



fresh start  
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THE TREATMENT SERVICE FOR CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

# Becky Orris – Team Manager



## **My role and Experience**

- I began working for the charity in 2012 as a Specialist CSA Worker, delivering a therapeutic service to children.
- In 2016, I started working for Suffolk County Council as a Social Worker. My experience includes working therapeutically with families where the child is 'on the edge of care', 'front line' Social Work (safeguarding) and delivering training.
- I was re-employed by Fresh Start new beginnings in February 2020 as the Team Manager, overseeing the Specialist CSA Worker in their day to day work, managing cases and ensuring good service delivery.

# When a Child Discloses



## How do you respond?

- Believe what the child is telling you
- Provide a safe environment
- Reassure them
- Don't make any assumptions – listening is key
- Explain the bounds of confidentiality – do not promise not to tell any body

# What questions can you ask?



Questions should be kept to a minimum and should not be leading in any way.

- When, where, what happened?
- How do they know the person?
- Who else knows about what happened?
- Who is supporting them?

# Referrals to Fresh Start new beginnings

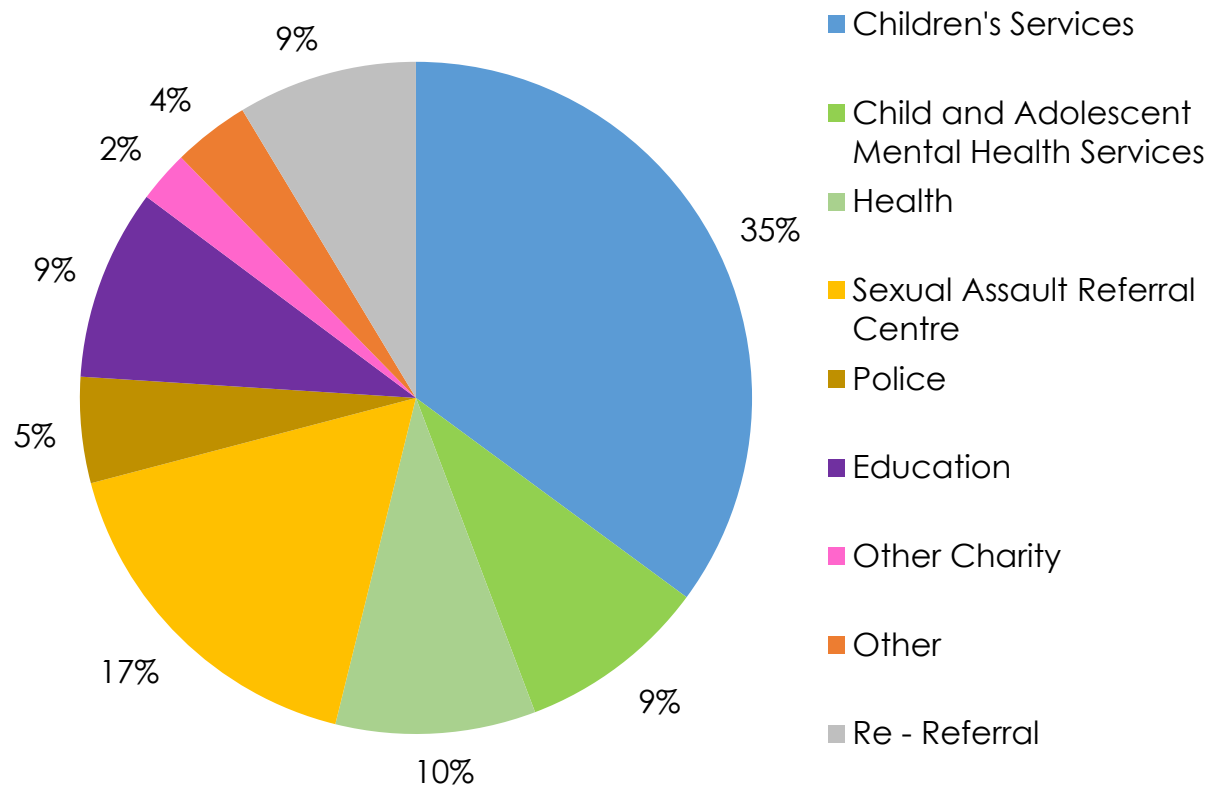


- Referral forms can be found on our website – [www.fsnb.org.uk](http://www.fsnb.org.uk)
- Assessments are usually completed within 8 weeks (currently longer due to backlog during lockdown)
- Currently 15 children on the waiting list for assessment and 40 who are awaiting treatment across Norfolk and Suffolk

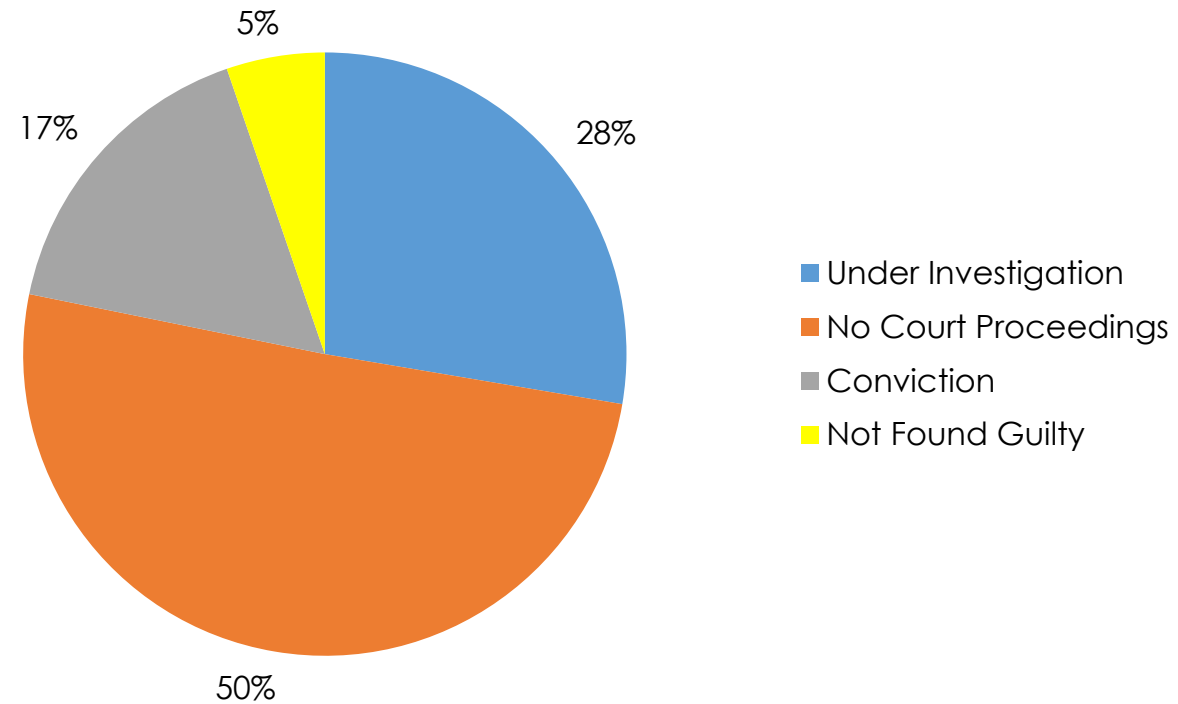
# Statistics



### Who are the referrers?



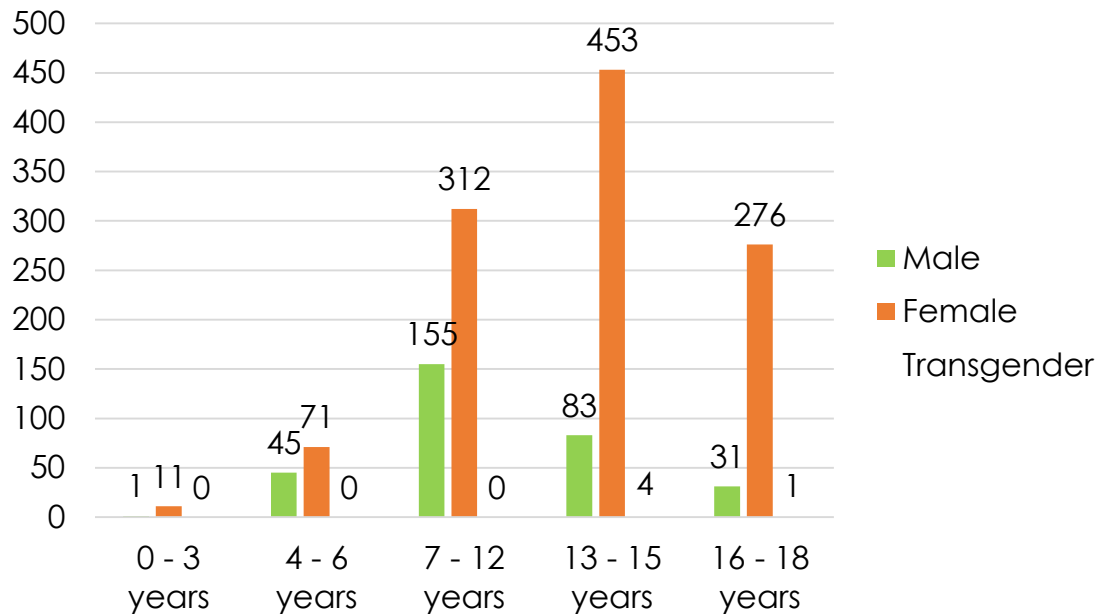
### Court Status



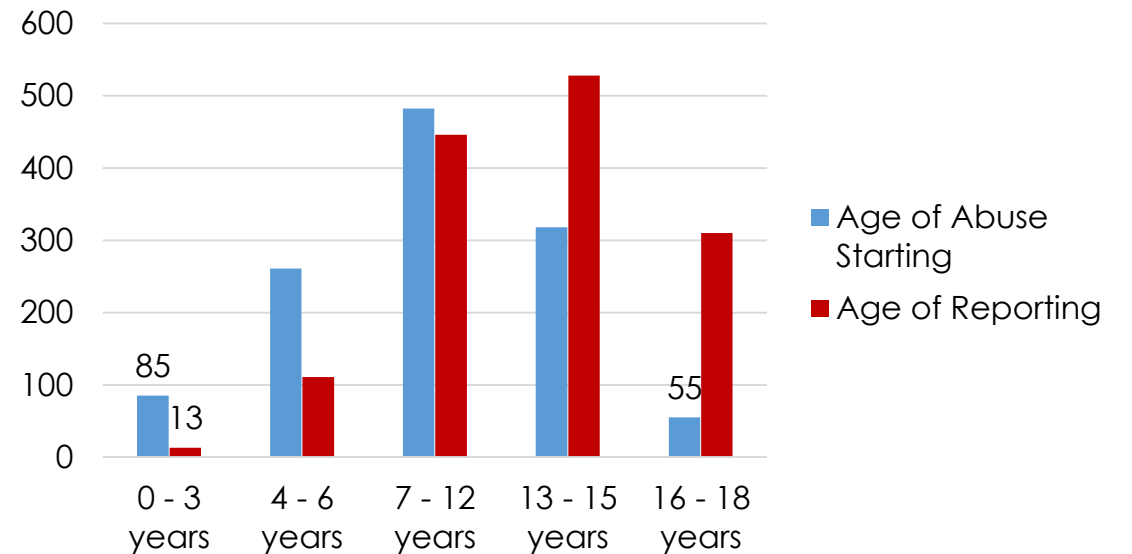
# Statistics



### Age and Gender of the Children



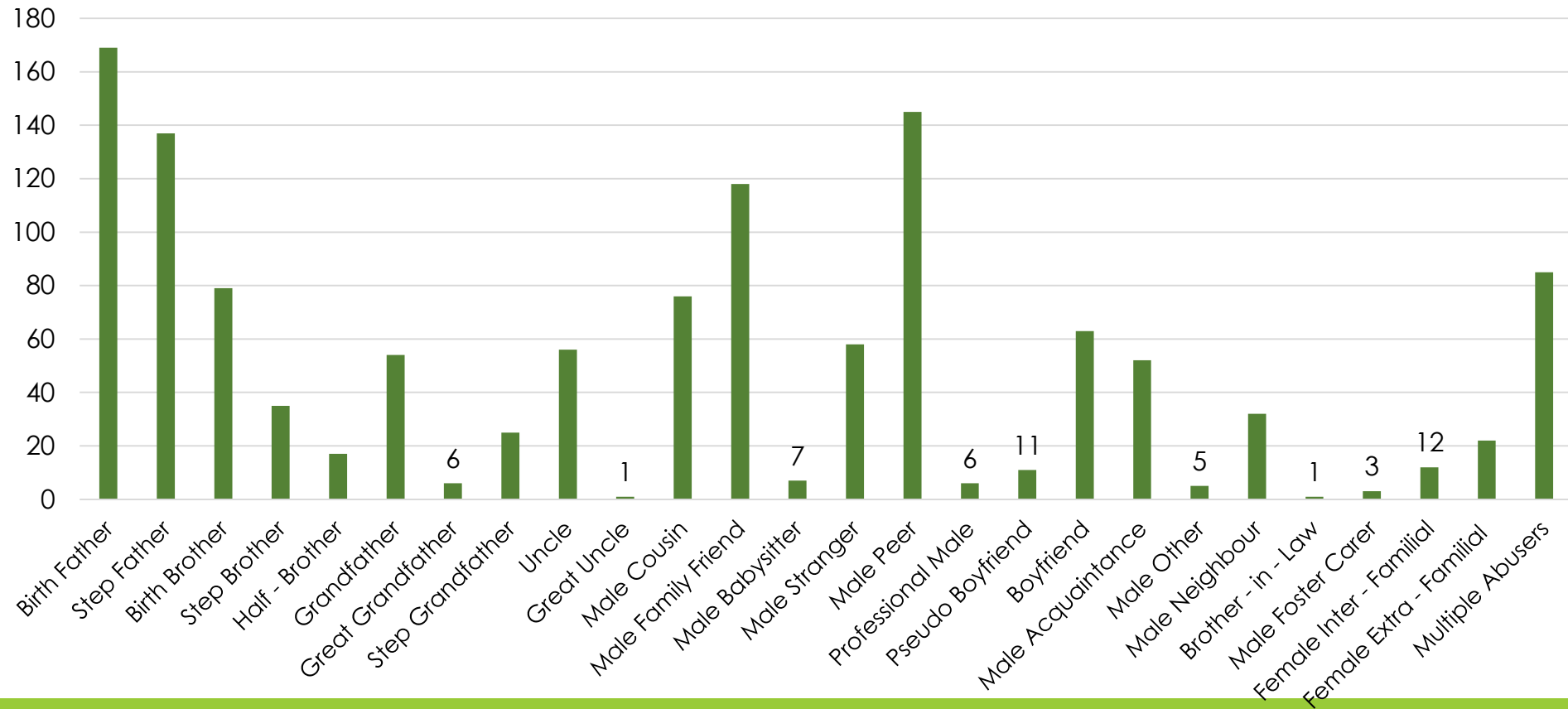
### Age at Onset of Abuse VS Disclosure



# Statistics



## Who has sexually abused them?





## Patterns in Families

- At the end of treatment, all workers complete a demographic form for each child.
- One of the questions we ask during assessment is if there are any other family members who have been sexually abused (mother, father, sibling, extended family).
- Out of the 1500 referrals we have received, 475 have reported other sexual abuse in the family.
- Often parents who have not processed their own sexual abuse may struggle with boundaries with their own children and may be less aware of the dangers, thus their child is potentially more vulnerable.
- Importance of early intervention and providing support as soon as possible.
- Also evidence for increased awareness in society so that more people access help for this.

# How have we helped?

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Taken from a report for one of our funders which looked at the outcomes for 39 children who had received a service within a particular timeframe

- 96% reported lower levels of PTSD symptoms (flashbacks, sleep disturbance, distressing/intrusive thoughts)
- 80% reported lower levels of depression
- 84% reported lower levels of anxiety
- 96% reported higher levels of self-esteem
- 88% reported feeling more positive about their future



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CASE EXAMPLE



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QUESTIONS