



## TACKLING CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

### **The NWG Network Charity History**

The NWG Network (NWG) is a charitable organisation formed as a UK network of over 13,000 professionals all involved in the tackling of child sexual exploitation (CSE) and Human Trafficking within the United Kingdom.

Our network covers voluntary, statutory and private services and links professionals involved in creating the best response for children and young people and their families who have become subjected to child sexual exploitation.

We not only work to stop child sexual exploitation in the UK but across the world and are the only child sexual exploitation network working across voluntary/statutory agencies tackling child sexual exploitation, with links across Europe, South East Asia, Africa, Canada and the USA.

We offer support and advice, raise the profile of important issues surrounding child sexual exploitation, share national developments across our network, influence the development of national and local policy in relation to tackling child sexual exploitation and continually aim to improve the outcomes for young people and their families.

NWG provides a central resource hub for many aspects of child sexual exploitation which provides members with the confidence that they are being kept up to date and are provided with the best practice examples to ensure they offer the correct response to victims and families.

Since the network was constituted in 2008 NWG has helped to bring coherency to national policy and the messages surrounding child sexual exploitation whilst disseminating best practice and providing practitioner training and public awareness. In one region alone, 17,000 professionals have been trained in the prevention of child sexual exploitation and victim support using the NWG toolkit and resources.

The NWG Network works alongside the police and other authorities to improve practice on the ground and encourage wider use of preventative campaigns such as the Say Something If You See Something Campaign and the Say Something Campaign (developed by and for young people) We have also worked closely to change and continually improve the way victims are treated by the police and statutory bodies.

At NWG we believe that children and young people should be central to everything we do. We aim to create an environment where the voices of sexually exploited young people can be heard. We ensure that these voices have a direct influence on the development and provision of services that support children and young people who are at risk of, or who have been sexually exploited.

Another key aspect of the NWG Network is our reach and ability to raise awareness of child sexual exploitation issues nationally, all the way from central government level to hotel workers; encouraging the public not to turn a blind eye to abuse that can often be too easily ignored.

We recognise the value of including parents and carers in the decisions and actions taken to protect their children and assist them to create a safer environment for them to live in

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