

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

along the journey from victims to survivors

Dissemination Conference UCLAN 8th June 2016

Interactive Session 1: Participant Responses

Education and Awareness

<u>One thing we do well</u>	<u>One thing we could do better</u>
Increasing sex education for children	Don't pay enough attention to peer pressure
Increasing awareness	Don't educate or promote
Starting to raise awareness of it (media/schools)	If perpetrators are still there and getting smarter all the time, sex education won't help.
Better recognition	Education
Police attitudes/training	Target school children (Primary and Secondary) to already have it built in within themselves about self-esteem/value/worth
Research gathering	Tends to stay with professionals – Doesn't extend to public or is slanted by the media e.g. Daily Mail etc
Education and awareness support for under 18	Getting enough awareness out there in order to support victims and convict the perpetrators
Training for professionals and professions such as taxi drivers	We do not know the full extent of the problem/profile of the victim
Better knowledge of safeguarding and multi-agency working than in previous years	Thresholds

Researching the topic	Need a menu of options and feasibility of interventions
Making it more aware in the public eye	Lack of understanding on perpetrators
Talking to young people about how to keep safe	Still many young people and children unaware of potential dangers and risks – more education is needed
Awareness, putting as much out there as we can e.g. talks, internet safety, stranger danger, CSE talks	Provide enough information to children to help identify when they are at risk online
Getting around schools making more children aware	Older generations lack of understanding over the online world – dangers
Raising awareness of CSE and CSA	Not listening to children properly
Safeguarding measures	Getting adults to engage in safeguarding their own children
Improving awareness, we are open to recognising CSA more	Early intervention, preventative work
Signs of grooming	Stigma/labelling around victims of CSA
Professionals understand their responsibility	Belief that it can be prevented
Seek to understand scale and context of abuse	Awareness/education of what is a crime
Legislation reviewing	More need to speak to children in research
Responding to technology researching	No consistency of CSA/CSE awareness in education across each county and across the country
A better acknowledgement in the literature that can inform practice	
Collect research showing what adults think is right for children	

Disclosure, Families and Caregivers

<u>One thing we do well</u>	<u>One thing we could do better</u>
Researching ways to make reporting/recognising CSA/CSE easier	Understanding the complexity of disclosing, although it is getting better

for victims and the person who receives the information	
Safeguarding measures	How to make this work in practice – often ‘too difficult’ box – not enough time, fear of risks etc
We have systems in place now which help us listen and act when children want to disclose	We make children wait a very long time from disclosure point to court, which means their lives are on hold for a very long time and they cannot begin to heal
Supporting the family as well as the child	Too much disclosure-centred practice which de-emphasises key indicators
Use ability to report in a safe environment	

Vulnerability

<u>One thing we do well</u>	<u>One thing we could do better</u>
Children from vulnerable backgrounds now beginning to be recognised as victims instead of choosing to be involved	Don't understand enough about vulnerability for CSE – general observation in research
Try to reach the most vulnerable – offer safe places for them etc	
Safeguarding measures	
We are losing over fear of confronting abuse regardless of whom the perpetrator is	
Signs of grooming	

Funding, Resources and Services

<u>One thing we do well</u>	<u>One thing we could do better</u>
Wide range of support services	Have enough resources to reach all people needed
Use ability to report in a safe environment	Unclear referral pathways
Lots of charities	Having the resources to be able to prosecute/convict at a better than we already are (cuts)

	Not enough resources available to deal with all cases – need to put forward a strong case to get more resources
	Services for 18 years +
	Too long of a waiting list for mental health services
	When it actually happens not enough services or resources to help those who are a victim and no help for perpetrators
	No safe environments that can deal with the aftermath further down the line in adulthood
	Family therapies to help the victim (in community) and offenders (in prison)
	Reduction is resources and services
	How to make this work in practice – often ‘too difficult’ box – not enough time, fear of risks etc
	Investment in services and transferring research into practice
	Funding Services
	Providing support after conviction for victims
	Referring onto other agencies at times.
	Funding

Multi-agency approaches

<u>One thing we do well</u>	<u>One thing we could do better</u>
Write policies, procedures and legislation – talk about with agencies involved	No real implementation plan
Lots of charities and agencies now that work with the victims	Don't talk to children
Support and listen	Lack of encouragement to report

Supporting the victims through the process from victim to survivor	Far too long to highlight and intervene
Wide range of support services	Lack of approachability for victims
Partner agencies working together to meet the needs of the victim	Unclear referral pathways
Better knowledge of safeguarding and multi-agency working than in previous years	We do not know the full extent of the problem/profile of the victim
Multi-agency work	Court and Counselling – misunderstanding about having counselling before court proceedings
We have systems in place now which help us listen and act when children want to disclose	Need a menu of options and feasibility of interventions
Legislation reviewing	Services for 18 years +
Record the importance of the child's views in support/intervention following abuse	Mental Health not linking CSA and DH
Lots of charities	We make children wait a very long time from disclosure point to court, which means their lives are on hold for a very long time and they cannot begin to heal
Child centred practice improving across all sectors	Listening
Multi-agency working	Valuing views of all professionals equally in multi-agency arena
Building relationships	Statutory agencies
Information Sharing	Referring onto other agencies at times.

The Criminal Justice System

<u>One thing we do well</u>	<u>One thing we could do better</u>
Hunt down internet paedophiles	Don't talk to children
Supporting the victims through the process from victim to survivor	Not enough work going into the offenders. Before and after they commit the offense. Prison programmes are rubbish!

Arresting those and bringing to justice the perpetrators	Far too long to highlight and intervene
Collect research showing what adults think is right for children	Victims voice on identifying the solution
	We do not know the full extent of the problem/profile of the victim
	Court and Counselling – misunderstanding about having counselling before court proceedings
	Need a menu of options and feasibility of interventions
	When it actually happens not enough services or resources to help those who are a victim and no help for perpetrators
	Not listening to children properly
	Early intervention, preventative work
	The legal process is confusing, complicated and ‘bitty’
	Legal matters
	We make children wait a very long time from disclosure point to court, which means their lives are on hold for a very long time and they cannot begin to heal
	Listening
	Legal system can be better
	Ask/Speak directly to children to know what they need/want