1 Before a young person is reported missing

- **Keep young people in familiar communities** to increase a sense of safety and guardianship (where possible).
- **Develop a Missing Safety Plan** that is co-designed by the young person, their carer and social worker on arrival in a placement.
- Support young people, their carers, and social workers to **identify a group of trusted people** (not necessarily professionals). This 'trusted trio' should be named in safety plans and in their police missing protocol. Carers can contact these people when concerned about the young person's whereabouts - to avoid escalation.
- **Resource out of hours services staffed by workers who know/are known by young people and carers t**o help risk assessment and avoid escalation. Avoid using the police and emergency duty teams who do not have relationships with young people.
- **Design prompt questions for carers and out of hours staff**, that are developed with young people, to guide risk assessment when a young person is 'missing'.
- **Coordinate a mutual support network for carers** to provide emotional support, mutual oversight of young people, and mutual respite.
- **Deliver mandatory training for carers** on what to do if worried about a young person's whereabouts to help manage risk, locate young people safely, and avoid unnecessary escalation.

2 When a young person is reported missing

- **Include and support friends/family and non-traditional partners** to look for young people, trust them to be part of the safety plan to reduce need for police response.
- **Increase guardianship** for young people via detached youth workers and out of hours youth services. Particularly grassroots, community-led and Black-led organisations so that young people have someone/somewhere to go to.
- **Where emergency responses are required, ensure they are welfare and trauma informed** to reduce heavy-handed policing and promote a welfare response.
- **Use safety apps** (i.e. Holly Guard/What Three Words) for young people to contact trusted people when they are at risk.

3 When a young person returns

- **Deliver mandatory training for carers on adolescent development and nurturing responses** – to promote choice, flexibility and care.
- **Publish a set of standards for care placements on welcoming young people home** (with young people's voices included) to avoid deterring young people from returning to placements.
- **Resource out of hours respite services** (overnights and weekends) for young people at risk of extra-familial harm who are looked after and who need to get away for short periods.
- **Ensure young people have a choice of who to speak to for their Return Home Interview**. Agree and review with young people how information will be shared, and with whom, to increase trust.
- **Coordinate reflective, welfare-focused, professional meetings** to understand trends and patterns in relation to extra-familial harm and missing from care.
- **Provide reflective supervision tools for social workers** (including feedback from young people) to reflect on the missing response and inequalities and discrimination.
- **Create opportunities for young people to give feedback:** text/QR code and questions in Return Home Interview for young people to feedback on police response. Provide training for staff on how to facilitate these discussions.