

Sexual Offences Act 2003

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Key issues from Op Retriever

DI Winton.

Jan 2010

SOA 2003.

- New Offences
 - Grooming.
 - Incitement
 - Showing pornography.
 - Committing a sexual act in the presence.
 - Paying for sexual services from a child (U18)
 - Abduction.
 - U 16.
 - U18.

SOA 2003

- New Control Orders.
 - SOPH.
 - RoSHO. (U16).
- Mappa.
 - DPMU.
 - PDP.
 - Persons who present a risk of harm to children.

Key issues Op Retriever

- Identification of needs and indicators of abuse – professional awareness ?
- Organisation policies and procedures – effective ?
- Assessment –missed opportunities ?
- Taking action to safeguard the young person- Proportionate/timely ?
- Effective planning- appropriate to needs and reviewed ?
- Organisational issues- senior managers involved ?
- Issues of identity – sensitive to cultural issues ?
- Young Person's wishes and feelings – listened to ?

Lessons learned

The fundamental lesson from this review is that the potential for poor outcomes increases significantly when intervention does not take place at an early stage to address early signs of concern.

Why ? -There was a correlation between those who had complex needs in early childhood were least likely to engage in support services -

missed opportunities to address these needs early in their lives have had a longer term impact on their isolation from sources of support

Spiral of Sexual Abuse



So to avoid this -

Predictable – preventable -

Had there been earlier, concerted intervention in their lives to address their unmet needs it is likely that they would have been less vulnerable as adolescents and therefore less likely to be abused.

We need to ensure that we avoid this -

There were missed opportunities to assess significant concerns in relation to the other young women and comprehensive assessments were not completed. There was little evidence of the use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF). When they were completed, the quality of assessments was frequently poor

Key issues for Nott(m)(s)

- Early identification
 - Vulnerable children – support and track
 - Risky adults – Tag and monitor
- Information sharing
 - Common understanding - consistent
- Early Intervention
 - Robust - proactive
- Record keeping
 - Success – making a difference.

Successful out comes

- Vulnerable girl -raped at 12.
- May/June 2008 MFH – 19 occasions
- Victim of sexual abuse on at least 7 occasions (25).
- Physical assaults including cigarette burns iron burns.
- 2010 several cases discontinued.
- Initial aim – safeguarding/protection.
- Returned to full time education.
- No MFH,
- Caught up with GSCE work.
- Career plan