



## Help for professionals and parents from MCF and NWG for when a child has been harmed online

Marie Collins Foundation (MCF) and National Working Group (NWG) have launched two new resources aimed at building skills and confidence among professionals and increasing awareness and knowledge among parents and carers.

The two documents - *The Online Sexual Harm Reduction Guide* (for professionals) and *How Can I Help My Child?* (parents and carers) - fill gaps in offering free, accessible and handy resources that are easy to understand, particularly in this time of increased vulnerability.

The leaflet aimed at parents and carers explains what forms sexual abuse online can take and helps adults to understand why young people may be at greater risk of harm and why they may not tell. Critically, the leaflet helps parents to know what to do if they believe their child has been harmed, some dos and don'ts and where to go for help.

The professionals' leaflet was developed to address the challenges faced in relation to online harm when working with young people. It outlines the specific issues and the ways professionals can engage effectively with young people and their families to aid recovery.

## Register as a Safer Internet Day 2021 Supporters

Schools and organisations are now able to [register as Safer Internet Day Supporters](#) to share what they are doing for the day!

In 2020 [over 1,700 organisations registered their support](#); the day reached 49% of young people in the UK making 2020 the biggest UK Safer Internet Day yet.

You can join organisations from across the UK by signing up to the Safer Internet Day Supporters List and sharing what you are doing for #SaferInternetDay.

Once registered you will receive a certificate to show your support for the day and, following review, your logo, organisation name and supportive statement will appear on the UK Safer Internet Centre Website. To register, click [here](#)

## The Home Office's Response to the Windrush Lessons Learned Review

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September, the Home Office published its formal response to the Windrush Lessons Learned Review (WLLR). A [Written Ministerial Statement](#) has now been laid in Parliament and the Home Office's [Comprehensive Improvement Plan](#) has been published.

The improvement plan provides a [programme of change and improvement](#) within the Home Office and is the Department's formal response to Wendy Williams' Windrush Lessons Learned Review (WLLR).

The improvement plan supports and promotes the Home Secretary's ambition to create a more just and compassionate Home Office, where diversity is prized, and difference understood. It has been developed alongside stakeholders including members of the Windrush Cross-Government Working Group and Wendy Williams.



## **PC ROB COWGILL - Bcs CISMP (West Yorkshire Police, Cybercrime)**

West Yorkshire Police Cybercrime Team have now enrolled a Protect Delivery Officer to safeguard businesses and schools against online crime.

The Protect Delivery Officer is responsible for ensuring businesses and schools are cyber protected. The Protect arm of the team is to reduce vulnerabilities around technology.

The role itself, which has never been done before at a Force level, is part of the “Regionally Managed-Locally Delivered” government strategy, born out of a £1.9 billion investment to help safeguard Britain’s businesses.

PC Rob Cowgill, who is the current Force Protect Delivery for West Yorkshire Police, appeals to businesses to invite him to provide user education and awareness sessions to their staff, which are FREE of charge.

The sessions provide advice around the national messages, which are backed by the National Police Chiefs Council. Some of the messages consist of providing advice around the following: passwords, software and app updates, backing up data, public WIFI, phishing, and reporting to Action Fraud. All the messages and advice given is based on the national guidance from the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC).

However PC Cowgill now invites businesses to attend a 2 hour training session for staff, which will be based on the recently published ‘Cyber Security Training for Staff’ by the NCSC, who are confident that the training can help build Cyber Defenders amongst your staff.

The training session will be a workshop based environment, which will include teams working together to identify why their organisation could be at risk, and who might want to target them, learning how to identify the characteristics of a ‘Phishing email’, with current and real life examples to work from. The session will also look at the importance of ‘securing your device’, with some recent case studies as well as being able to demonstrate what a strong ‘password’ is, all in line with the NCSC national guidance. The session will also help staff identify when and what to report to their IT team or line manager, as well as the pros and cons of current policies in place around Cyber.

Please email Rob Cowgill for more information—[Robert.Cowgill@westyorkshire.police.uk](mailto:Robert.Cowgill@westyorkshire.police.uk)

## **Police and Crime Commissioner — October 2020 Newsletter**

Items included in the latest newsletter include:

- Youth Advisory Group meeting open for any young people to join
- Neighbourhood Watch recognised with funding boost
- Thought provoking piece wins youth writing competition
- West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit 'In Focus'
- Safer Communities Fund open for applications
- Understanding and responding to youth criminality – video toolkit
- NHS and Government Coronavirus Guidance
- Our dedicated coronavirus webpage
- Our latest statements
- Contacting the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner

## **NSPCC Learning**

### **Online safety**

The NSPCC has published a report setting out a series of tests that the upcoming Online Harms Bill must meet to protect children online. The six tests include: creating an expansive, principles-based duty of care with tech firms having a legal responsibility to identify harms caused by their sites and deal with them; tackling online sexual abuse; tackling legal but harmful content; and holding the tech industry to account with criminal and financial sanctions.

**For more information:** [Visit the website](#)

### **Coronavirus: remote education support for schools**

The Department for Education (DfE) has announced remote education support for schools, colleges, and teachers in England to help children learn at home if they have to self-isolate. The Government has also published a Temporary Continuity Direction, regarding the provision of remote education in schools, under the Coronavirus Act 2020. The Direction means schools have a duty to provide education to children at home, as they do when children are in the classroom.

**Read the guidance:** [Remote education good practice](#)

**Read the explanatory note:** [Remote education Temporary Continuity Direction](#)

### **Coronavirus: impact on children and young people**

The Children's Commissioner for England has published a report examining the impact of the coronavirus crisis on children and young people in areas including education, social care, health, youth justice, housing, and family life. The report includes specific recommendations in each area to help children recover from their experiences, and calls for: a comprehensive recovery package for children and young people; children to be put at the heart of planning for further lockdowns; and children's rights and protections to be upheld. Separate blogs highlight the impact of the pandemic on children in care and care leavers who contacted the Children's Commissioner's Help at Hand helpline and how lockdown affected children's stress and anxiety.

**Read the report:** [Childhood in the time of Covid \(PDF\)](#)

### **Suicide prevention**

Public Health England has published guidance for local authorities in England on how to develop a suicide prevention strategy and action plan. The guidance outlines priorities for short-term action which includes the mental health of children and young people.

**Read the guidance:** [Suicide prevention: developing a local action plan](#)

### **County lines**

The Mayor of London has published a review of the second year of the Rescue and Response County Lines Project. Figures show that 553 young people were referred to the project for support. Findings include: young people are being exploited not just by gangs but also by independent groups and dealers, with anecdotal information indicating that more independent lines are being set up; social media continues to be used by exploiters to groom young people onto county lines; and the lack of identification of young women as victims of county lines exploitation means that many young women go unsupported.

**Read the strategic assessment:** [Rescue and response county lines project \(PDF\)](#)

### **Survey: designated safeguarding leads**

The National Safeguarding Youth Forum is conducting a survey of designated safeguarding leads in youth organisations in England. The survey closes on 18 October.

**Take part in the survey:** [Designated safeguarding leads in youth organisations](#)