
NHS number	1234567899
Social care system ID	023456
Gender	Female
Ethnicity	White - British
Date of birth	03/05/2008
Age	15
Religion	No Religion
First language	English
Interpreter required	No
Height	5ft 2
Weight	8 stone
Legal status	Full care order
Do you intent to initially place under the 72-hour agreement?	Yes

For under 13's: Secretary of State/Welsh Ministerial approval

Applied for
Granted

Placement history

Current placement

Placement type	CLA - Residential
Start date of current placement	15/12/2022
Is the young person subject to a DoL Order in this placement?	Yes
Additional staffing levels	2:1
Contact person	Leslie Knope
Tel No/Email	01234 567894

Previous placement

Placement type	CLA - Residential
Start date of previous placement	06/08/2022
Additional staffing levels	2:1
Contact person	Monica Geller
Tel No/Email	01234 567891

Placement history

Placement type	Start date	End date
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CLA - Foster Care	21/06/2020	08/09/2020
CLA - Foster Care	08/09/2020	02/02/2021
CLA - Foster Care	02/02/2021	03/02/2021
CLA - Placed with Parents	03/02/2021	04/06/2021
CLA - Foster Care	04/06/2021	08/09/2021
CLA - Residential	08/09/2021	23/10/2021
CLA - Residential	23/10/2021	06/08/2022

Has the young person been in secure welfare, justice or a No
secure mental health placement before?

At what age did the young person first become known to 2
children's services?

At what age did the young person first come into care? 11

Young person overview

Pen picture

Julia is usually a bubbly sociable young person who makes a great first impression and finds it easy to make new friends with peers, especially males of her own age and older.

When Julia is in the right frame of mind she will also engage with professionals. She has a trusting relationship with her social worker and will be honest and respectful when talking to her.

She enjoys sports, in particular she is a very good long-distance runner. She enjoys fashion and make up. Julia would normally never leave her placement without her make up. Julia is a very bright young person and has the potential to perform well in exams when engaged in education. Her predicted grade for English GCSE was an 8. Julia has mentioned in the past her wish to become a writer in the future in order to educate others of the care system. Julia is very protective of her younger siblings. She will often go out of her way to make sure that they are safe and happy. She will never forget their birthdays and always makes sure that they have a Christmas present.

ACE's

Evidence of verbal or emotional abuse	Yes
Physical abuse	Yes
Sexual abuse	Yes
Domestic abuse	No
Parental substance misuse	Yes
Loss of a parent (death or separation)	Yes
Parental mental illness	Yes
Physical or emotional neglect	Yes
Parental criminal behaviour or imprisonment	Yes
Separation from parent due to parental deportation or detainment	No
Young person is a parent	No
Bereavement of a significant person	No

Background/family information

For Julia and her siblings, the wellbeing of the children was not always their parents' first priority, there were times when Julia's mother was unable to care for the children due to her substance misuse and it therefore fell to Julia to care for her younger siblings, making sure that they had something to eat, were washed and had clean clothes and were able to attend school. Julia being only 18 months older than her brother, she sometimes struggled with this. The school would then raise concerns, initially with her mother who would then blame Julia for the mistakes. The local authority believe that Julia's mother struggled with her mental health and was unable to form an appropriate relationship with Julia due to the trauma she was experiencing at the hands of Julia's father. Julia's father did not have much time for the children when he was living with them. He has not made contact since leaving the family home in 2011. Due to these reasons, it is believed that Julia has not had the support and care that she required in her development. The LA believe this to have directly impacted the way that Julia views relationships and has left her particularly susceptible to sexual exploitation and grooming online.

Concerns were initially raised in 2010, 2012 and 2014 by the school. On each occasion work was undertaken by the LA, improvements were made, and the case was then closed. In December 2019 the school made another referral as Julia was frequently absent from class. The LA became involved and undertook some work to try and improve conditions for the children. It became apparent that the home conditions were not suitable, and Julia was often missing with her mother unable to account for where she was or who she was with. The children were made subject to an CP plan and their mother gave the impression that changes were being made and things were improving. It later became apparent that the local authority were being shielded from the full picture as the children's mother took lengths to conceal the true nature of what was happening. Disclosures made by Julia at school in June 2020 resulted in all three children being taken into care as there were serious concerns about Mother's substance misuse and long absences from the home. Julia's mother blames Julia for the events that followed and has called her a "dirty little snitch" in front of police officers and local authority staff. Julia also blames herself for these incidents, although she is faced with conflicting feelings around this.

Julia is very protective of her younger siblings and feels very strongly for them. They are currently both in a foster placement together and do not have contact with Julia. Julia blames herself for the fact that her siblings are in care and struggles with the fact that they are still placed together without her. Contact has ceased at the moment because of Julia's tendency to lash out at them verbally and dysregulate them. It is the hope of the local authority that contact can resume gradually over the next couple of months whilst Julia is in a secure setting.

In May 2018, Julia presented at hospital informing she had been assaulted and that some girls had attacked her. She suffered some bruising to her arms and legs where she had been kicked, however, she did not want to take it any further and no further action was taken by Children's Services.

In early December 2019, Julia was reported as being missing for 6 hours. Her mother located her at a local McDonald's. Julia explained that she has been to Portsmouth with another girl (known to LA for being at risk of CSE) and that they had gone shopping then gone for some food. Julia expressed that she was unhappy at home as she felt that she was being held as a prisoner. It was agreed that the case be opened with Children's Services so that work could be done with Julia and the family. The family were put on a CP plan.

On 21st June 2020, Julia made a disclosure at school that her mother hadn't been home for over a week and she didn't know where she was. Upon further investigation of the living conditions there was class A drug paraphernalia left about the house and there was no food left for the children. A Section 47 was undertaken, and the children were taken into the local authority's care and placed in an emergency foster placement all together.

February 2021 – Julia's first long term foster placement broke down. Her absconding episodes had continued and increased. There were arguments in the home and instances of Julia returning home in the early hours of the morning intoxicated. The impact that this was having on her sibling's behaviour was obvious and, despite, efforts to try and regulate her behaviours by the foster carers and the local authority, the foster carers gave notice on just Julia's placement.

Since then, Julia has been unable to maintain a placement for any length of time. The local authority has tried a variety of different settings, including activity placements and residential placements. All have been unsuccessful in decreasing Julia's absconding. Her absconding has increased alongside her substance abuse and her risk of CSE. At first, Julia was known to hang out with a number of young girls in the local area that also have concerns around CSE. However, this gradually progressed, and Julia has a number of elder male contacts on her phone who will call her and pick her up in unknown cars wherever she is. She will then be missing for an indeterminate amount of time and often return to placement in the early hours of the morning intoxicated. She has also returned with a number of gifts given to her by her new 'friends'. These include a Gucci handbag, a brand-new iPhone and a £200 pair of trainers. She has also returned with varying amounts of cash that she is unable to explain the source of.

Julia has been to a number of different placements since she has come into care. None of which have been able to safeguard her against the risk of CSE. This is due to her constant absconding episodes. She is not able to see the risk she is putting herself in by continuing to go missing and believes that the people she is associating with care for her and are her family. Despite currently being placed under a DOLs, she has managed to leave the placement on three occasions. Once she ran from staff, another time she scaled the garden wall which was 6ft, and, on the most recent occasion, she climbed out of the bathroom window. Both open residential and foster placements have been tried and have given notice due to her continued and increasing absconding behaviours. An Activity placement in Wales had some success due to its secluded location but was unable to maintain a placement long term. Her current residential placement has now also given 28 days' notice as they feel unable to safeguard her.

What recent events led to a secure welfare placement being required?

Julia was recovered by police from a 6-day missing episode in an hotel room with an elder male. There were texts on her phone of an explicit nature, and she has posted compromising images of herself in on social media alongside her

mobile number. She was found heavily intoxicated with evidence of physical and sexual assault. The police had been called by hotel staff who believed the young girl to be underage.

She was taken to hospital where she was stabilised but then went missing from the hospital. She has been missing ever since for the last 20 days. There is police intelligence to suggest that she may have returned to associates of the male she was found with in the hotel room. These associates are suspected of organising for young girls to be trafficked for the purposes of sex across the county.

Presenting behaviours

Violent/challenging behaviours including fire setting

Julia can be verbally aggressive when she is told that she is not allowed to do something. She is used to being in control of her life and taking responsibility for herself and does not fully understand the risks she is taking with her behaviour. She therefore does not understand the restrictions that have been put in place and can lash out and be verbally abusive to staff or peers who do not share her view. Julia has never been arrested and has never physically assaulted anyone.

This has been an ongoing behaviour throughout her life and has been reported from school since 2010.

Self-harm & suicide attempts

No evidence.

Substance misuse

Has been known to be under the influence of cannabis and alcohol, including vodka, cider and lager, whilst she is missing from care. The local authority expects that she has taken other substances that have been offered to her but are unaware as to what those are. Julia does not show any awareness of the risks associated with such substances. It is assumed by the local authority that cannabis is consumed regularly when missing but the local authority does not expect a severe withdrawal reaction when Julia is placed in secure.

It is reported that Julia first started substance abuse in December 2019. This has been an ongoing behaviour since then and there seems to be no known triggers. She will take substances when circumstances allow.

Has been found under the influence of cannabis and alcohol which has been supplied by the men she is frequenting with.

Sexually harmful behaviour

None known.

Sexualised behaviour and/or child sexual exploitation

Police intelligence have informed us that she has been seen with various men suspected of trafficking underage females for sex. The local authority understands her to be being exploited sexually by an organised crime gang and trafficked across the county. We believe that this is how she come into possession of expensive gifts and large sums of money. On one missing episode Julia was found with an unknown older male in a hotel room, she was under the influence of drugs and alcohol and incoherent. She was taken to hospital as a result where a number of further physical injuries were found indicative to a sexual assault. Julia denies that she was assaulted but is unable to give details of what happened.

There were also texts on Julia's phone of an explicit nature, and she has posted compromising images of herself in on social media alongside her mobile number. It is believed that Julia promotes herself online as someone a lot older than she is in order to feel wanted.

Absconding

Julia is constantly absconding, and the periods of time have increased in frequency and duration over the years. When she is found or returns to placement, she is usually in a dishevelled state and intoxicated. Her absconding episodes started in 2019 and, from talking to her, they

seem to have been triggered by arguments in the home and a need for Julia to escape. Since then, Julia has become associated with people who are manipulating her into absconding for longer periods of time and more often. Currently, Julia tries to abscond at any given opportunity, there appears to be no other trigger than that of her unhappiness of her situation, it appears to be a coping strategy for her. One which is being taken advantage of by her exploiters.

Julia has been missing on 31 separate occasions in the last 18 months. Initially this would be overnight, but we have seen this progress to longer periods. Her current missing episode is 20 days.

Gang affiliation/criminal exploitation

It is suspected from Police intelligence that an organised crime gang may be linked to the trafficking of these young girls in the local area. The local authority has no further details we can give in relation to this and Julia denies being affiliated with any gang. The local authority does not consider her to be gang affiliated, more a victim of trafficking.

Is the young person subject to a Prevent or CONTEST arrangement? No

Is the young person subject to NRM or has a referral been made? No

Care planning

Summary of present care plan

Whilst the search for a secure bed is ongoing the plan is to locate Julia and place her back in her placement with a DOLs order in place. We also hope to increase her staffing levels to 3:1 in order to try and mitigate the risk of her absconding.

Current care plan is for Julia to access some stability in her life. The local authority hope that a secure placement will offer her a place to feel safe and an opportunity to settle into a healthy daily routine. It is also hoped that the secure placement will offer her support around the trauma she has experienced and educate her on healthy relationships. The local authority will aim to secure a therapeutic residential placement as a move on placement from secure. The search for this will commence whilst she is still placed in secure.

Work to be completed with Julia's siblings with regard to Julia being able to start up contact with them again.

First aim of placement

CSE – The local authority would like some work to be undertaken with Julia in regard to the risks she is putting herself at. We would like her to understand the nature of sexual exploitation and the impact. Alongside this it would be helpful to educate Julia on healthy relationships and what they look like.

Second aim of placement

Therapy - It is the local authority's belief that Julia has experienced some traumatic assaults through being exploited. We also believe her to have been witness to a significant amount of domestic abuse as a young child. We would like this placement to offer her a safe place to feel able to start acknowledging what she has been through. She will require therapeutic input in order to do this.

Third aim of placement

Substances – On a number of occasions Julia has been found under the influence of illegal substances. The local authority wish for some work to be undertaken to inform Julia of the dangers surrounding these behaviours and also give her the opportunity to be away from pressures in the community that might entice this behaviour.

What is your proposed exit and transition plan from a secure placement?

In terms of the placement move on from secure, a full transition plan will need to be put in place as soon as possible. The local authority will work closely with the secure home to plan this transition. Whilst in secure accommodation

the plan is to twin track for her move on placement, to a long-term residential setting that specialises in a therapeutic approach for those subject to CSE and the related trauma.

Once a move on placement is identified the local authority will work with the home to slowly transition her to her next placement, with aim to build up relationships with people there before she moves on and become familiar with her new placement surroundings.

Interaction techniques

Julia finds it easy to make friends with peers and is usually bright and bubbly. She will engage with professionals when given the time to get to know them. she has built up a trusting relationship with her social worker and will be honest and respectful when talking to her.

When in a heightened state, Julia will react in a verbally aggressive way to adults or peers she finds intimidating. When in this state, professionals have found it useful to give her space but remain close by. They are also found it beneficial to have subjects or tasks on hand to offer a distraction when necessary.

What are the young person's views/wishes/feelings regarding being in secure?

Julia does not know about the plan for her to be placed in secure as she is currently missing. The local authority does not anticipate her to agree with this plan based on previous conversations.

Approved contacts for young person

Name	Relationship	PR	Preferred contact number	Phone	Letter	Visit	Address
Catherine Robertson	Mother	Yes	07712345678	Supervised	Supervised	Supervised	10 Eddison Lighthouse, Fareham
Karl Blackbird	Father	Yes	01234 456123	No	No	No	HMP
Patsy Robertson	Sister	No	07712345678	Supervised	Supervised	Supervised	12 Longacres, Fareham
Steve Robertson	Brother	No	07712345678	Supervised	Supervised	Supervised	10 Longacres, Fareham

Health

Medical information

Current illness/injury	Needs to be tested for any STI's but she is currently declining this.
Current medication/treatment	None
Current tobacco use	Smokes approx. 10 a day
Current drug use	Has been known to return from an abscond episode smelling of cannabis. The local authority also suspects use of other substances but are unable to confirm which.
Current alcohol use	Has been known to have drunk vodka, cider and lager whilst she is missing.
Is a detox from substances required?	No
Medical conditions	Needs to be tested for any STI's as she has informed a member of staff she has had some symptoms. Julia is currently refusing medical treatment for this.
Physical conditions	Severe bruising and a broken finger.
Treatment in the last 12 months	She was recently found in an hotel room under the influence of substances and admitted to hospital – no treatment was administered for this. Hospital also found physical injuries in the form of severe bruising and a broken finger.
Special dietary requirements	Lactose intolerant.
Undiagnosed/suspected physical conditions	None.
Encopresis	No
Enuretic	No

Visually impaired	Julia should wear glasses for television and computer however refuses to wear them.
Hearing impaired	No
Vaccinations	All NHS vaccinations are up to date, including the Covid 19 boosters.
Allergies	None
Asthma	No
Epilepsy	No
Diabetes	No
Dental requirements/orthodontics	Is overdue a check-up.

Has the young person been diagnosed with the following:

A learning disability	No
Autism	No

Is the young person suspected to have the following:

A learning disability	No
Autism	No

If yes, provide details

Mental health & neurodiversity

Assessment status	Requested
When (date)	15/12/2022
Does the young person have any diagnosed mental health or neurodivergent conditions?	No
Does the young person have any suspected mental health or neurodivergent conditions?	Yes

Condition	Suspected by
PTSD	Social worker and CAMHS nurse

Previous/current mental health service involvement

Inpatient CAMHS (e.g. Tier 4)	No
Community CAMHS offered	Yes
Community CAMHS engaged	No
Eating disorder service	No
Other mental health input	Julia was offered CBT from CAMHS in 2020 but she did not engage. Numerous attempts at engaging her in some sort of support have been made since then but have been unsuccessful. Mainly because of her increasing absconding episodes. Hospital requested a MH assessment take place due to her presentation and the fact that there was evidence of a traumatic event having taken place. Julia absconded before this could be started and has been missing ever since.

Youth justice

Summary of all offences

N/A

Education

Known to the local authority's virtual school	Yes
Virtual school head name	Penelope Piggs
Virtual school head contact details	01234 567891
Currently on roll at school	Yes
Current school	Evergreen School
Designated Safeguard Lead (DSL) name	Teresa Greene
DSL contact details	07712 3456789
Currently educated other than school	No
Currently excluded	No
EHCP (previously SEN Statement)	No
Current SEN status	No special educational need
Any other relevant information	N/A

Religious/cultural needs

Are there any specific cultural, religious, or ethnic considerations to take into account?

Julia is not particularly religious, but Birthdays and Christmas are particularly important – more in the effort she makes for her siblings, than for herself.

Assessments

N/A

Any other relevant information

N/A