

National CSE Awareness Day

Key Messages

On the 18th March 2016 NWG Network call for all to unite against child sexual exploitation.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is a form of sexual abuse that involves the manipulation and/or coercion of young people under the age of 18 into sexual activity.

Everyone has a role to play in raising awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation. Safeguarding children is everybody's business. Any child can be sexually exploited no matter what culture, ethnicity, religion, whether a boy or a girl from any background

The National Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day aims to highlight the issues surrounding CSE; encouraging everyone to think, spot and speak out against abuse and adopt a zero tolerance to adults developing inappropriate relationships with children and children forming inappropriate sexual relationships with their peers

NWG are committed to the fight against CSE and supporting victims and their families who are subjected to child sexual exploitation. But they cannot succeed without the support of people like you. Together, we can work to inform, educate and prevent this form of child sexual abuse within the UK.

How you can help

First and foremost show your support by writing a personal pledge on your hand and posting to your social media with the hashtag #HelpingHands to help raise awareness of child sexual exploitation

I want to give a child a voice.

There are ways in which we can all contribute:

Children and young people can be informed about Child Sexual Exploitation and the methods used to target and groom them. They can be given literature to help them understand Child Sexual Exploitation and the contact details of local and national organisations who can help them if they are concerned about themselves or their friends. They can look out for their friends too and speak out if they are concerned

Parents and carers Can be made aware of the indicators of Child Sexual Exploitation to help spot early warning signs, they can maintain an open dialogue with their children about their online and offline activities. They can know who to contact if they have concerns.

Practitioners can help empower children and parents/carers by educating them about Child Sexual Exploitation, the grooming process, the risk factors and indicators and the contact details of local and national organisations that can offer support.

Practitioners can ensure that their own knowledge of Child Sexual Exploitation and human trafficking is up to date

The leisure industry- hotels, Taxi Companies, Take-Aways, B&B's and retailers all have a role to play in safeguarding children and ensuring that their staff are trained to recognise the signs of Child Sexual Exploitation and what to do if they suspect Child Sexual Exploitation by using the Community Awareness training toolkit Say Something if you See Something

Decision makers and politicians need to provide a culture in which all of the above can function and thrive and continue to play a key role in ensuring our children are safe from Child Sexual Exploitation
As a Decision maker or politician you need to ensure Your community is engaged in protecting children from Sexual Exploitation