Sexual Offences
Definitive Guideline
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Effective from 1 April 2014

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website:
www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
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Applicability of guideline

In accordance with section 120 of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009, the Sentencing Council issues this definitive guideline. It applies to all offenders aged 18 and older, who are sentenced on or after 1 April 2014.

Section 125(1) of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 provides that when sentencing offences committed on or after 6 April 2010:

“Every court –

(a) must, in sentencing an offender, follow any sentencing guideline which is relevant to the offender’s case, and

(b) must, in exercising any other function relating to the sentencing of offenders, follow any sentencing guidelines which are relevant to the exercise of the function,

unless the court is satisfied that it would be contrary to the interests of justice to do so.”

This guideline applies only to offenders aged 18 and older. General principles to be considered in the sentencing of youths are in the Sentencing Guidelines Council’s definitive guideline, Overarching Principles – Sentencing Youths.

Structure, ranges and starting points
For the purposes of section 125(3)–(4) of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009, the guideline specifies offence ranges – the range of sentences appropriate for each type of offence. Within each offence, the Council has specified different categories which reflect varying degrees of seriousness. The offence range is split into category ranges – sentences appropriate for each level of seriousness. The Council has also identified a starting point within each category.

Starting points define the position within a category range from which to start calculating the provisional sentence. Starting points apply to all offences within the corresponding category and are applicable to all offenders, in all cases. Once the starting point is established, the court should consider further aggravating and mitigating factors and previous convictions so as to adjust the sentence within the range. Starting points and ranges apply to all offenders, whether they have pleaded guilty or been convicted after trial. Credit for a guilty plea is taken into consideration only at step four in the decision making process, after the appropriate sentence has been identified.

Information on ancillary orders is set out at Annex A on page 153. Information on historic offences is set out at Annexes B and C on pages 155 and 157.

Information on community orders and fine bands is set out at Annex D on page 160.
Rape
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 1)

Triable only on indictment
Maximum: Life imprisonment

Offence range: 4 – 19 years' custody

This is a serious specified offence for the purposes of sections 224 and 225(2) (life sentence for serious offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For offences committed on or after 3 December 2012, this is an offence listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of sections 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

Offences may be of such severity, for example involving a campaign of rape, that sentences of 20 years and above may be appropriate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The extreme nature of one or more category 2 factors or the extreme impact caused by a combination of category 2 factors may elevate to category 1</td>
<td>Significant degree of planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offender acts together with others to commit the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abuse of trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Previous violence against victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence committed in course of burglary</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Recording of the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence racially or religiously aggravated</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Severe psychological or physical harm</td>
<td>Factor(s) in category A not present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Pregnancy or STI as a consequence of offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Additional degradation/humiliation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Abduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Prolonged detention/sustained incident</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Violence or threats of violence (beyond that which is inherent in the offence)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Forced/uninvited entry into victim’s home</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Victim is particularly vulnerable due to personal circumstances*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* for children under 13 please refer to the guideline on page 27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td>Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

### Aggravating factors

**Statutory aggravating factors**

- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**

- Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable victim
- Ejaculation (where not taken into account at step one)
- Blackmail or other threats made (where not taken into account at step one)
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Use of weapon or other item to frighten or injure
- Victim compelled to leave their home (including victims of domestic violence)
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Exploiting contact arrangements with a child to commit an offence
- Presence of others, especially children
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution

### Mitigating factors

- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.
## STEP THREE

**Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.**  
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

## STEP FOUR

**Reduction for guilty pleas**

The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the *Guilty Plea* guideline.

## STEP FIVE

**Dangerousness**

The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A or section 225(2)) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

## STEP SIX

**Totality principle**

If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

## STEP SEVEN

**Ancillary orders**

The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may *automatically* apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

## STEP EIGHT

**Reasons**

Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

## STEP NINE

**Consideration for time spent on bail**

The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Assault by penetration
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 2)

Triable only on indictment
Maximum: Life imprisonment

Offence range: Community order – 19 years’ custody

This is a serious specified offence for the purposes of sections 224 and 225(2) (life sentence for serious offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For offences committed on or after 3 December 2012, this is an offence listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of sections 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003
ASSAULT BY PENETRATION

STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Category 1                | A  
| The extreme nature of one or more category 2 factors or the extreme impact caused by a combination of category 2 factors may elevate to category 1  |
| Category 2                | B  
| • Severe psychological or physical harm  |
| • Penetration using large or dangerous object(s)  |
| • Additional degradation/humiliation  |
| • Abduction  |
| • Prolonged detention/sustained incident  |
| • Violence or threats of violence (beyond that which is inherent in the offence)  |
| • Forced/uninvited entry into victim’s home  |
| • Victim is particularly vulnerable due to personal circumstances*  |
| Category 3                | Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present  |

* for children under 13 please refer to the guideline on page 33

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions.

Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 3 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

**Statutory aggravating factors**
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**
- Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable victim
- Blackmail or other threats made (where not taken into account at step one)
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Use of weapon or other item to frighten or injure
- Victim compelled to leave their home (including victims of domestic violence)
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Exploiting contact arrangements with a child to commit an offence
- Presence of others, especially children

### Mitigating factors

- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- Commission of offence whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A or section 225(2)) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Sexual assault
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 3)

Triable either way
Maximum: 10 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 7 years’ custody

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe psychological or physical harm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence or threats of violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forced/uninvited entry into victim’s home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touching of naked genitalia or naked breasts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prolonged detention/sustained incident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional degradation/humiliation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim is particularly vulnerable due to personal circumstances*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* for children under 13 please refer to the guideline on page 37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant degree of planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offender acts together with others to commit the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abuse of trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous violence against victim</td>
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<tr>
<td>Offence committed in course of burglary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recording of offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Offence racially or religiously aggravated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factor(s) in category A not present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 2 or 3 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:

- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

#### Statutory aggravating factors

- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

#### Other aggravating factors

- Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable victim
- Blackmail or other threats made (where not taken into account at step one)
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Use of weapon or other item to frighten or injure
- Victim compelled to leave their home (including victims of domestic violence)
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Exploiting contact arrangements with a child to commit an offence
- Presence of others, especially children

### Mitigating factors

- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- Commission of offence whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs

- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct* 
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Causing a person to engage in sexual activity without consent
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 4)

Triable only on indictment (if penetration involved)
– otherwise, triable either way

Maximum: Life imprisonment (if penetration involved)
– otherwise, 10 years

Offence range: Community order – 7 years’ custody (if no penetration involved) / 19 years’ custody (if penetration involved)

This is a serious specified offence for the purposes of section 224 and, where the offence involved penetration, section 225(2) (life sentence for serious offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For offences involving penetration, committed on or after 3 December 2012, this is an offence listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of sections 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For reference only.

Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website:
www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td>The extreme nature of one or more category 2 factors or the extreme impact caused by a combination of category 2 factors may elevate to category 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>Severe psychological or physical harm, Penetration using large or dangerous object(s), Pregnancy or STI as a consequence of offence, Additional degradation/humiliation, Abduction, Prolonged detention/sustained incident, Violence or threats of violence, Forced/uninvited entry into victim’s home, Victim is particularly vulnerable due to personal circumstances*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A

- Significant degree of planning
- Offender acts together with others to commit the offence
- Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence
- Abuse of trust
- Previous violence against victim
- Offence committed in course of burglary
- Recording of the offence
- Commercial exploitation and/or motivation
- Offence racially or religiously aggravated
- Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)
- Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)

B

- Factor(s) in category A not present

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
### Where offence involved penetration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starting point</td>
<td>15 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category range</td>
<td>13 – 19 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 2</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starting point</td>
<td>8 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category range</td>
<td>5 – 13 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 3</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starting point</td>
<td>4 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category range</td>
<td>2 – 6 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Where offence did not involve penetration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starting point</td>
<td>4 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category range</td>
<td>3 – 7 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 2</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starting point</td>
<td>2 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category range</td>
<td>1 – 4 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 3</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starting point</td>
<td>26 weeks’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category range</td>
<td>High level community order – 1 year’s custody</td>
<td>Category range</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The table below contains a **non-exhaustive** list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. **In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment.** In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate **category 2 or 3** offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statutory aggravating factors</th>
<th>Mitigating factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction</td>
<td>No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on bail</td>
<td>Remorse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other aggravating factors</strong></td>
<td>Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable victim</td>
<td>Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ejaculation (where not taken into account at step one)</td>
<td>Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackmail or other threats made (where not taken into account at step one)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location of offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timing of offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of weapon or other item to frighten or injure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim compelled to leave their home (including victims of domestic violence)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to comply with current court orders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on licence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploiting contact arrangements with a child to commit an offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presence of others, especially children</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commission of offence whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A or section 225(2)) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
CAUSING A PERSON TO ENGAGE IN SEXUAL ACTIVITY WITHOUT CONSENT

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
Rape of a child under 13
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 5)

Triable only on indictment
Maximum: Life imprisonment

Offence range: 6 – 19 years’ custody

This is a serious specified offence for the purposes of sections 224 and 225(2) (life sentence for serious offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For offences committed on or after 3 December 2012, this is an offence listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of section 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables on the next page.

**RAPE OF A CHILD UNDER 13**

**STEP ONE**
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables on the next page.

**Offences may be of such severity, for example involving a campaign of rape, that sentences of 20 years and above may be appropriate.**

When dealing with the statutory offence of rape of a child under 13, the court may be faced with a wide range of offending behaviour.

Sentencers should have particular regard to the fact that these offences are not only committed through force or fear of force but may include exploitative behaviour towards a child which should be considered to indicate high culpability.

This guideline is designed to deal with the majority of offending behaviour which deserves a significant custodial sentence; the starting points and ranges reflect the fact that such offending merits such an approach. There may also be exceptional cases, where a lengthy community order with a requirement to participate in a sex offender treatment programme may be the best way of changing the offender’s behaviour and of protecting the public by preventing any repetition of the offence. This guideline may not be appropriate where the sentencer is satisfied that on the available evidence, and in the absence of exploitation, a young or particularly immature defendant genuinely believed, on reasonable grounds, that the victim was aged 16 or over and that they were engaging in lawful sexual activity.

Sentencers are reminded that if sentencing outside the guideline they must be satisfied that it would be contrary to the interests of justice to follow the guideline.

See page 29.
**Sexual Offences: Definitive Guideline**

**RAPE OF A CHILD UNDER 13**

### Harm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>The extreme nature of one or more category 2 factors or the extreme impact caused by a combination of category 2 factors may elevate to category 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Category 2 | Severe psychological or physical harm  
|           | Pregnancy or STI as a consequence of offence  
|           | Additional degradation/humiliation  
|           | Abduction  
|           | Prolonged detention/sustained incident  
|           | Violence or threats of violence  
|           | Forced/uninvited entry into victim’s home  
|           | Child is particularly vulnerable due to extreme youth and/or personal circumstances |
| Category 3 | Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present |

### Culpability

**A**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Significant degree of planning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offender acts together with others to commit the offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grooming behaviour used against victim</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abuse of trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous violence against victim</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed in course of burglary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual images of victim recorded, retained, solicited or shared</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliberate isolation of victim</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence racially or religiously aggravated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**B**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Factor(s) in category A not present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: [www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk](http://www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk)
**STEP TWO**  
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range below. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Sentencers should also note the wording set out at step one which may be applicable in exceptional cases.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td>16 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>13 – 19 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td>13 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>11 – 17 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td>10 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>8 – 13 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**See page 31.**
The table below contains a **non-exhaustive** list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. **In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment.** In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aggravating factors</th>
<th>Mitigating factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Statutory aggravating factors</strong></td>
<td><strong>No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction</td>
<td>Remorse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on bail</td>
<td>Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other aggravating factors</strong></td>
<td>Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable child</td>
<td>Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ejaculation (where not taken into account at step one)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackmail or other threats made (where not taken into account at step one)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location of offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timing of offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of weapon or other item to frighten or injure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim compelled to leave their home, school, etc</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to comply with current court orders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on licence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploiting contact arrangements with a child to commit an offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presence of others, especially other children</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commission of offence whilst offender under the influence of alcohol or drugs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim encouraged to recruit others</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.
### STEP THREE
**Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.**
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

### STEP FOUR
**Reduction for guilty pleas**
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the *Guilty Plea* guideline.

### STEP FIVE
**Dangerousness**
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A or section 225(2)) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

### STEP SIX
**Totality principle**
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

### STEP SEVEN
**Ancillary orders**
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may *automatically* apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

### STEP EIGHT
**Reasons**
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

### STEP NINE
**Consideration for time spent on bail**
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Assault of a child under 13 by penetration
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 6)

Triable only on indictment
Maximum: Life imprisonment

Offence range: 2 – 19 years’ custody

This is a serious specified offence for the purposes of sections 224 and 225(2) (life sentence for serious offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For offences committed on or after 3 December 2012, this is an offence listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of section 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
### STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>The extreme nature of one or more category 2 factors or the extreme impact caused by a combination of category 2 factors may elevate to category 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>Severe psychological or physical harm, Penetration using large or dangerous object(s), Additional degradation/humiliation, Abduction, Prolonged detention /sustained incident, Violence or threats of violence, Forced/uninvited entry into victim’s home, Child is particularly vulnerable due to extreme youth and/or personal circumstances</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Culpability</th>
<th>A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Significant degree of planning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offender acts together with others to commit the offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grooming behaviour used against victim</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abuse of trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous violence against victim</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed in course of burglary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual images of victim recorded, retained, solicited or shared</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliberate isolation of victim</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence racially or religiously aggravated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factor(s) in category A not present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.
## Assault of a Child Under 13 by Penetration

### Category 1
- **Starting point**: 16 years’ custody
- **Category range**: 13 – 19 years’ custody

### Category 2
- **Starting point**: 11 years’ custody
- **Category range**: 7 – 15 years’ custody

### Category 3
- **Starting point**: 6 years’ custody
- **Category range**: 4 – 9 years’ custody

The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

### Aggravating factors

**Statutory aggravating factors**
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**
- Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable child
- Blackmail or other threats made (where not taken into account at step one)
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Use of weapon or other item to frighten or injure
- Victim compelled to leave their home, school etc
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Exploiting contact arrangements with a child to commit an offence
- Presence of others, especially other children
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence

### Mitigating factors

**No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions**
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution. The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A or section 225(2)) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Sexual assault of a child under 13
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 7)

Triable either way
Maximum: 14 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 9 years’ custody

For offences committed on or after 3 December 2012, this is an offence listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of section 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
STEP ONE  
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe psychological or physical harm</td>
<td>Significant degree of planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abduction</td>
<td>Offender acts together with others to commit the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence or threats of violence</td>
<td>Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forced/uninvited entry into victim’s home</td>
<td>Grooming behaviour used against victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touching of naked genitalia or naked breast area</td>
<td>Offence committed in course of burglary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prolonged detention/sustained incident</td>
<td>Sexual images of victim recorded, retained, solicited or shared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional degradation/humiliation</td>
<td>Deliberate isolation of victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child is particularly vulnerable due to extreme youth and/or personal circumstances</td>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STEP TWO  
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

### Aggravating factors

**Statutory aggravating factors**
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**
- Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable child
- Blackmail or other threats made (where not taken into account at step one)
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Use of weapon or other item to frighten or injure
- Victim compelled to leave their home, school, etc
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Exploiting contact arrangements with a child to commit an offence
- Presence of others, especially other children
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence

**Mitigating factors**

- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.
**STEP THREE**
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

**STEP FOUR**
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the *Guilty Plea* guideline.

**STEP FIVE**
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

**STEP SIX**
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

**STEP SEVEN**
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may *automatically* apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

**STEP EIGHT**
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

**STEP NINE**
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

---

For reference only.
Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: [www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk](http://www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk)
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 8)

Triable only on indictment (if penetration involved)
– otherwise, triable either way
Maximum: Life imprisonment (if penetration involved)
– otherwise, 14 years’ custody

Offence range: 1 – 17 years’ custody

This is a serious specified offence for the purposes of sections 224 and, where the offence involved penetration, 225(2) (life sentence for serious offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For offences committed on or after 3 December 2012, this is an offence listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of section 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The extreme nature of one or more category 2 factors or the extreme impact caused by a combination of category 2 factors may elevate to category 1</td>
<td>Significant degree of planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td>Offender acts together with others to commit the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Severe psychological or physical harm</td>
<td>Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Penetration of vagina or anus (using body or object) by, or of, the victim</td>
<td>Grooming behaviour used against victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Penile penetration of mouth by, or of, the victim</td>
<td>Abuse of trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Additional degradation/humiliation</td>
<td>Previous violence against victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Abduction</td>
<td>Offence committed in course of burglary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Prolonged detention/sustained incident</td>
<td>Sexual images of victim recorded, retained, solicited or shared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Violence or threats of violence</td>
<td>Deliberate isolation of victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Forced/uninvited entry into victim’s home</td>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Child is particularly vulnerable due to extreme youth and/or personal circumstances</td>
<td>Offence racially or religiously aggravated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present</td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>Factor(s) in category A not present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.
### Aggravating factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aggravating factors</th>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>Category 2</th>
<th>Category 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Statutory aggravating factors</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of</td>
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<tr>
<td>the offence to which the conviction relates and its</td>
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<tr>
<td>relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that</td>
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<tr>
<td>has elapsed since the conviction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on bail</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other aggravating factors</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable child</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ejaculation (where not taken into account at step one)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackmail or other threats made (where not taken into</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>account at step one)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnancy or STI as a consequence of offence</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Location of offence</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Timing of offence</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Use of weapon or other item to frighten or injure</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim compelled to leave their home, school, etc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Failure to comply with current court orders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on licence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exploiting contact arrangements with a child to commit an</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>offence</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Presence of others, especially other children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an</td>
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<tr>
<td>incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or</td>
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<tr>
<td>supporting the prosecution</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commission of offence whilst offender under the influence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>of alcohol or drugs</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim encouraged to recruit others</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mitigating factors</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remorse</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>responsibility of the offender</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>where linked to the commission of the offence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual activity was incited but no activity took place</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>because the offender voluntarily desisted or intervened</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to prevent it</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A or section 225(2)) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
Sexual activity with a child
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 9)

Causing or inciting a child to engage in sexual activity
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 10)

Triable only on indictment (if penetration involved)
– otherwise, triable either way
Maximum: 14 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 10 years’ custody

For offences committed on or after 3 December 2012, these are offences listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of section 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

Arranging or facilitating the commission of a child offence (section 14 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 – page 61)

The starting points and ranges in this guideline are also applicable to offences of arranging or facilitating the commission of a child offence. In such cases, the level of harm should be determined by reference to the type of activity arranged or facilitated. Sentences commensurate with the applicable starting point and range will ordinarily be appropriate. For offences involving significant commercial exploitation and/or an international element, it may, in the interests of justice, be appropriate to increase a sentence to a point above the category range. In exceptional cases, such as where a vulnerable offender performed a limited role, having been coerced or exploited by others, sentences below the starting point and range may be appropriate.
**STEP ONE**
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

*This guideline also applies to offences committed remotely/online.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Penetration of vagina or anus (using body or object)</td>
<td>Significant degree of planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Penile penetration of mouth</td>
<td>Offender acts together with others to commit the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In either case by, or of, the victim</td>
<td>Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td>Grooming behaviour used against victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touching, or exposure, of naked genitalia or naked breasts by, or of, the victim</td>
<td>Abuse of trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td>Use of threats (including blackmail)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other sexual activity</td>
<td>Sexual images of victim recorded, retained, solicited or shared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offender lied about age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Significant disparity in age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence racially or religiously aggravated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**B**

Factor(s) in category A not present

For reference only.
Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range below. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong>&lt;br&gt;5 years’ custody</td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong>&lt;br&gt;1 year’s custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong>&lt;br&gt;4 – 10 years’ custody</td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong>&lt;br&gt;High level community order – 2 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong>&lt;br&gt;3 years’ custody</td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong>&lt;br&gt;26 weeks’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong>&lt;br&gt;2 – 6 years’ custody</td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong>&lt;br&gt;High level community order – 1 year’s custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong>&lt;br&gt;26 weeks’ custody</td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong>&lt;br&gt;Medium level community order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong>&lt;br&gt;High level community order – 3 years’ custody</td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong>&lt;br&gt;Low level community order – High level community order</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
The table below contains a **non-exhaustive** list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. **In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment.** In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate **category 2 or 3 offences**, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

#### Statutory aggravating factors

- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

#### Other aggravating factors

- Severe psychological or physical harm
- Ejaculation
- Pregnancy or STI as a consequence of offence
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Victim compelled to leave their home, school, etc
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Exploiting contact arrangements with a child to commit an offence
- Presence of others, especially other children
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- Failure of offender to respond to previous warnings
- Commission of offence whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Victim encouraged to recruit others
- Period over which offence committed

### Mitigating factors

- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence

Sexual activity was incited but no activity took place because the offender voluntarily desisted or intervened to prevent it

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* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Sexual activity with a child family member
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 25)

Inciting a child family member to engage in sexual activity
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 26)

Triable only on indictment (if penetration involved)
– otherwise, triable either way
Maximum: 14 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 10 years’ custody

For offences committed on or after 3 December 2012, these are offences listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of section 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
**STEP ONE
Determining the offence category**

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference **only** to the tables below. This offence involves those who have a family relationship with the victim and it should be assumed that the greater the abuse of trust within this relationship the more grave the offence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Penetration of vagina or anus (using body or object)</td>
<td>Significant degree of planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Penile penetration of mouth</td>
<td>Offender acts together with others to commit the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In either case by, or of, the victim</td>
<td>Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>Grooming behaviour used against victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touching of naked genitalia or naked breasts by, or of, the victim</td>
<td>Use of threats (including blackmail)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>Sexual images of victim recorded, retained, solicited or shared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other sexual activity</td>
<td>Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Significant disparity in age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence racially or religiously aggravated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Factor(s) in category A not present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
**STEP TWO**

Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range below. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting point</td>
<td>6 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category range</td>
<td>4 – 10 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting point</td>
<td>4 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category range</td>
<td>2 – 6 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting point</td>
<td>1 year’s custody</td>
<td>Starting point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category range</td>
<td>High level community order – 3 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 3 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statutory aggravating factors</th>
<th>Mitigating factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction</td>
<td>No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on bail</td>
<td>Remorse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other aggravating factors</strong></td>
<td>Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe psychological or physical harm</td>
<td>Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ejaculation</td>
<td>Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnancy or STI as a consequence of offence</td>
<td>Sexual activity was incited but no activity took place because the offender voluntarily desisted or intervened to prevent it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location of offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timing of offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim compelled to leave their home, school, etc</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to comply with current court orders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on licence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploiting contact arrangements with a child to commit an offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presence of others, especially other children</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure of offender to respond to previous warnings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commission of offence whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim encouraged to recruit others</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period over which offence committed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act
2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of
which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to
the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the
Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A) or an extended
sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the
notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence,
consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other
requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on
page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of,
the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of
the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
For reference only.
Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website:
www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
Engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a child
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 11)

Causing a child to watch a sexual act
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 12)

**Triable either way**

**Maximum:** 10 years’ custody

**Offence range:** Community order – 6 years’ custody

For offences committed on or after 3 December 2012, these are offences listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of section 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

Arranging or facilitating the commission of a child offence (section 14 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 – guidance on page 61)

The starting points and ranges in this guideline are also applicable to offences of arranging or facilitating the commission of a child offence. In such cases, the level of harm should be determined by reference to the type of activity arranged or facilitated. Sentences commensurate with the applicable starting point and range will ordinarily be appropriate. For offences involving significant commercial exploitation and/or an international element, it may, in the interests of justice, be appropriate to increase a sentence to a point above the category range. In exceptional cases, such as where a vulnerable offender performed a limited role, having been coerced or exploited by others, sentences below the starting point and range may be appropriate.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>Category 2</th>
<th>Category 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Causing victim to view extreme pornography</td>
<td>Engaging in, or causing a victim to view images of or view live, sexual activity involving:</td>
<td>Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Causing victim to view indecent/prohibited images of children</td>
<td>• penetration of vagina or anus (using body or object)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Engaging in, or causing a victim to view live, sexual activity involving sadism/violence/sexual activity with an animal/a child</td>
<td>• penile penetration of the mouth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Masturbation</td>
<td>• Masturbation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Culpability

A

Significant degree of planning

B

Factor(s) in category A not present

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 2 or 3 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

**Statutory aggravating factors**
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Victim compelled to leave their home, school, etc
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Exploiting contact arrangements with a child to commit an offence
- Presence of others, especially other children
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence

### Mitigating factors
- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

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**Sexual Offences: Definitive Guideline**

Effective from 1 April 2014

### Category 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td>4 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>3 – 6 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Category 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td>2 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>1 – 3 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Category 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td>26 weeks’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>High level community order – 1 year’s custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table above contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 2 or 3 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

**Statutory aggravating factors**
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Victim compelled to leave their home, school, etc
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Exploiting contact arrangements with a child to commit an offence
- Presence of others, especially other children
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence

### Mitigating factors
- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

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For reference only.  
Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website:  
www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Arranging or facilitating the commission of a child sex offence
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 14)

Triable either way
Maximum: 14 years’ custody

For offences committed on or after 3 December 2012, these are offences listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of section 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

Sentencers should refer to the guideline for the applicable, substantive offence of arranging or facilitating under sections 9 to 12. See pages 45 to 49 and 57 to 60. The level of harm should be determined by reference to the type of activity arranged or facilitated. Sentences commensurate with the applicable starting point and range will ordinarily be appropriate. For offences involving significant commercial exploitation and/or an international element, it may, in the interests of justice, be appropriate to increase a sentence to a point above the category range. In exceptional cases, such as where a vulnerable offender performed a limited role, having been coerced or exploited by others, sentences below the starting point and range may be appropriate.
Meeting a child following sexual grooming
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 15)

Triable either way
Maximum: 10 years’ custody

Offence range: 1 – 7 years’ custody

For offences committed on or after 3 December 2012, this is an offence listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of section 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine the offence category using the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td>Raised harm and raised culpability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>Raised harm or raised culpability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>Grooming without raised harm or culpability factors present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The court should determine culpability and harm caused or intended, by reference only to the factors below, which comprise the principal factual elements of the offence. Where an offence does not fall squarely into a category, individual factors may require a degree of weighting before making an overall assessment and determining the appropriate offence category.

**Factors indicating raised harm**
- Continued contact despite victim’s attempts to terminate contact
- Sexual images exchanged
- Victim exposed to extreme sexual content (for example, extreme pornography)
- Child is particularly vulnerable due to personal circumstances

**Factors indicating raised culpability**
- Offender acts together with others to commit the offence
- Communication indicates penetrative sexual activity is intended
- Offender lied about age/persona
- Use of threats (including blackmail), gifts or bribes
- Abuse of trust
- Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable child
- Abduction/detention
- Commercial exploitation and/or motivation
- Offence racially or religiously aggravated
- Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)
- Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk

Effective from 1 April 2014
STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range below. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out below.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>Starting point</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 years’ custody</td>
<td>3 – 7 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 2</th>
<th>Starting point</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 years’ custody</td>
<td>1 – 4 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 3</th>
<th>Starting point</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18 months’ custody</td>
<td>1 year – 2 years 6 months’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aggravating factors</th>
<th>Mitigating factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Statutory aggravating factors</strong></td>
<td>No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction</td>
<td>Remorse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on bail</td>
<td>Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other aggravating factors</strong></td>
<td>Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to comply with current court orders</td>
<td>Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on licence</td>
<td>Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim encouraged to recruit others</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Abuse of position of trust: sexual activity with a child
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 16)

Abuse of position of trust: causing or inciting a child to engage in sexual activity
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 17)

Triable either way
Maximum: 5 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 2 years’ custody

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

This guideline also applies to offences committed remotely/online.

### Harm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>Penetration of vagina or anus (using body or object)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Penile penetration of mouth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In either case by, or of, the victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>Touching, or exposure, of naked genitalia or naked breasts by, or of, the victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Culpability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>Significant degree of planning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offender acts together with others to commit the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grooming behaviour used against victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use of threats (including blackmail)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sexual images of victim recorded, retained, solicited or shared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence racially or religiously aggravated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Factor(s) in category A not present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>Category range</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td>18 months’ custody</td>
<td>1 year’s custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>1 – 2 years’ custody</td>
<td>26 weeks’ – 18 months’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 2</th>
<th>Category range</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td>1 year’s custody</td>
<td>Starting point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>26 weeks’ – 18 months’ custody</td>
<td>High level community order – 1 year’s custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 3</th>
<th>Category range</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td>26 weeks’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>High level community order – 1 year’s custody</td>
<td>Medium level community order</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 2 or 3 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

**Aggravating factors**

**Statutory aggravating factors**

- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**

- Ejaculation
- Pregnancy or STI as a consequence of offence
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Victim compelled to leave their home, school, etc
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Presence of others, especially other children
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- Failure of offender to respond to previous warnings

**Mitigating factors**

- Commission of offence whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Victim encouraged to recruit others

- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Sexual activity was incited but no activity took place because the offender voluntarily desisted or intervened to prevent it
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act
2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of
which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to
the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the
Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence,
consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other
requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on
page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of,
the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of
the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
Abuse of position of trust: sexual activity in the presence of a child
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 18)

Abuse of position of trust: causing a child to watch a sexual act
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 19)

Triable either way
Maximum: 5 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 2 years’ custody

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For reference only.
Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
**STEP ONE**
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Category 1** | • Causing victim to view extreme pornography  
| | • Causing victim to view indecent/prohibited images of children  
| | • Engaging in, or causing a victim to view live, sexual activity involving sadism/violence/sexual activity with an animal/a child  
| **Category 2** | Engaging in, or causing a victim to view images of or view live, sexual activity involving:  
| | • penetration of vagina or anus (using body or object)  
| | • penile penetration of mouth  
| | • masturbation  
| **Category 3** | Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present  

**Culpability**

**A**

- Significant degree of planning  
- Offender acts together with others to commit the offence  
- Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence  
- Grooming behaviour used against victim  
- Use of threats (including blackmail)  
- Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable child  
- Commercial exploitation and/or motivation  
- Offence racially or religiously aggravated  
- Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)  
- Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)  

**B**

Factor(s) in category A not present

**STEP TWO**
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
**Sexual Offences - Definitive Guideline**

**Effective from 1 April 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>Starting point</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18 months' custody</td>
<td>1 – 2 years' custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 2</th>
<th>Starting point</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 year's custody</td>
<td>26 weeks’ – 18 months’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 3</th>
<th>Starting point</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26 weeks' custody</td>
<td>High level community order – 1 year's custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Aggravating factors**

**Statutory aggravating factors**

- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**

- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Victim compelled to leave their home, school, etc
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Presence of others, especially other children
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- Failure of offender to respond to previous warnings

**Mitigating factors**

- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

**Commission of offence whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs**

**Victim encouraged to recruit others**

*Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. **In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment.** In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 2 or 3 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:

- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Possession of indecent photograph of child
Criminal Justice Act 1988 (section 160)

Triable either way
Maximum: 5 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 3 years’ custody

Indecent photographs of children
Protection of Children Act 1978 (section 1)

Triable either way
Maximum: 10 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 9 years’ custody

For section 1 offences committed on or after 3 December 2012, this is an offence listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of section 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine the offence category using the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Possession</th>
<th>Distribution*</th>
<th>Production**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category A</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Possession of images involving penetrative sexual activity</td>
<td>Sharing images involving penetrative sexual activity</td>
<td>Creating images involving penetrative sexual activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Possession of images involving sexual activity with an animal or sadism</td>
<td>Sharing images involving sexual activity with an animal or sadism</td>
<td>Creating images involving sexual activity with an animal or sadism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category B</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Possession of images involving non-penetrative sexual activity</td>
<td>Sharing of images involving non-penetrative sexual activity</td>
<td>Creating images involving non-penetrative sexual activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category C</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Possession of other indecent images not falling within categories A or B</td>
<td>Sharing of other indecent images not falling within categories A or B</td>
<td>Creating other indecent images not falling within categories A or B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Distribution includes possession with a view to distributing or sharing images.
** Production includes the taking or making of any image at source, for instance the original image.
Making an image by simple downloading should be treated as possession for the purposes of sentencing.

In most cases the intrinsic character of the most serious of the offending images will initially determine the appropriate category. If, however, the most serious images are unrepresentative of the offender’s conduct a lower category may be appropriate. A lower category will not, however, be appropriate if the offender has produced or taken (for example photographed) images of a higher category.

See page 77.
Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range below. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Possession</th>
<th>Distribution</th>
<th>Production</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category A</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td>1 year’s custody</td>
<td>3 years’ custody</td>
<td>6 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>26 weeks’ – 3 years’ custody</td>
<td>2 – 5 years’ custody</td>
<td>4 – 9 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category B</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td>26 weeks’ custody</td>
<td>1 year’s custody</td>
<td>2 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>High level community order – 18 months’ custody</td>
<td>Category range</td>
<td>1 – 4 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category C</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td>High level community order</td>
<td>13 weeks’ custody</td>
<td>18 months’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>Medium level community order – 26 weeks’ custody</td>
<td>Category range</td>
<td>1 – 3 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See page 78.
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate **category B or C offences**, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statutory aggravating factors</th>
<th>Other aggravating factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction</td>
<td>Failure to comply with current court orders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on bail</td>
<td>Offence committed whilst on licence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age and/or vulnerability of the child depicted†</td>
<td>Age and/or vulnerability of the child depicted†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discernable pain or distress suffered by child depicted</td>
<td>Discernable pain or distress suffered by child depicted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period over which images were possessed, distributed or produced</td>
<td>Period over which images were possessed, distributed or produced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High volume of images possessed, distributed or produced</td>
<td>High volume of images possessed, distributed or produced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placing images where there is the potential for a high volume of viewers</td>
<td>Placing images where there is the potential for a high volume of viewers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection includes moving images</td>
<td>Collection includes moving images</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence</td>
<td>Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abuse of trust</td>
<td>Abuse of trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child depicted known to the offender</td>
<td>Child depicted known to the offender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active involvement in a network or process that facilitates or commissions the creation or sharing of indecent images of children</td>
<td>Active involvement in a network or process that facilitates or commissions the creation or sharing of indecent images of children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliberate or systematic searching for images portraying young children, category A images or the portrayal of familial sexual abuse</td>
<td>Deliberate or systematic searching for images portraying young children, category A images or the portrayal of familial sexual abuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large number of different victims</td>
<td>Large number of different victims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child depicted intoxicated or drugged</td>
<td>Child depicted intoxicated or drugged</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mitigating factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions</th>
<th>Remorse</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*</td>
<td>Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrated steps taken to address offending behaviour</td>
<td>Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

† Age and/or vulnerability of the child should be given significant weight. In cases where the actual age of the victim is difficult to determine, sentencers should consider the development of the child (infant, pre-pubescent, post-pubescent).
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Causing or inciting prostitution for gain
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 52)

Controlling prostitution for gain
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 53)

Triable either way
Maximum: 7 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 6 years’ custody

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

The terms “prostitute” and “prostitution” are used in this guideline in accordance with the statutory language contained in the Sexual Offences Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Category 1   | • Abduction/detention
• Violence or threats of violence
• Sustained and systematic psychological abuse
• Individual(s) forced or coerced to participate in unsafe/degrading sexual activity
• Individual(s) forced or coerced into seeing many “customers”
• Individual(s) forced/coerced/deceived into prostitution |
| Category 2   | Factor(s) in category 1 not present                                        |
|              | A                                                                           |
|              | Causing, inciting or controlling prostitution on significant commercial basis |
|              | Expectation of significant financial or other gain                         |
|              | Abuse of trust                                                              |
|              | Exploitation of those known to be trafficked                                |
|              | Significant involvement in limiting the freedom of prostitute(s)            |
|              | Grooming of individual(s) to enter prostitution including through cultivation of a dependency on drugs or alcohol |
|              | B                                                                           |
|              | Close involvement with prostitute(s), for example control of finances, choice of clients, working conditions, etc (where offender’s involvement is not as a result of coercion) |
|              | C                                                                           |
|              | Performs limited function under direction                                   |
|              | Close involvement but engaged by coercion/intimidation/exploitation         |

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
### Aggravating factors

#### Statutory aggravating factors
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

#### Other aggravating factors
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Deliberate isolation of prostitute(s)
- Threats made to expose prostitute(s) to the authorities (for example, immigration or police), family/friends or others
- Harm threatened against the family/friends of prostitute(s)
- Passport/identity documents removed
- Prostitute(s) prevented from seeking medical treatment
- Food withheld
- Earnings withheld/kept by offender or evidence of excessive wage reduction or debt bondage, inflated travel or living expenses or unreasonable interest rates
- Any steps taken to prevent the reporting of an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution

#### Mitigating factors
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- Prostitute(s) forced or coerced into pornography
- Timescale over which operation has been run
- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 2 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>Category 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 years’ custody</td>
<td>2 years 6 months’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 – 6 years’ custody</td>
<td>2 – 4 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years 6 months’ custody</td>
<td>1 year’s custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 – 5 years’ custody</td>
<td>High level community order – 2 year’s custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Effective from 1 April 2014
### STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

### STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

### STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

### STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

### STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

### STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

### STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Keeping a brothel used for prostitution

Sexual Offences Act 1956 (section 33A)

Triable either way
Maximum: 7 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 6 years’ custody

The terms “prostitute” and “prostitution” are used in this guideline in accordance with the statutory language contained in the Sexual Offences Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Under 18 year olds working in brothel</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Abduction/detention</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Violence or threats of violence</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Sustained and systematic psychological abuse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Those working in brothel forced or coerced to participate in unsafe/degrading sexual activity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Those working in brothel forced or coerced into seeing many “customers”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Those working in brothel forced/coerced/deceived into prostitution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Established evidence of community impact</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td>Factor(s) in category 1 not present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 1 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:

- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

**Statutory aggravating factors**

- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**

- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Deliberate isolation of those working in brothel
- Threats made to expose those working in brothel to the authorities (for example, immigration or police), family/ friends or others
- Harm threatened against the family/friends of those working in brothel
- Passport/identity documents removed
- Those working in brothel prevented from seeking medical treatment
- Food withheld
- Those working in brothel passed around by offender and moved to other brothels
- Earnings of those working in brothel withheld/kept by offender or evidence of excessive wage reduction or debt bondage, inflated travel or living expenses or unreasonable interest rates
- Any steps taken to prevent those working in brothel reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- Those working in brothel forced or coerced into pornography
- Timescale over which operation has been run

### Mitigating factors

- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.
BROTHEL KEEPING

STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution. The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SIX
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP SEVEN
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP EIGHT
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Causing or inciting sexual exploitation of a child
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 48)

Controlling a child in relation to sexual exploitation
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 49)

Arranging or facilitating sexual exploitation of a child
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 50)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Victim age</th>
<th>Custody</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>under 13</td>
<td>1 – 13 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13–15</td>
<td>26 weeks’ – 11 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16–17</td>
<td>Community order – 7 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For offences committed on or after 3 December 2012, these are offences listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of sections 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
**STEP ONE**
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

**For offences that involve wide scale commercial and/or international activity sentences above the category range may be appropriate.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td>A Directing or organising sexual exploitation of a child on significant commercial basis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Expectation of significant financial or other gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abuse of trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exploitation of victim(s) known to be trafficked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Significant involvement in limiting the freedom of the victim(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grooming of a victim for sexual exploitation including through cultivation of a dependency on drugs or alcohol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td>B Close involvement with inciting, controlling, arranging or facilitating sexual exploitation of a child (where offender’s involvement is not as a result of coercion)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C Performs limited function under direction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Close involvement but engaged by coercion/intimidation/exploitation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range below. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>U13</strong></td>
<td>Starting point 10 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 8 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 5 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>8 – 13 years’ custody</td>
<td>6 – 11 years’ custody</td>
<td>2 – 6 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>13–15</strong></td>
<td>Starting point 8 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 5 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 2 years 6 months’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>6 – 11 years’ custody</td>
<td>4 – 8 years’ custody</td>
<td>1 – 4 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>16–17</strong></td>
<td>Starting point 4 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 2 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 1 year’s custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>3 – 7 years’ custody</td>
<td>1 – 4 years’ custody</td>
<td>26 weeks’ – 2 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 2</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>U13</strong></td>
<td>Starting point 8 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 6 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 2 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>6 – 11 years’ custody</td>
<td>4 – 9 years’ custody</td>
<td>1 – 4 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>13–15</strong></td>
<td>Starting point 6 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 3 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 1 year’s custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>4 – 9 years’ custody</td>
<td>2 – 5 years’ custody</td>
<td>26 weeks’ – 2 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>16–17</strong></td>
<td>Starting point 3 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 1 year’s custody</td>
<td>Starting point 26 weeks’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td>2 – 5 years’ custody</td>
<td>26 weeks’ – 2 years’ custody</td>
<td>High level community order – 1 year’s custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 2 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:

- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statutory aggravating factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on bail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to comply with current court orders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on licence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliberate isolation of victim(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vulnerability of victim(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threats made to expose victim(s) to the authorities (for example, immigration or police), family/friends or others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harm threatened against the family/friends of victim(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passport/identity documents removed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim(s) prevented from seeking medical treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim(s) prevented from attending school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food withheld</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earnings withheld/kept by offender or evidence of excessive wage reduction or debt bondage, inflated travel or living expenses or unreasonable interest rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timescale over which the operation has been run</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mitigating factors

| No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions |
| Remorse |
| Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct* |
| Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender |
| Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence |

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution. The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
FOR REFERENCE ONLY. PLEASE REFER TO THE GUIDELINE(S) ON THE SENTENCING COUNCIL WEBSITE: WWW.SENTENCINGCOUNCIL.ORG.UK
Paying for the sexual services of a child
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 47)

Triable only on indictment (if involving penetration against victim under 16) – otherwise triable either way

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maximum:</th>
<th>Maximum:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victim under 13 (penetrative)</td>
<td>Life imprisonment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim under 13 (non-penetrative)</td>
<td>14 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim aged 13–15</td>
<td>14 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim aged 16–17</td>
<td>7 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Offence range: Victim aged 16–17 Community order – 5 years’ custody

This guideline should only be used where the victim is aged 16 or 17 years old. If the victim is under 13 please refer to the guidelines for rape of a child under 13, assault by penetration of a child under 13, sexual assault of a child under 13 or causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity, depending on the activity involved in the offence.

If the victim is aged 13–15 please refer to the sexual activity with a child guideline.

Where the victim is 16 or 17 years old – for convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

This guideline should only be used where the victim was aged 16 or 17 years old.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penetration of vagina or anus (using body or object) by, or of, the victim</td>
<td>Abduction/detention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penile penetration of mouth by, or of, the victim</td>
<td>Sexual images of victim recorded, retained, solicited or shared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence or threats of violence</td>
<td>Offender acts together with others to commit the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim subjected to unsafe/degrading sexual activity (beyond that which is inherent in the offence)</td>
<td>Use of alcohol/drugs on victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touching of naked genitalia or naked breasts by, or of, the victim</td>
<td>Abuse of trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other sexual activity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page for victims aged 16 or 17. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
**PAYING FOR SEX WITH A CHILD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Starting point</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>4 years’ custody</strong></td>
<td><strong>2 years’ custody</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2 – 5 years’ custody</strong></td>
<td><strong>1 – 4 years’ custody</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>3 years’ custody</strong></td>
<td><strong>1 year’s custody</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1 – 4 years’ custody</strong></td>
<td><strong>26 weeks’ – 2 years’ custody</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
<td><strong>Starting point</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1 year’s custody</strong></td>
<td><strong>26 weeks’ custody</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
<td><strong>Category range</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>26 weeks’ – 2 years’ custody</strong></td>
<td><strong>High level community order – 1 year’s custody</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 3 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:

- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

#### Statutory aggravating factors

- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

#### Other aggravating factors

- Ejaculation
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence

### Mitigating factors

- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Trafficking people for sexual exploitation
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 59A)

(This guideline also applies to offences, committed before 6 April 2013, of trafficking into/within/out of the UK for sexual exploitation contrary to sections 57 to 59 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003)

Triable either way
Maximum: 14 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 12 years’ custody

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

The term “prostitution” is used in this guideline in accordance with the statutory language contained in the Sexual Offences Act 2003.

Interim explanatory guidance pending the production of a full guideline for Modern Slavery
*Section 59A of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (SOA) has now been repealed by Schedule 5, paragraph 5 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (MSA). However, section 59A SOA remains in force for those offences committed wholly or partly before 31 July 2015.

Sentencers may consider that this is an appropriate guideline to follow when sentencing cases of sexual exploitation prosecuted under section 2 of the MSA. However, it is important to note that although the either way offence in section 2 of the MSA is in some ways similar to the SOA offence, the maximum penalty for the MSA offence is **life imprisonment**. In addition, the following provisions apply to the offence under the MSA:

- This is a specified offence for the purposes of sections 224 and 225(2) (life sentence for serious offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
- It is listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of sections 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
- This is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

Sentencers seeking to rely on this guideline when sentencing offenders under the MSA may, therefore, need to adjust the starting point and ranges bearing in mind the increased statutory maximum.
The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>Category 2 Factor(s) in Category 1 not present</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|      | • Abduction/detention  
• Violence or threats of violence  
• Sustained and systematic psychological abuse  
• Victim(s) under 18  
• Victim(s) forced or coerced to participate in unsafe/degrading sexual activity  
• Victim(s) forced/coerced into prostitution  
• Victim(s) tricked/deceived as to purpose of visit | |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Culpability</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| A | Directing or organising trafficking on significant commercial basis  
Expectation of significant financial or other gain  
Significant influence over others in trafficking organisation/hierarchy  
Abuse of trust |
| B | Operational or management function within hierarchy  
Involves others in operation whether by coercion/intimidation/exploitation or reward (and offender’s involvement is not as a result of coercion) |
| C | Performs limited function under direction  
Close involvement but engaged by coercion/intimidation/exploitation |

**STEP TWO**  
**Starting point and category range**

Having determined the category of harm and culpability, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
### Aggravating factors

**Statutory aggravating factors**
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Deliberate isolation of victim(s)
- Children of victim(s) left in home country due to trafficking
- Threats made to expose victim(s) to the authorities (for example, immigration or police), family/friends or others
- Harm threatened against the family/friends of victim
- Exploitation of victim(s) from particularly vulnerable backgrounds
- Victim(s) previously trafficked/sold/passed around
- Passport/identity documents removed
- Victim(s) prevented from seeking medical treatment
- Food withheld
- Use of drugs/alcohol or other substance to secure victim’s compliance

Earnings of victim(s) withheld/kept by offender or evidence of excessive wage reduction, debt bondage, inflated travel or living expenses, unreasonable interest rates
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- Timescale over which operation has been run

### Mitigating factors
- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence

*Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution. The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Sexual activity with a person with a mental disorder impeding choice
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 30)

Causing or inciting a person, with a mental disorder impeding choice, to engage in sexual activity
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 31)

Triable only on indictment (if penetration involved)
– otherwise, triable either way
Maximum: Life imprisonment (if penetration involved)
– otherwise 14 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 19 years’ custody

These are serious specified offences for the purposes of section 224 and, where the offence involved penetration, section 225(2) (life sentence for serious offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For offences involving penetration, committed on or after 3 December 2012, these are offences listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of section 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
# STEP ONE
## Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td>The extreme nature of one or more category 2 factors or the extreme impact caused by a combination of category 2 factors <strong>may</strong> elevate to category 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td>• Severe psychological or physical harm &lt;br&gt; • Pregnancy or STI as a consequence of offence &lt;br&gt; • Additional degradation/humiliation &lt;br&gt; • Abduction &lt;br&gt; • Prolonged detention/sustained incident &lt;br&gt; • Violence or threats of violence &lt;br&gt; • Forced/uninvited entry into victim’s home or residence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td>Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>Significant degree of planning &lt;br&gt; Offender acts together with others to commit the offence &lt;br&gt; Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence &lt;br&gt; Grooming behaviour used against victim &lt;br&gt; Abuse of trust &lt;br&gt; Previous violence against victim &lt;br&gt; Offence committed in course of burglary &lt;br&gt; Sexual images of victim recorded, retained, solicited or shared &lt;br&gt; Deliberate isolation of victim &lt;br&gt; Commercial exploitation and/or motivation &lt;br&gt; Offence racially or religiously aggravated &lt;br&gt; Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity) &lt;br&gt; Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on the victim’s disability (or presumed disability)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>Factor(s) in category A not present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category of harm and culpability, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range below. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.

Where offence involved penetration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td>Starting point 16 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 13 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Category range 13 – 19 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range 11 – 17 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td>Starting point 13 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 10 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Category range 11 – 17 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range 8 – 13 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td>Starting point 10 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 8 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Category range 8 – 13 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range 6 – 11 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where offence did not involve penetration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td>Starting point 6 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 4 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Category range 4 – 9 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range 3 – 7 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td>Starting point 4 years’ custody</td>
<td>Starting point 2 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Category range 3 – 7 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range 1 – 4 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td>Starting point 1 year’s custody</td>
<td>Starting point 26 weeks’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Category range 26 weeks’ – 2 years’ custody</td>
<td>Category range</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For reference only.
Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website:
www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When appropriate, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- Has the custody threshold been passed?
- If so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- If so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statutory aggravating factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on bail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other aggravating factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ejaculation (where not taken into account at step one)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackmail or other threats made (where not taken into account at step one)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location of offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timing of offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of weapon or other item to frighten or injure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim compelled to leave their home or institution (including victims of domestic violence)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to comply with current court orders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence committed whilst on licence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presence of others, especially children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commission of offence whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mitigating factors

| No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions |
| Remorse |
| Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct* |
| Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender |
| Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence |
| Sexual activity was incited but no activity took place because the offender voluntarily desisted or intervened to prevent it |

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.

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For reference only.
Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution. The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A or section 225(2)) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a person with mental disorder impeding choice
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 32)

Causing a person, with mental disorder impeding choice, to watch a sexual act
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 33)

Triable either way
Maximum: 10 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 6 years’ custody

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Category 1 | • Causing victim to view extreme pornography  
• Causing victim to view indecent/prohibited images of children  
• Engaging in, or causing a victim to view live, sexual activity involving sadism/violence/sexual activity with an animal/a child |
| Category 2 | Engaging in, or causing a victim to view images of or view live, sexual activity involving:  
• penetration of vagina or anus (using body or object)  
• penile penetration of mouth  
• masturbation |
| Category 3 | Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present |

A | Significant degree of planning  
Offender acts together with others in order to commit the offence  
Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence  
Grooming behaviour used against victim  
Abuse of trust  
Use of threats (including blackmail)  
Commercial exploitation and/or motivation  
Offence racially or religiously aggravated  
Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)  
Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability) |

B | Factor(s) in category A not present |

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category of harm and culpability, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 2 or 3 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

**Statutory aggravating factors**
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- Commission of offence whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs

### Mitigating factors

No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions

Remorse

Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*

Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender

Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence

Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
Inducement, threat or deception to procure sexual activity with a person with a mental disorder
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 34)

Causing a person with a mental disorder to engage in or agree to engage in sexual activity by inducement, threat or deception
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 35)

Triable only on indictment (if penetration involved)
– otherwise triable either way
Maximum: Life imprisonment (if penetration involved)
– otherwise 14 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 10 years’ custody

These are serious specified offences for the purposes of section 224 and, where the offence involved penetration, section 225(2) (life sentence for serious offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For offences involving penetration, committed on or after 3 December 2012, these are offences listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of section 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

Effective from 1 April 2014
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

This guideline also applies to offences committed remotely/online.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penetration of vagina or anus (using body or object)</td>
<td>Significant degree of planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penile penetration of mouth</td>
<td>Offender acts together with others to commit the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In either case by, or of, the victim</td>
<td>Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td>Abuse of trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touching, or exposure, of naked genitalia or naked breasts by, or of, the victim</td>
<td>Sexual images of victim recorded, retained, solicited or shared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other sexual activity</td>
<td>Offence racially or religiously aggravated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**B**

Factor(s) in category A not present

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category of harm and culpability, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
Sexual Offences
Definitive Guideline

Effective from 1 April 2014

### Category 1

**Starting point**
5 years’ custody

**Category range**
4 – 10 years’ custody

### Category 2

**Starting point**
3 years’ custody

**Category range**
2 – 6 years’ custody

### Category 3

**Starting point**
26 weeks’ custody

**Category range**
High level community order – 3 years’ custody

The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 2 or 3 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

#### Aggravating factors

- **Statutory aggravating factors**
  - Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
  - Offence committed whilst on bail

- **Other aggravating factors**
  - Severe psychological or physical harm
  - Ejaculation
  - Pregnancy or STI as a consequence of offence
  - Location of offence
  - Timing of offence
  - Victim compelled to leave their home or institution (including victims of domestic violence)
  - Failure to comply with current court orders
  - Offence committed whilst on licence
  - Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution

#### Mitigating factors

- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award a life sentence (section 224A or section 225(2)) or an extended sentence (section 226A). When sentencing offenders to a life sentence under these provisions, the notional determinate sentence should be used as the basis for the setting of a minimum term.

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Engaging in sexual activity in the presence, procured by inducement, threat or deception, of a person with a mental disorder
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 36)

Causing a person with a mental disorder to watch a sexual act by inducement, threat or deception
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 37)

Triable either way
Maximum: 10 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 6 years’ custody

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
### STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Causing victim to view extreme pornography</td>
<td>Significant degree of planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Causing victim to view indecent/prohibited images of children</td>
<td>Offender acts together with others in order to commit the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Engaging in, or causing a victim to view live, sexual activity involving sadism/violence/sexual activity with an animal/a child</td>
<td>Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Engaging in, or causing a victim to view images of or view live, sexual activity involving:</td>
<td>Abuse of trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- penetration of vagina or anus (using body or object)</td>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- penile penetration of mouth</td>
<td>Offence racially or religiously aggravated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- masturbation</td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present</td>
<td>Factor(s) in category A not present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category of harm and culpability, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.

For reference only.
Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website:
www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate category 2 or 3 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
• has the custody threshold been passed?
• if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
• if so, can that sentence be suspended?

**Aggravating factors**

**Statutory aggravating factors**
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- Commission of offence whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs

**Mitigating factors**
- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.
**STEP THREE**

Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.

The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

**STEP FOUR**

Reduction for guilty pleas

The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the *Guilty Plea* guideline.

**STEP FIVE**

Dangerousness

The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

**STEP SIX**

Totality principle

If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

**STEP SEVEN**

Ancillary orders

The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may *automatically* apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

**STEP EIGHT**

Reasons

Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

**STEP NINE**

Consideration for time spent on bail

The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Care workers: sexual activity with a person with a mental disorder
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 38)

Care workers: causing or inciting sexual activity
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 39)

Triable only on indictment (if penetration involved)
– otherwise triable either way
Maximum: 14 years’ custody (if penetration involved)
– otherwise 10 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 10 years’ custody

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

Effective from 1 April 2014
**STEP ONE**
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

This guideline also applies to offences committed remotely/online.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th>Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Penetration of vagina or anus (using body or object)</td>
<td>Significant degree of planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Penile penetration of mouth</td>
<td>Offender acts together with others to commit the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In either case by, or of, the victim</td>
<td>Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td>Grooming behaviour used against victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touching, or exposure, of naked genitalia or naked breasts by, or of, the victim</td>
<td>Use of threats (including blackmail)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td>Sexual images of victim recorded, retained, solicited or shared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present</td>
<td>Commercial exploitation and/or motivation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence racially or religiously aggravated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>Factor(s) in category A not present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STEP TWO**
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category of harm and culpability, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
### CARE WORKERS: (CAUSING/INCITING) SEXUAL ACTIVITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Starting point</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td>5 years’ custody</td>
<td>4 – 10 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td>3 years’ custody</td>
<td>2 – 6 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td>26 weeks’ custody</td>
<td>Medium level community order – 1 year’s custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table below contains a **non-exhaustive** list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, **relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment.** In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate **category 2 or 3 offences**, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- Has the custody threshold been passed?
- If so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- If so, can that sentence be suspended?

#### Aggravating factors

**Statutory aggravating factors**
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**
- Ejaculation
- Pregnancy or STI as a consequence of offence
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Victim compelled to leave their home or institution (including victims of domestic violence)
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence

**Mitigating factors**
- Failure of offender to respond to previous warnings
- Commission of offence whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Sexual activity was incited but no activity took place because the offender voluntarily desisted or intervened to prevent it

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

In the context of this offence, previous good character/exemplary conduct should not normally be given any significant weight and will not normally justify a reduction in what would otherwise be the appropriate sentence.
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution. The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Care workers: sexual activity in the presence of a person with a mental disorder
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 40)

Care workers: causing a person with a mental disorder to watch a sexual act
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 41)

Triable either way
Maximum: 7 years’ custody

Offence range: Community order – 2 years’ custody

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine which categories of harm and culpability the offence falls into by reference only to the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harm</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Category 1 | • Causing victim to view extreme pornography  
• Causing victim to view indecent/prohibited images of children  
• Engaging in, or causing a victim to view live, sexual activity involving sadism/violence/sexual activity with an animal/a child | | |
| Category 2 | Engaging in, or causing a victim to view images of or view live, sexual activity involving:  
• penetration of vagina or anus (using body or object)  
• penile penetration of mouth  
• masturbation | | |
| Category 3 | Factor(s) in categories 1 and 2 not present | | |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Culpability</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| A | Significant degree of planning  
Offender acts together with others to commit the offence  
Use of alcohol/drugs on victim to facilitate the offence  
Grooming behaviour used against victim  
Use of threats (including blackmail)  
Commercial exploitation and/or motivation  
Offence racially or religiously aggravated  
Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)  
Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability) | | |
| B | Factor(s) in category A not present | | |

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category of harm and culpability, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
## CARE WORKERS: SEXUAL ACTIVITY IN THE PRESENCE OF OR CAUSING TO WATCH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>Starting point</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18 months’ custody</td>
<td>1 – 2 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>Starting point</td>
<td>Category range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 year’s custody</td>
<td>26 weeks’ – 18 months’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>Starting point</td>
<td>Category range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26 weeks’ custody</td>
<td>High level community order – 1 year’s custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table below contains a **non-exhaustive** list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. **In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment.** In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing appropriate **category 2 or 3 offences**, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

### Aggravating factors

#### Statutory aggravating factors
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

#### Other aggravating factors
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- Failure of offender to respond to previous warnings
- Commission of offence whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs

### Mitigating factors
- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Exposure
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 66)

Triable either way
Maximum: 2 years’ custody

Offence range: Fine – 1 year’s custody

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
EXPOSURE

STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine the offence category using the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>Raised harm and raised culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>Raised harm or raised culpability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>Exposure without raised harm or culpability factors present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The court should determine culpability and harm caused or intended, by reference only to the factors below, which comprise the principal factual elements of the offence. Where an offence does not fall squarely into a category, individual factors may require a degree of weighting before making an overall assessment and determining the appropriate offence category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors indicating raised harm</th>
<th>Factors indicating raised culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victim followed/pursued</td>
<td>Specific or previous targeting of a particularly vulnerable victim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offender masturbated</td>
<td>Abuse of trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use of threats (including blackmail)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence racially or religiously aggravated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>his or her disability (or presumed disability)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing category 2 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
• has the custody threshold been passed?
• if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
• if so, can that sentence be suspended?

When sentencing category 3 offences, the court should also consider the community order threshold as follows:
• has the community order threshold been passed?

### Aggravating factors

**Statutory aggravating factors**
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Any steps taken to prevent the victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Commission of offence whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Presence of others, especially children

### Mitigating factors

- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Voyeurism
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 67)

Triable either way
Maximum: 2 years’ custody

Offence range: Fine – 18 months’ custody

For convictions on or after such date (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine the offence category using the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Harm/Culpability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td>Raised harm and raised culpability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>Raised harm or raised culpability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>Voyeurism without raised harm or culpability factors present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The court should determine culpability and harm caused or intended, by reference only to the factors below, which comprise the principal factual elements of the offence. Where an offence does not fall squarely into a category, individual factors may require a degree of weighting before making an overall assessment and determining the appropriate offence category.

Factors indicating raised harm
- Image(s) available to be viewed by others
- Victim observed or recorded in their own home or residence

Factors indicating raised culpability
- Significant degree of planning
- Image(s) recorded
- Abuse of trust
- Specific or previous targeting of a particularly vulnerable victim
- Commercial exploitation and/or motivation
- Offence racially or religiously aggravated
- Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)
- Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
### Tabular Representation of Sexual Offences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Starting Point</th>
<th>Category Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td>26 weeks' custody</td>
<td>12 weeks' – 18 months' custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td>High level community order</td>
<td>Medium level community order – 26 weeks' custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td>Medium level community order</td>
<td>Band A fine – High level community order</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table below contains a **non-exhaustive** list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, **relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment**. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing **category 2 offences**, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- Has the custody threshold been passed?
- If so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- If so, can that sentence be suspended?

When sentencing **category 3 offences**, the court should also consider the community order threshold as follows:
- Has the community order threshold been passed?

### Aggravating factors

#### Statutory aggravating factors
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

#### Other aggravating factors
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Distribution of images, whether or not for gain
- Placing images where there is the potential for a high volume of viewers
- Period over which victim observed
- Period over which images were made or distributed

### Mitigating factors
- Any steps taken to prevent victim reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.
### STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

### STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the *Guilty Plea* guideline.

### STEP FIVE
**Dangerousness**
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

### STEP SIX
**Totality principle**
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

### STEP SEVEN
**Ancillary orders**
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may *automatically* apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

### STEP EIGHT
**Reasons**
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

### STEP NINE
**Consideration for time spent on bail**
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Sex with an adult relative: penetration
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 64)

Sex with an adult relative: consenting to penetration
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 65)

Triable either way
Maximum: 2 years’ custody

Offence range: Fine – 2 years’ custody

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine the offence category using the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td>Raised harm and raised culpability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>Raised harm or raised culpability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>Sex with an adult relative without raised harm or culpability factors present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The court should determine culpability and harm caused or intended, by reference only to the factors below, which comprise the principal factual elements of the offence. Where an offence does not fall squarely into a category, individual factors may require a degree of weighting before making an overall assessment and determining the appropriate offence category.

Factors indicating raised harm

- Victim is particularly vulnerable due to personal circumstances
- Child conceived

Factors indicating raised culpability

- Grooming behaviour used against victim
- Use of threats (including blackmail)

STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range on the next page. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out on the next page.

Where there is a sufficient prospect of rehabilitation, a community order with a sex offender treatment programme requirement under section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 can be a proper alternative to a short or moderate length custodial sentence.
The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

When sentencing category 2 offences, the court should also consider the custody threshold as follows:
- has the custody threshold been passed?
- if so, is it unavoidable that a custodial sentence be imposed?
- if so, can that sentence be suspended?

When sentencing category 3 offences, the court should also consider the community order threshold as follows:
- has the community order threshold been passed?

**Aggravating factors**

**Statutory aggravating factors**
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence
- Failure of offender to respond to previous warnings
- Any steps taken to prevent reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence

**Mitigating factors**
- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.
**STEP THREE**
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

**STEP FOUR**
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the *Guilty Plea* guideline.

**STEP FIVE**
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

**STEP SIX**
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

**STEP SEVEN**
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may *automatically* apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

**STEP EIGHT**
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

**STEP NINE**
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Administering a substance with intent
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 61)

Triable either way
Maximum: 10 years’ custody

Offence range: 1 – 9 years’ custody

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine the offence category using the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td>Raised harm and raised culpability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>Raised harm or raised culpability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>Administering a substance with intent without raised harm or culpability factors present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The court should determine culpability and harm caused or intended, by reference only to the factors below, which comprise the principal factual elements of the offence. Where an offence does not fall squarely into a category, individual factors may require a degree of weighting before making an overall assessment and determining the appropriate offence category. Where no substantive sexual offence has been committed the main consideration for the court will be the offender’s conduct as a whole including, but not exclusively, the offender’s intention.

**Factors indicating raised harm**
- Severe psychological or physical harm
- Prolonged detention /sustained incident
- Additional degradation/humiliation

**Factors indicating raised culpability**
- Significant degree of planning
- Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable victim
- Intended sexual offence carries a statutory maximum of life
- Abuse of trust
- Recording of offence
- Offender acts together with others to commit the offence
- Commercial exploitation and/or motivation
- Offence racially or religiously aggravated
- Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)
- Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)
STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range below. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out below.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1</th>
<th>Starting point</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 years’ custody</td>
<td>4 – 9 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 2</th>
<th>Starting point</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 years’ custody</td>
<td>3 – 7 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 3</th>
<th>Starting point</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 years’ custody</td>
<td>1 – 5 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

### Aggravating factors

**Statutory aggravating factors**

- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**

- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Any steps taken to prevent reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence

### Mitigating factors

- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.
STEP THREE
Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.
The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.

STEP FOUR
Reduction for guilty pleas
The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the Guilty Plea guideline.

STEP FIVE
Dangerousness
The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).

STEP SIX
Totality principle
If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.

STEP SEVEN
Ancillary orders
The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may automatically apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.

STEP EIGHT
Reasons
Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.

STEP NINE
Consideration for time spent on bail
The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
Committing an offence with intent to commit a sexual offence
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 62)

Triable only on indictment (if kidnapping or false imprisonment committed)
– otherwise, triable either way
Maximum: Life imprisonment (if kidnapping or false imprisonment committed)
– otherwise, 10 years

This is a serious specified offence for the purposes of section 224 and, where kidnapping or false imprisonment was committed, section 225(2) (life sentence for serious offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For offences committed by kidnapping or false imprisonment, on or after 3 December 2012, this is an offence listed in Part 1 of Schedule 15B for the purposes of sections 224A (life sentence for second listed offence) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

The starting point and range should be commensurate with that for the preliminary offence actually committed, but with an enhancement to reflect the intention to commit a sexual offence.

The enhancement will vary depending on the nature and seriousness of the intended sexual offence, but 2 years is suggested as a suitable enhancement where the intent was to commit rape or assault by penetration.
Trespass with intent to commit a sexual offence
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 63)

Triable either way
Maximum: 10 years’ custody

Offence range: 1 – 9 years’ custody

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), this is a specified offence for the purposes of section 226A (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
### STEP ONE
Determining the offence category

The court should determine the offence category using the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td>Raised harm and raised culpability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>Raised harm or raised culpability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>Trespass with intent to commit a sexual offence without raised harm or culpability factors present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The court should determine culpability and harm caused or intended, by reference only to the factors below, which comprise the principal factual elements of the offence. Where an offence does not fall squarely into a category, individual factors may require a degree of weighting before making an overall assessment and determining the appropriate offence category. Where no substantive sexual offence has been committed the main consideration for the court will be the offender’s conduct as a whole including, but not exclusively, the offender’s intention.

#### Factors indicating raised harm

- Prolonged detention/sustained incident
- Additional degradation/humiliation
- Offence committed in victim’s home

#### Factors indicating raised culpability

- Significant degree of planning
- Specific targeting of a particularly vulnerable victim
- Intended sexual offence attracts a statutory maximum of life imprisonment
- Possession of weapon or other item to frighten or injure
- Abuse of trust
- Offender acts together with others to commit the offence
- Commercial exploitation and/or motivation
- Offence racially or religiously aggravated
- Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) or transgender identity (or presumed transgender identity)
- Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility to the victim based on his or her disability (or presumed disability)
STEP TWO
Starting point and category range

Having determined the category, the court should use the corresponding starting points to reach a sentence within the category range below. The starting point applies to all offenders irrespective of plea or previous convictions. Having determined the starting point, step two allows further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out below.

A case of particular gravity, reflected by multiple features of culpability or harm in step one, could merit upward adjustment from the starting point before further adjustment for aggravating or mitigating features, set out below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Starting point</th>
<th>Category range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6 years’ custody</td>
<td>4 – 9 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4 years’ custody</td>
<td>3 – 7 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2 years’ custody</td>
<td>1 – 5 years’ custody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table below contains a non-exhaustive list of additional factual elements providing the context of the offence and factors relating to the offender. Identify whether any combination of these, or other relevant factors, should result in an upward or downward adjustment from the starting point. In particular, relevant recent convictions are likely to result in an upward adjustment. In some cases, having considered these factors, it may be appropriate to move outside the identified category range.

### Aggravating factors

**Statutory aggravating factors**
- Previous convictions, having regard to a) the nature of the offence to which the conviction relates and its relevance to the current offence; and b) the time that has elapsed since the conviction
- Offence committed whilst on bail

**Other aggravating factors**
- Location of offence
- Timing of offence
- Any steps taken to prevent reporting an incident, obtaining assistance and/or from assisting or supporting the prosecution
- Attempts to dispose of or conceal evidence
- Failure to comply with current court orders
- Offence committed whilst on licence

### Mitigating factors
- No previous convictions or no relevant/recent convictions
- Remorse
- Previous good character and/or exemplary conduct*
- Age and/or lack of maturity where it affects the responsibility of the offender
- Mental disorder or learning disability, particularly where linked to the commission of the offence
- Demonstration of steps taken to address offending behaviour

* Previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEP THREE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Consider any factors which indicate a reduction, such as assistance to the prosecution.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The court should take into account sections 73 and 74 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (assistance by defendants: reduction or review of sentence) and any other rule of law by virtue of which an offender may receive a discounted sentence in consequence of assistance given (or offered) to the prosecutor or investigator.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEP FOUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reduction for guilty pleas</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The court should take account of any potential reduction for a guilty plea in accordance with section 144 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and the <em>Guilty Plea</em> guideline.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEP FIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dangerousness</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The court should consider whether having regard to the criteria contained in Chapter 5 of Part 12 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 it would be appropriate to award an extended sentence (section 226A).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEP SIX</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totality principle</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If sentencing an offender for more than one offence, or where the offender is already serving a sentence, consider whether the total sentence is just and proportionate to the offending behaviour.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEP SEVEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ancillary orders</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The court must consider whether to make any ancillary orders. The court must also consider what other requirements or provisions may <em>automatically</em> apply. Further information is included at Annex A on page 153.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEP EIGHT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reasons</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 174 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a duty to give reasons for, and explain the effect of, the sentence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEP NINE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Consideration for time spent on bail</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The court must consider whether to give credit for time spent on bail in accordance with section 240A of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Child sex offences committed by children or young persons (sections 9–12) (offender under 18)
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 13)

Sexual activity with a child family member (offender under 18)
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 25)

Inciting a child family member to engage in sexual activity (offender under 18)
Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 26)

Triable either way
Maximum: 5 years’ custody

These are ‘grave crimes’ for the purposes of section 91 of the Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000.

For convictions on or after 3 December 2012 (irrespective of the date of commission of the offence), these are specified offences for the purposes of section 226B (extended sentence for certain violent or sexual offences: persons under 18) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

Definitive guidelines for the sentencing of offenders under 18 years old are not included.

When sentencing offenders under 18, a court must in particular:
• follow the definitive guideline Overarching Principles – Sentencing Children and Young People;
and have regard to:
• the principal aim of the youth justice system (to prevent offending by children and young people); and
• the welfare of the young offender.
## Annex A

### Ancillary orders

This summary of the key provisions is correct as at the date of publication but will be subject to subsequent changes in law. If necessary, seek legal advice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCILLARY ORDER</th>
<th>STATUTORY REFERENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Compensation</strong></td>
<td>Section 130 of the Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The court must consider making a compensation order in any case in which personal injury, loss or damage has resulted from the offence. The court must give reasons if it decides not to make an order in such cases.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Confiscation</strong></td>
<td>Section 6 and Schedule 2 of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A confiscation order may be made by the Crown Court in circumstances in which the offender has obtained a financial benefit as a result of, or in connection with, his criminal conduct.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deprivation of property</strong></td>
<td>Section 143 of the Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The court may order the offender is deprived of property used for the purpose of committing, or facilitating the commission of, any offence, or intended for that purpose.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Disqualification from working with children</strong></td>
<td>Schedule 10 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 17 June 2013 courts no longer have the power to disqualify offenders from working with children pursuant to the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restraining order</strong></td>
<td>Sections 5 and 5A of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Following a conviction or an acquittal, a court may make a restraining order for the purpose of protecting the victim or another person from harassment or a fear of violence.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Serious crime prevention order (SCPO)</strong></td>
<td>Section 19 and Schedule 1 of the Serious Crime Act 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An SCPO may be made by the Crown Court in respect of qualifying offenders, if the court is satisfied such an order would protect the public by preventing, restricting or disrupting the involvement of the offender in serious crime.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sexual offences prevention order (SOPO)</strong></td>
<td>Section 104 and Schedules 3 and 5 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A SOPO may be made against qualifying offenders if the court is satisfied such an order is necessary to protect the public or any particular member of the public from serious sexual harm from the offender. The terms of the SOPO must be proportionate to the objective of protecting the public and consistent with the sentence and other ancillary orders, conditions and requirements to which the offender is subject.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Correct as at 12 December 2013

For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
### AUTOMATIC ORDERS ON CONVICTION

The following requirements or provisions are not part of the sentence imposed by the court but apply automatically by operation of law. The role of the court is to inform the offender of the applicable requirements and/or prohibition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUIREMENT OR PROVISION</th>
<th>STATUTORY REFERENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Notification requirements</strong></td>
<td>A relevant offender automatically becomes subject to notification requirements, obliging him to notify the police of specified information for a specified period. The court should inform the offender accordingly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>The operation of the notification requirement is not a relevant consideration in determining the sentence for the offence.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Protection for children and vulnerable adults</strong></td>
<td>A statutory scheme pursuant to which offenders <em>will or may</em> be barred from regulated activity relating to children or vulnerable adults, with or without the right to make representations, depending on the offence. The court should inform the offender accordingly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Section 2 and Schedule 3 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annex B

Approach to sentencing historic sexual offences

Details of the principal offences are set out in the table at Annex C on page 157.

When sentencing sexual offences under the Sexual Offences Act 1956, or other legislation pre-dating the 2003 Act, the court should apply the following principles:1

1. The offender must be sentenced in accordance with the sentencing regime applicable at the date of sentence. Under the Criminal Justice Act 20032 the court must have regard to the statutory purposes of sentencing and must base the sentencing exercise on its assessment of the seriousness of the offence.

2. The sentence is limited to the maximum sentence available at the date of the commission of the offence. If the maximum sentence has been reduced, the lower maximum will be applicable.

3. The court should have regard to any applicable sentencing guidelines for equivalent offences under the Sexual Offences Act 2003.

4. The seriousness of the offence, assessed by the culpability of the offender and the harm caused or intended, is the main consideration for the court. The court should not seek to establish the likely sentence had the offender been convicted shortly after the date of the offence.

5. When assessing the culpability of the offender, the court should have regard to relevant culpability factors set out in any applicable guideline.

6. The court must assess carefully the harm done to the victim based on the facts available to it, having regard to relevant harm factors set out in any applicable guideline. Consideration of the circumstances which brought the offence to light will be of importance.

7. The court must consider the relevance of the passage of time carefully as it has the potential to aggravate or mitigate the seriousness of the offence. It will be an aggravating factor where the offender has continued to commit sexual offences against the victim or others or has continued to prevent the victim reporting the offence.

8. Where there is an absence of further offending over a long period of time, especially combined with evidence of good character, this may be treated by the court as a mitigating factor. However, as with offences dealt with under the Sexual Offences Act 2003, previous good character/exemplary conduct is different from having no previous convictions. The more serious the offence, the less the weight which should normally be attributed to this factor. Where previous good character/exemplary conduct has been used to facilitate the offence, this mitigation should not normally be allowed and such conduct may constitute an aggravating factor.

9. If the offender was very young and immature at the time of the offence, depending on the circumstances of the offence, this may be regarded as personal mitigation.

10. If the offender made admissions at the time of the offence that were not investigated this is likely to be regarded as personal mitigation. Even greater mitigation is available to the offender who reported himself to the police and/or made early admissions.

11. A reduction for an early guilty plea should be made in the usual manner.

---

1 R v H and others [2011] EWCA Crim 2753
2 Section 143
For reference only. Please refer to the guideline(s) on the Sentencing Council website: www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk
## Annex C

### Historic offences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFENCE (Sexual Offences Act 1956 unless stated otherwise)</th>
<th>EFFECTIVE DATES</th>
<th>MAXIMUM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rape and assault offences</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape (section 1)</td>
<td>1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004</td>
<td>Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buggery with a person or animal (section 12)</td>
<td>1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004 (from 3 November 1994 non-consensual acts of buggery were defined as rape)</td>
<td>Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indecent assault on a woman (section 14)</strong></td>
<td>1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indecent assault upon a man (section 15)</strong></td>
<td>1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004</td>
<td>10 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Offences against children</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual intercourse with a girl under 13 (section 5)</td>
<td>1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004</td>
<td>Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incest by a male person (section 10)</td>
<td>1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004</td>
<td>Life if victim under 13; otherwise 7 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incest by a female person (section 11)</td>
<td>1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004</td>
<td>7 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 October 1997 onwards: 10 years</td>
<td>Note: on 11 January 2001 the age definition of a child increased from 14 to 16.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incitement of a girl under 16 to commit incest (section 54 of the Criminal Law Act 1977)</td>
<td>8 September 1977 – 30 April 2004</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abuse of position of trust (section 3 of the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 2000)</td>
<td>8 January 2001 – 30 April 2004</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### OFFENCE
(Sexual Offences Act 1956 unless stated otherwise)

#### Indecent images
- **Taking indecent photographs of a child** (section 1 of the Protection of Children Act 1978)
  - Effective Dates: 20 August 1978 – present
  - Maximum: 20 August 1978 – 10 January 2001: 3 years
  - 11 January 2001 onwards: 10 years
- **Possession of indecent photographs of a child** (section 160 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988)
  - Effective Dates: 29 September 1988 – present
  - 11 January 2001 onwards: 5 years

#### Exploitation offences
- **Procurement of woman by threats** (section 2)
  - Effective Dates: 1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004
  - Maximum: 2 years
- **Procurement by false pretences** (section 3)
  - Effective Dates: 1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004
  - Maximum: 2 years
- **Causing prostitution of women** (section 22)
  - Effective Dates: 1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004
  - Maximum: 2 years
- **Procuration of girl under 21 for unlawful sexual intercourse in any part of the world** (section 23)
  - Effective Dates: 1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004
  - Maximum: 2 years
- **Detention in a brothel** (section 24)
  - Effective Dates: 1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004
  - Maximum: 2 years
- **Permitting a defective to use premises for intercourse** (section 27)
  - Effective Dates: 1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004
  - Maximum: 2 years
- **Causing or encouraging prostitution (etc) of a girl under 16** (section 28)
  - Effective Dates: 1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004
  - Maximum: 2 years
- **Causing or encouraging prostitution of a defective** (section 29)
  - Effective Dates: 1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004
  - Maximum: 2 years
- **Living on earnings of prostitution** (section 30)
  - Effective Dates: 1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004
  - Maximum: 1 January 1957 – 15 August 1959: 2 years
  - 16 August 1959 onwards: 7 years
- **Controlling a prostitute** (section 31)
  - Effective Dates: 1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004
  - Maximum: 1 January 1957 – 15 August 1959: 2 years
  - 16 August 1959 onwards: 7 years
- **Trafficking into/within/out of the UK for sexual exploitation** (sections 57 – 59 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003)
  - Effective Dates: 1 May 2005 – 5 April 2013
  - Maximum: 14 years
### Sexual Offences

**OFFENCE (Sexual Offences Act 1956 unless stated otherwise)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offences against those with a mental disorder</th>
<th>EFFECTIVE DATES</th>
<th>MAXIMUM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intercourse with a defective</td>
<td>1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(section 7)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procurement of a defective</td>
<td>1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(section 9)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual intercourse with patients</td>
<td>1 November 1960 – 30 April 2004</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(section 128 of the Mental Health Act 1959)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other offences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offence</th>
<th>EFFECTIVE DATES</th>
<th>MAXIMUM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administering drugs to obtain or facilitate</td>
<td>1 January 1957 – 30 April 2004</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intercourse (section 4)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary with intent to commit rape</td>
<td>1 January 1969 – 30 April 2004</td>
<td>14 years if dwelling; otherwise 10 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(section 9 of the Theft Act 1968)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With thanks to Sweet & Maxwell, HHJ Rook QC and Robert Ward CBE for their kind permission to reproduce parts of *Sexual Offences Law & Practice*. 
Annex D

Fine bands and community orders

FINE BANDS
In this guideline, fines are expressed as one of three fine bands (A, B or C).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fine Band</th>
<th>Starting Point (Applicable to all offenders)</th>
<th>Category Range (Applicable to all offenders)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Band A</td>
<td>50% of relevant weekly income</td>
<td>25–75% of relevant weekly income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band B</td>
<td>100% of relevant weekly income</td>
<td>75–125% of relevant weekly income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band C</td>
<td>150% of relevant weekly income</td>
<td>125–175% of relevant weekly income</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMMUNITY ORDERS
In this guideline, community orders are expressed as one of three levels (low, medium and high).

An illustrative description of examples of requirements that might be appropriate for each level is provided below. Where two or more requirements are ordered, they must be compatible with each other.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOW</th>
<th>MEDIUM</th>
<th>HIGH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| In general, only one requirement will be appropriate and the length may be curtailed if additional requirements are necessary | Suitable requirements might include: • appropriate treatment programme; • greater number of hours of unpaid work (for example, 80–150 hours); • an activity requirement in the middle range (20–30 days); • curfew requirement within the middle range (for example, up to 12 hours for 2–3 months); • exclusion requirement, lasting in the region of 6 months; • prohibited activity requirement. | More intensive sentences which combine two or more requirements may be appropriate

| Suitable requirements might include: • 40–80 hours unpaid work; • curfew requirement within the lowest range (for example, up to 12 hours per day for a few weeks); • exclusion requirement, without electronic monitoring, for a few months; • prohibited activity requirement; • attendance centre requirement (where available). | Suitable requirements might include: • appropriate treatment programme; • 150–300 hours unpaid work; • activity requirement up to the maximum of 60 days; • curfew requirement up to 12 hours per day for 4–6 months; • exclusion order lasting in the region of 12 months. |

The Magistrates’ Court Sentencing Guidelines includes further guidance on fines and community orders.