



## Safeguarding Children Bulletin August 2019

**Suffolk County Council's WFD Suffolk Learning online pages offer training, resources, local guidance and information:** <http://www.suffolklearning.co.uk/workforce-development>

### Local News

To sign up for the local NSPCC e-Bulletin, email: [ipadminbox@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:ipadminbox@nspcc.org.uk)

#### **Level 3 Safeguarding Children Training for GPs and primary care staff only**

Please find below details of training dates and venues:

Tuesday October 15, 2019, 2pm to 5pm, Landmark House LH-VMC Conference Room, 4 Egerton Road, Ipswich IP1 5PF – 80 places available.

Thursday November 28, 2019, 2pm to 5pm, West Suffolk House F1R10 First Floor Conference Room (East), Western Way, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3YU – places available.

Wednesday January 15, 2020, 2pm to 5pm, Landmark House LH-VMC Conference Room, 4 Egerton Road, Ipswich IP1 5PF – 80 places available.

Monday February 3, 2020, 9.30am to 12.30pm, West Suffolk House GFR13 Ground Floor Meeting Room, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3YU – 18 places available.

Monday March 9, 2020, 2pm to 5pm, Landmark House LH-VMC Conference Room, 4 Egerton Road, Ipswich IP1 5PF – 80 places available.

Thursday April 23, 2020, 2pm to 5pm, West Suffolk House GFR13 Ground Floor Meeting Room, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3YU – 18 places available.

Friday May 15, 2020, 9.30am to 12.30pm, Landmark House LH-VMC Conference Room, 4 Egerton Road, Ipswich IP1 5PF – 80 places available.

In order to book a place please email [caroline.pyrozuk@nhs.net](mailto:caroline.pyrozuk@nhs.net)

#### **Stay Alive suicide prevention app**

Working in partnership with NHS Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group and the Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation NHS Trust, the Suffolk User Forum (SUF) which is the user-led mental health charity for east and west Suffolk, has launched the Stay Alive suicide prevention app.

The downloadable tool has many helpful features including areas that can be adapted by the users to suit their personal needs including access to local and national helplines and crisis services, a safety plan and other general resources. For more information, visit [www.suffolkuserforum.co.uk](http://www.suffolkuserforum.co.uk)

#### **Turning Point Bury St Edmunds September Professionals Open Day**

Please find attached below details of an open afternoon at the Bury St. Edmunds Hub on Wednesday 25 September, 2019. There is no need to book, just turn up if you would like to attend.



Bury St Edmunds  
Professionals Day se

#### **Op Explorer event in Norfolk**

An Op Explorer event is being held on Thursday 7 November, 2019 from 9am to 4pm at The NEST, Holt Road, Horsford, Norwich, Norfolk NR10 3AQ.

The event is aimed at practitioners and spaces are limited, if you would like to attend please contact Faruk Ullah via email – [prevent@norfolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:prevent@norfolk.pnn.police.uk)

This event is for those who have not attended a previous Op Explorer event.

An agenda will be sent out closer to the time. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

## What is Op Explorer

Operation explorer is a tabletop counter-terrorism (CT) training exercise written for partner agencies with the aim of making them aware of what their responsibilities are in relation to Prevent and other safeguarding duties that may arise as a result of a CT investigation.

Previously events such as this have been very police-focused. We felt it important to highlight how vital the involvement of other agencies is by having a scenario-based training event where we have a representative from each agency sitting within a 'strategy meeting'.

We use audio, visual, verbal and written methods and it is down to the individual groups to manage the situation that is unfolding and identify risk, missed opportunities and safeguarding concerns and to then set actions and make sure appropriate measures are put in place.

This scenario-based training is quite true to life having mirrored real life cases. We use written, audio, verbal and visual methods to create an interactive training event.

By having the training delivered in this way each agency is aware of what information they hold but also what information other agencies may hold.

The day is facilitated and various discussion points are held to discuss each stage of the scenario.

Multiple agencies have highlighted that as a result of this training they have put appropriate measures in place or as a result of the safeguarding day have made contacts within other agencies who would be able to offer ongoing support.

**Faruk Ullah (Police Constable/Prevent Officer)**

## National News

### **Working Together Safeguarding Children Reforms Newsletter**

Please find attached below the latest safeguarding reforms newsletter for health. Please share with your networks and especially front-line practitioners who work with children and families.



Safeguarding  
Reforms Newsletter

### **Trends in Child Vulnerability Technical Report**

Please find attached below report from the Children's Commissioners Office and reports on the latest scale of rates of childhood vulnerability



cco-vulnerability-20  
19-tech-report-1.pdf

### **Annual safeguarding conference: Mental Health and Wellbeing in Safeguarding**

This conference, organised by Farrer & Co, takes place on 25 September 2019 in London.

Source: [Eventbrite](#)

### **How safe are our children? 2019 podcast**

The NSPCC has published a new episode of its fortnightly child protection podcast. This episode focuses on the 'How Safe are Our Children' report from 2019. The podcast discusses why the NSPCC compiles this report and why the 2019 report is different to previous years. The podcast also discusses why the theme of this year's report - online abuse - was chosen, where the data was sourced and the expert insights used in the report. The report found significant numbers of children had been exposed to inappropriate content online, or online abuse; and an increase in police recorded crime data, particularly in child abuse image offences.

**Source:** [NSPCC Learning: Podcast: how safe are our children?](#) **Date:** 08 July 2019

**Further information:** [NSPCC Learning: How safe are our children? \(PDF\)](#)

### **Online child abuse**

The Home Office has announced that police forces across the UK will have access to new tools, which will speed up investigations of online child abuse and limit the number of indecent images of children that police officers have to view.

**Source:** [Home Office](#) **Date:** 12 July 2019

### **Child sexual abuse**

The Centre of expertise on child sexual abuse (CSA Centre) has published its annual report measuring the scale and changing nature of child sexual abuse (CSA) and exploitation in England and Wales. Analysis of data from local authority children's services and criminal justice agencies for the year 2017/18 showed there is substantial variation in local and regional reporting of child sexual abuse, there have been consistent increases in police recording of CSA offences, with recent jumps in offences related to child sexual exploitation and grooming, and the current statutory data provides little information about the victims, perpetrators and contexts of CSA. The report calls on the Government to commit to commissioning a regular CSA prevalence study.

**Source:** [CSA Centre](#) **Date:** 04 July 2019

**Further information:** [Measuring the scale and changing nature of child sexual abuse: analysis of 2017/18 official and agency data \(PDF\)](#)

**Read more on NSPCC Learning:** [Protecting children from sexual abuse](#)

[NSPCC Learning: The Lighthouse](#)

### **Child sexual abuse**

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) has published findings from an analysis of personal accounts from victims and survivors of child sexual abuse made as part of the Truth Project. Findings from analysis of 2,894 personal accounts made in the period June 2016 to May 2019 included that 53% of victims and survivors reported that they experienced other forms of abuse in addition to sexual abuse, 45% reported that the sexual abuse was carried out by a family member and 85% of survivors told the Truth Project that the abuse had a negative impact on their mental health. IICSA has also published 60 new accounts of child sexual abuse from the Truth Project, as part of an anthology dedicated to survivor experiences in England and Wales.

**Source:** [IICSA](#) **Date:** 17 July 2019

**Further information:** [Truth Project dashboard July 2019](#)

[Experiences shared](#)

**Read more on NSPCC Learning:** [Child abuse and neglect](#)

### **Child sexual abuse**

The Home Office has published a progress update on the government's implementation of recommendations from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA). The government has made progress on ten of the 17 recommendations including: launching a consultation on revising the Victims' Code; abolishing the 'same roof rule' which denied victims compensation if they lived in the same house as their abuser; and delivering a programme of non-legislative changes to ensure a better understanding of safeguarding within the police service.

**Source:** [Home Office](#) **Date:** 22 July 2019

**Further information:** [Government response to the interim report by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse: progress update \(PDF\)](#)

[Interim report of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse \(PDF\)](#)

### **Breast-ironing recognised as child abuse**

The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) has updated the So-Called Honour-Based Abuse and Forced Marriage guidance to recognise breast-ironing, which involves flattening a girl's chest with a hot stone or other objects to delay breast growth, as child abuse. CPS legal guidance makes clear to police and prosecutors that breast-ironing is a crime even if it is said that the victim has consented. The offences to be considered by prosecutors include child cruelty and causing or allowing a child to suffer serious harm. Both crimes are punishable by up to ten years in prison.

**Source:** [CPS](#) **Date:** 19 July 2019

**Further information:** [So-Called Honour-Based Abuse and Forced Marriage: legal guidance Guardian](#)

### **Adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse**

The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse has published a report looking at the experiences of adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse when they report their abuse as a crime. An online survey of 365 adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse found that 54% of respondents had reported childhood sexual abuse to the police, of which 64% did not see a charge brought in their case. Recommendations in the report included bringing forward a victim's law that includes national standards for timelines and updates for survivors and publishing a cross-Government strategy on addressing childhood trauma and adverse experiences.

**Source:** [Sarah Champion MP webpage](#) **Date:** 08 July 2019

**Further information:** [Can adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse access justice and support? \(PDF\)](#)

### **Funding to support victims of sexual abuse**

The Home Office has announced £750,000 in funding to six groups supporting victims and survivors of child sexual abuse in UK-wide projects to set up support lines, counselling services and specialist tailored support. Projects funded include the NSPCC's Letting the Future In programme to support children with learning difficulties who have been sexually abused.

**Source:** [Home Office](#) **Date:** 20 July 2019

**Read more on NSPCC Learning:** [Letting the Future In](#)

### **Female genital mutilation (FGM)**

The NSPCC has released figures that show that contacts to the FGM Helpline rose by 36%, increasing from 476 in 2017/18 to 645 in 2018/19. Since its launch in June 2013 the dedicated FGM helpline has received 2,747 contacts, of which 512 (19%) raised concerns so serious that they were referred to external agencies. If you are worried a child is at risk of or has already had FGM, call the free, anonymous dedicated FGM helpline on 0800 028 3550 or email [fqmhelp@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:fqmhelp@nspcc.org.uk)

**Source:** [NSPCC](#) **Date:** 23 July 2019

**Read more on NSPCC Learning:** [Protecting children from female genital mutilation \(FGM\)](#)

### **Child trafficking**

The Home Office has published its final evaluation report of the Independent Child Trafficking Guardians (ICTGs) service in early adopter sites from February 2017 to January 2019. The early adopter sites were Greater Manchester, Hampshire and Wales. It found caseloads for ICTGs were higher than envisaged, particularly in Wales, 54% of children referred to the service were aged 16 or 17 and criminal exploitation was the most common form of primary exploitation for those referred to the service. The report concludes that the ICTG service has three areas of added value - building trust with children, providing advocacy and providing specialist knowledge to professionals. The Home Office has also published interim guidance for ICTGs in early adopter sites.

**Source:** [Home Office](#) **Date:** 22 July 2019

**Further information:** [An evaluation of Independent Child Trafficking Guardians – early adopter sites: final report \(PDF\)](#) [Interim guidance for Independent Child Trafficking Guardians early adopter sites](#)

### **Independent review of the Modern Slavery Act 2015: Government response**

The Home Office has published a policy paper in response to the recommendations made in the independent review of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 carried out by Frank Field MP, Maria Miller MP and Baroness Butler-Sloss. The independent review included consideration of the role of Independent Child Trafficking Advocates (ICTAs) in England and Wales in ensuring support for child victims of modern slavery. The response includes a change of name of ICTAs to Independent Child Trafficking Guardians and agreement on the national rollout of Independent Child Trafficking Guardians across England and Wales. The Government has also announced the launch of the Policy and Evidence Centre for Modern Slavery and Human Rights.

**Source:** [Home Office](#) **Date:** 09 July 2019

**Further information:** [UK government response to the independent review of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 \(PDF\)](#)  
[Government to launch new modern slavery research centre](#)

**Read more on NSPCC Learning:** [Protecting children from trafficking and modern slavery](#)

### **Child criminal exploitation**

The Children's Society has published a report looking at child criminal exploitation including county lines, whereby drug gangs use children to break into new markets. This report analyses what is meant by child criminal exploitation, current methods of exploitation and how responses across national and local organisations could be made more effective. It recommended that the law should be clarified to ensure that all children who are groomed, coerced and controlled into committing crime are recognised as victims of exploitation, statutory agencies should have access to appropriate resources to identify and support victims of child criminal exploitation and data collection and recording around child criminal exploitation should be improved to ensure more accurate understanding of scale and prevalence and the effectiveness of interventions.

**Source:** [Children's Society](#) **Date:** 05 July 2019

**Further information:** [Counting lives: responding to children who are criminally exploited \(PDF\)](#)  
[Guardian](#)

### **Tackling child exploitation: survey**

Research in Practice is inviting professionals to participate in a survey to inform the development and delivery of the Tackling Child Exploitation (TCE) Support Programme which aims to support local areas to develop an effective strategic response to child exploitation and threats from outside the family home, including child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation. Feedback is being gathered from professionals across children's and adult social care, education, youth offending, health, and law enforcement. The deadline is 19 August 2019.

**Source:** [Research in Practice](#) **Date:** 10 July 2019

**Further information:** [TCE support programme survey](#)

### **National Crime Agency annual report**

The National Crime Agency (NCA) has published its 2018-19 annual report. The report covers the NCA's performance over the last year, including on tackling child sexual abuse and assault, child trafficking and modern slavery and county lines in the UK. It found 587 NCA-Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) ambassadors were trained this year, the total number of minors referred as potential victims of human trafficking increased by 48% compared to 2017 and 226 county lines were disrupted in two periods of intensified action overseen by the newly established National County Lines Coordination Centre (NCLCC) in October 2018 and January 2019.

**Source:** [NCA](#) **Date:** 22 July 2019

**Further information:** [National Crime Agency: annual reports and accounts 2018-19 \(PDF\)](#)

### **Serious and organised crime**

The National Audit Office (NAO) has published a report on tackling serious and organised crime, including child sexual exploitation, modern slavery and human trafficking, in the UK. It found the number of reported sexual crimes against children, not including crimes involving indecent images, increased by 9% from 2017 to 2018.

**Source:** [NAO](#) **Date:** 28 June 2019

**Further information:** [Tackling serious and organised crime \(PDF\)](#)

**Read more on NSPCC Learning:** [Protecting children from online abuse](#)

### **Serious violence**

The Home Office and Welsh Government have published their response following consultation on a new legal duty on public bodies to support a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence including knife crime in England and Wales. The public health duty will cover the police, local councils, local health bodies such as NHS Trusts, education representatives and youth offending services, and aims to ensure that relevant services work together to share data, intelligence and knowledge to understand and address the root causes of serious violence. The new duty will hold organisations to account as opposed to individual teachers, nurses or other frontline professionals.

**Source:** [Home Office](#) **Date:** 15 July 2019

**Further information:** [Consultation on a new legal duty to support a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence: Government response \(PDF\)](#)

### **Youth violence and knife crime**

The Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS) has published a discussion paper on serious youth violence and knife crime which can be associated with gang involvement. The paper discusses current responses to harms and risks, outlines what is missing in these responses and calls on the Government to reaffirm the importance of treating serious youth violence and knife crime as a child protection and safeguarding concern, and provide a clear and coordinated strategy focused on prevention backed by long term sustainable funding.

**Source:** [ADCS](#) **Date:** 04 July 2019

**Further information:** [Serious youth violence and knife crime \(PDF\)](#)  
[Children & Young People Now](#)

### **Youth violence**

The Greater London Authority (GLA) has published an analysis of serious youth violence and related assaults in London using multi-agency data. The analysis describes the nature and scale of violence affecting people under the age of 25 in London and identifies links between violence and public health factors at a borough-level in London. It found a strong positive association between the proportion of the population who were victims of serious youth violence and the prevalence of emotional disorders in children, mental health disorders in children, the rate of children in care, the rate of children in need and the percentage of all dependent children under the age of 20 living in relative poverty.

**Source:** [GLA](#) **Date:** 12 July 2017

### **Domestic abuse in rural communities**

The National Rural Crime Network (NRCN) has published a report looking at domestic abuse in rural areas. Findings from a literature review and a study of seven policing areas across England focusing on in-depth one-to-one interviews with victims of abuse, local support services and commissioning managers found that abuse can last 25% longer in the most rural areas and where children are involved either as the subject of or as witnesses to the abuse it serves as a strong catalyst for action.

**Source:** [NRCN](#) **Date:** 11 July 2019

**Further information:** [Captive and controlled: domestic abuse in rural areas](#)

### **Use of child spies**

The Guardian reports on the High Court ruling on a case brought by the charity Just For Kids Law which argued that regulations governing recruiting and deploying children as covert human intelligence sources (CHIS) or spies do not contain adequate safeguards. In his judgement, Mr Justice Supperstone acknowledged children were more vulnerable than adults but dismissed claims that their human rights were being breached.

**Source:** [Guardian](#) **Date:** 08 July 2019

**Further information:** [Just for Kids Law](#)

[BAIIII](#)

### **Early help: opportunities, evidence and impact**

This conference, organised by Children & Young People Now, takes place on 25 September 2019 in London.

**Source:** [Children & Young People Now](#)

### **Early intervention policies**

The House of Commons Library has published a research briefing looking at early intervention policies aimed at parents and children from conception to age five. The briefing covers UK Government policies, the role of local authorities and an evaluation of the effectiveness of early intervention.

**Source:** [UK Parliament](#) **Date:** 11 July 2019

### **Early intervention and child development**

The Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) has published findings from a feasibility study looking at local priorities and existing services to evaluate the need for a home-visiting programme for disadvantaged young children in England. A five-week pilot programme carried out with 20 families in Peterborough found there is a gap in services that a home-visiting programme targeted at very young children's development might help to fill, parents were strongly motivated to take part in the programme and practitioners felt that the programme would help them to support vulnerable families more effectively.

**Source:** [Nuffield Foundation](#) **Date:** 11 July 2019

**Further information:** [A home-visiting programme for disadvantaged young children: final report for the feasibility study \(PDF\)](#)

For the up-to-date national safeguarding and child protection news and publications, you can sign up to the NSPCC's free CASPAR and 'New in the Library' email listings: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk). Sign up to CareKnowledge for updates on social care information that covers all relevant policy, research and practice materials published in the UK: [info@careknowledge.com](mailto:info@careknowledge.com).

Update from  
the LSCB  
Local Child  
Protection Plan  
Statistics

## Update from Suffolk Local Safeguarding Children Board

### Other Useful LSCB Website Resources

<http://www.suffolkscb.org.uk/about/lscb-leaflets-booklets-and-posters/>

<http://www.suffolkscb.org.uk/working-with-children/policies-guidance-and-protocols/>

<http://www.suffolkscb.org.uk/safeguarding-topics/>



### Local Child Protection Plan Statistics

Please note that we are unable to supply local Child Protection Plan statistical information this month. This is due to the introduction of Suffolk County Council's new recording system Liquidlogic.

If you have feedback or comments on the Safeguarding Children Bulletin, contact the CCG's Designated Health Professionals Team Administrator: [caroline.pyrozukenhs.net](mailto:caroline.pyrozukenhs.net)

