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SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN:DELIVERING A MORE ROBUST SAFEGUARDING SYSTEM

SAFE AFTER SCHOOL

Cllr Rachel Massey, Portfolio Holder for Children's Services and Education, Rochdale Borough Council

BACKGROUND TO SAFE AFTER SCHOOL

- Back in 2018 the Media coverage of abuse, exploitation and inappropriate behaviour by professionals was becoming increasingly more common.
- Were parents and careers really aware that this could happen in the clubs and groups that their children attend?
- The reality is that abuse can happen anywhere

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Why? – emerging need

Voices › Comment

Over 150 cases of child abuse in the Scouts have now been reported — and it's only likely to get worse

As a lawyer who's been dealing with the victims, I've heard stories that shatter the safe and trustworthy image of the Scouts

Oliver Jeffcott | @theabuselawyer | Sunday 4 January 2015 19:44 GMT

Victims say Catholic church data on child abuse underestimates scale of offending

Broken Rites and Care Leavers Australasia Network say true scale of sexual abuse is likely beyond that in damning statistics

The royal commission into institutional responses to child sexual abuse identified 1,800 alleged abusers but

The sexual abuse scandal gets deeper: 15 sports coaches and players from multiple sports under investigation

- Fifteen sports coaches and players are under investigation
- Police operation has been widened to include multiple sports
- Abuser Barry Bennell was 'cleared' by Manchester City and Crewe

ON SUNDAY and ROB DRAPER FOR THE MAIL ON SUNDAY

News › Greater Manchester News › Minshull Street Crown Court

Thai Boxing coach nicknamed 'Mr Touchy-Feeley' filmed himself having sex with schoolgirl at a gym

She told police they had sex three times in the gym, and ... on the night she went missing

By Chris Slater 17:22, 13 NOV 2017 | UPDATED 08:49, 16 NOV 2017

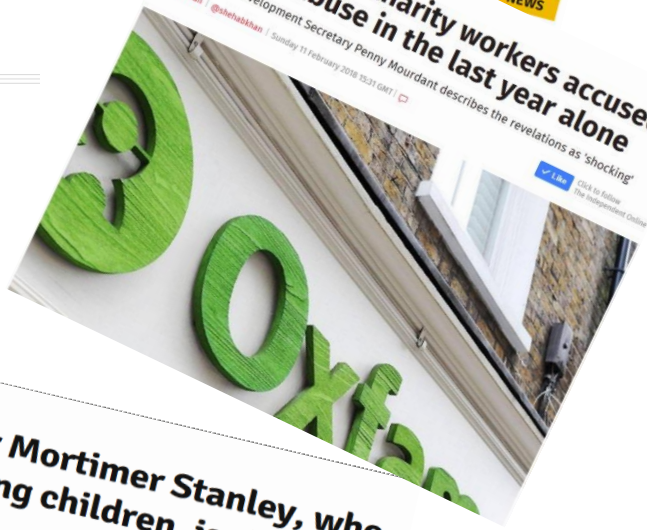
News › UK › Home News

NEWS

More than 120 charity workers accused of sexual abuse in the last year alone

International Development Secretary Penny Mourdant describes the revelations as 'shocking'

Shehab Khan | @shehabkhan | Sunday 11 February 2018 15:31 GMT



The Telegraph

News

UK | World | Politics | Budget 2017 | Science | Education | Health | Brexit | Royal

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News

Jehovah's Witnesses claim they were told not to report child sex abuse, as organisation is accused of sheltering abusers

Children who were sexually abused by Jehovah's Witnesses were allegedly told by the organisation not to report it.

Cardiff imam jailed for 13 years for abusing girls at Qur'an lessons

Mohammed Haji Saddique, 81, sexually assaulted young girls in front of class and slapped students who made mistakes

News › Greater Manchester News › Minshull Street Crown Court

Retired Catholic priest Father Mortimer Stanley, who was accused of sexually abusing children, is cleared by jury

Father Mortimer Stanley, 82, had denied a string of indecent assaults

By Kim Pilling 19:50, 7 JUN 2016 | UPDATED 19:52, 7 JUN 2016

NEWS

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CLUBS AND GROUPS

- There are lots of really positive activities going on locally, clubs, groups and individuals that provide important services across the borough.
- These include, children's entertainers, private tutors and teachers, some 'pop up' groups that provide activities for children over the school holidays
- It is important to remember that some of these groups will not require the same level of checks.

Idea! Safe After School

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CHILD SAFETY
IN CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

ASK THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

Choosing a club, tutor or coach for your child?

- Can I observe the sessions?
- Is there a policy on safeguarding children?
- Are staff trained in safeguarding/first aid?
- Any written code of conduct for staff/volunteers?
- Is there a health and safety policy in place?
- What are the emergency procedures?
- Who do I speak to if I have any concerns?
- Is there any Safety information available via website/leaflet?
- Where do I go to for help and advice?

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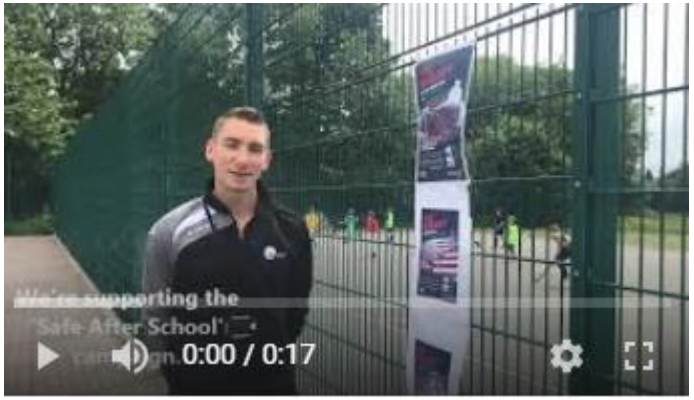

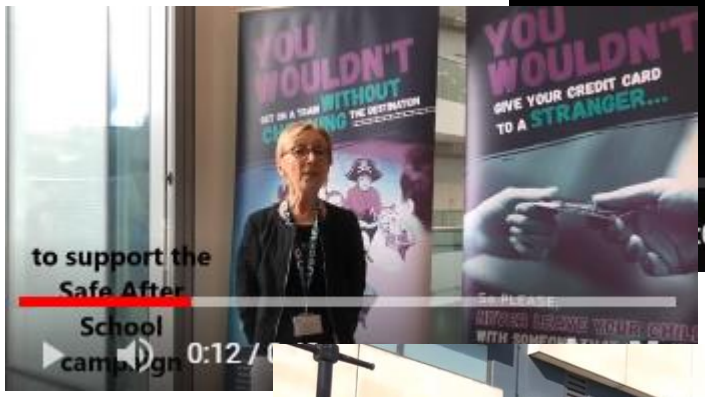

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Temperature check

76.4% didn’t know some groups are unregulated before the campaign

58.5% said it had increased their knowledge

72.3% believed the campaign was keeping children safe.

50% of parents are aware of the campaign but still did not fully understand their responsibilities.

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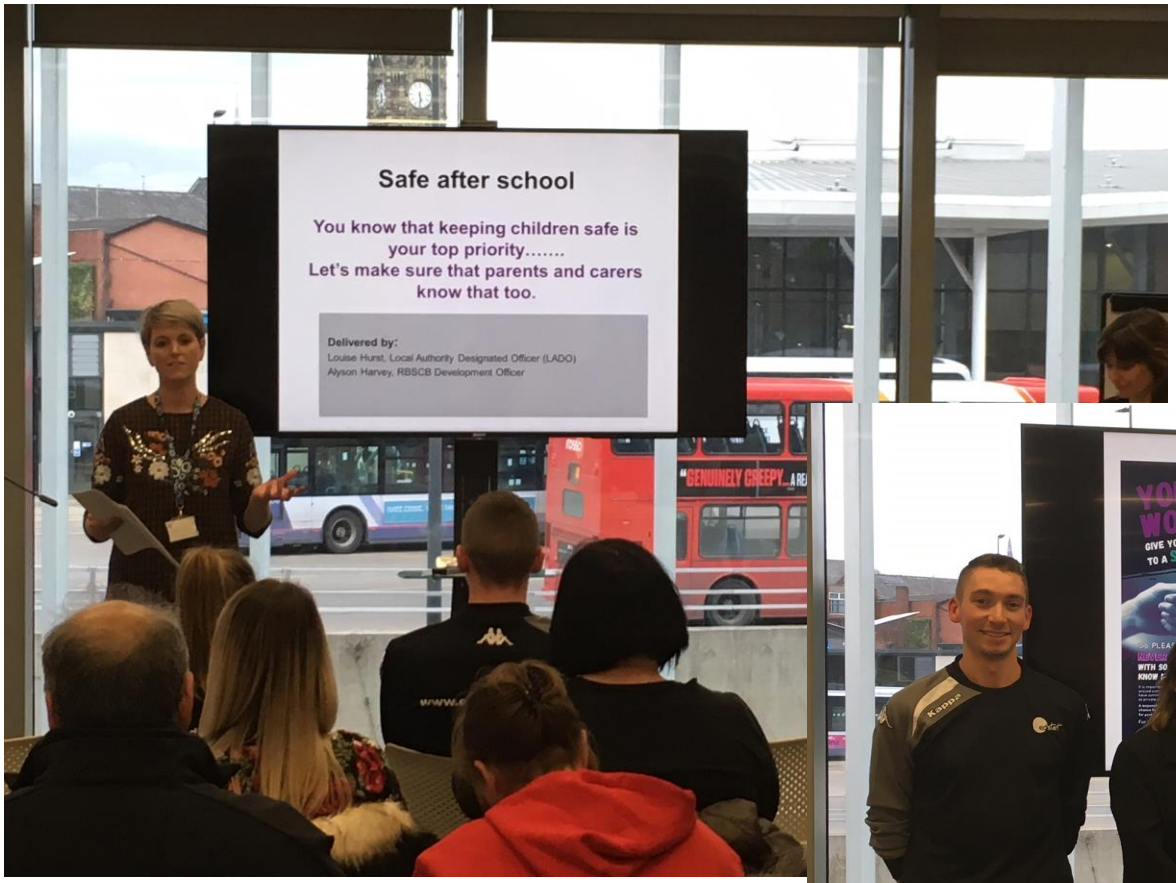
Support for providers



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School ambassadors

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Tutor campaign

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What we achieved

Messages out to so many parents and carers who have acted on this advice.

Activity providers, have been supported with implementing safeguarding policies and procedures

By working together, we have been able to have a positive impact on improving the quality and safety of provision for children in our Borough.

The DfE requested our information so they can use it nationally

Backing from many LAs/LSCBs - word is spreading across the country. The LGiU's children and young people bulletin has also featured our campaign as a good example and a resource for other LAs to use.

We won a national aware at the MJ AWARDS in September 2021

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MJ Award for Innovation in Children's Services

Judges were impressed by the simplicity of this programme, which adopted a co-production and whole community approach and championed community ambassadors. The team put the needs of all children first by promoting replication of the programme across the wider community and demonstrated their ambition to influence government and make policy and legislative change.

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The future…

The aim - Government attention!!

You couldn’t fit a boiler without being Gas Safe registered or sell alcohol without a licence so why can you deliver services to children with no regulation?

The FA for their backing nationally.

We have Liaised with Children’s Activities Association to support providers with independent accreditation/regulation to protect them and to give reassurances to parents/carers.

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For More Information please visit: rbscb.org

E mail: lado@rochdale.gov.uk

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