***Signs of Safety Harm Analysis Matrix***

*When assessing child abuse and neglect it is crucial to gather specific, detailed information about the harm. This involves clearly identifying the harmful behaviour, its severity and frequency and impact on the child. The matrix below is designed to assist professionals to develop questions to gather detailed information from referrers.*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Chronicity  Action/Impact | **Duration** | **First incident** | **Worst Incident** | **Last Incident** |
| **Behaviour**  The behaviour that is dangerous or causing harm.  This is usually adult behaviour  but can be a young person’s behaviour. Avoid generalised  statements, focus instead on  detailed, observable behaviour. |  |  |  |  |
| **Severity**  Explores how bad the harmful behaviour is. |  |  |  |  |
| **Impact**  The most crucial information  regarding any referral of  harmful or dangerous  behaviour toward children is to  ascertain the impact of these  behaviours on the child  including both physical and  emotional impact |  |  |  |  |

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