

**Circles of Support and Accountability
information for young people (under 18)**

Three stylized human figures in shades of blue and green are arranged in a circle, holding hands. The figures are simple, rounded shapes. The background is a dark blue gradient. A white circular line is drawn around the bottom of the figures.

**“Circles help me keep
myself and others safe”**

Core Member

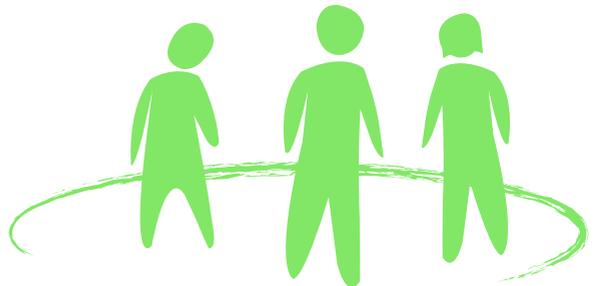
circles-southwest.org.uk



delivering circles of support
and accountability

Circles of Support and Accountability
information for young people (under 18)

Youth Circles are for young people aged 10-17 years who have engaged in harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) and want to stop. You may be working with a HSB service, Social Care or the Youth Justice Team or have just finished working with them. Youth Circles are organised by Circles South West, an independent charity established in 2010. We work with Social Care, Health, Police, Probation and Youth Justice Services to provide specialist support and accountability in the community.



Circles of Support and Accountability information for young people (under 18)

How it works

A Circle consists of a Core Member (you) and up to four friendly, trained community volunteers. They will have been told about your harmful sexual behaviour and will help you avoid behaving in harmful ways in the future. Your Circle is there to support you with practical things like exams, college applications, social skills and public transport. Your Circle will help you take responsibility for your behaviour and you will be encouraged to talk about your thoughts and feelings.

The meetings

A Circle meets for around an hour once a week for up to 12 months. The first meeting will take place in a confidential venue and after that you will usually meet at a cafe or do activities such as bowling, playing pool and trampolining.

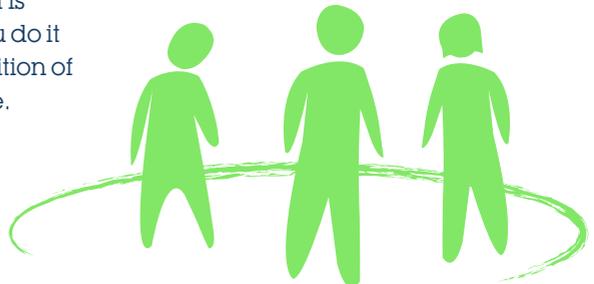
Your commitment

You don't have to join a Circle – it is voluntary, no one can make you do it and it isn't allowed to be a condition of a Community Order or Licence.

However, if you do decide to join a Circle, we hope you will get a lot out of it – it's a place to talk about things that are worrying you, your hopes for the future and to get help with things you find difficult. Our volunteers have chosen to give up their time to help young people build confidence and have fun.

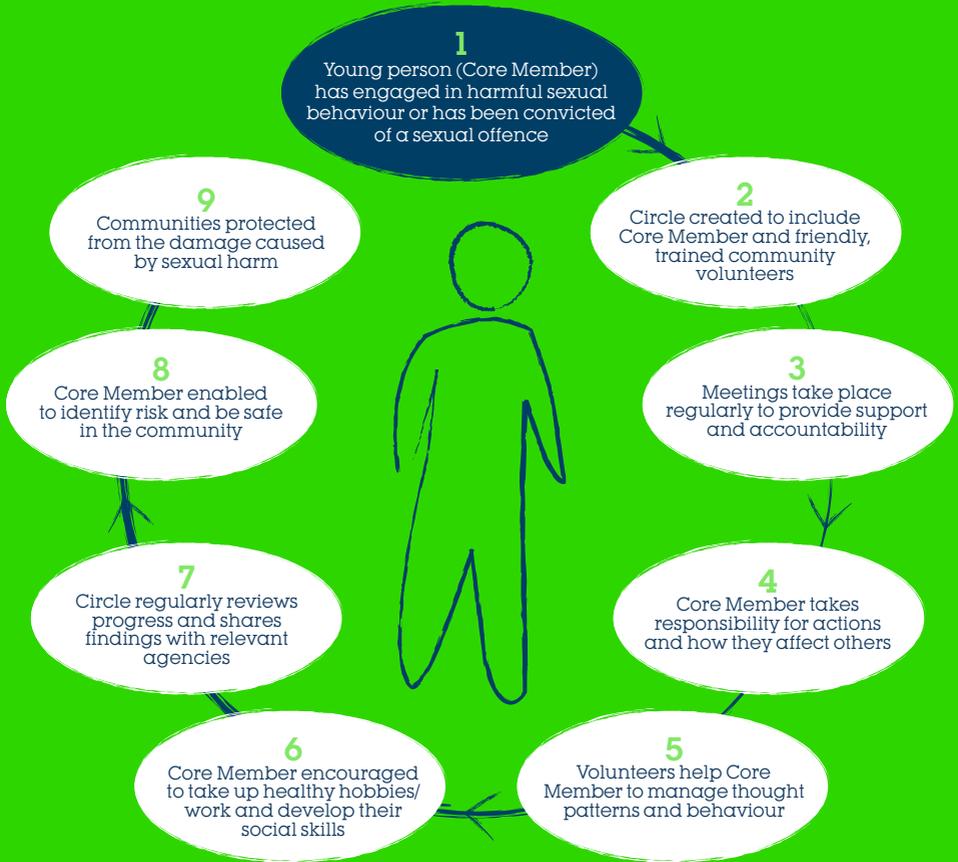
Next steps

If you are interested in joining a Circle, speak to your parent / carer and then to a professional e.g. your Social Worker. They will complete a referral and send it to us, then someone from Circles South West will come and meet you and your parent/ carer for a chat. If it's suitable, we will try to set up your Circle as soon as possible.



Circles of Support and Accountability information for young people (under 18)

How Circles work



Email: info@circlessw.org.uk

Tel: 07717 442413

Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset,
Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire

circles-southwest.org.uk

Registered charity no: 1138726. Company no: 07369778

**NO
MORE
VICTIMS**