



## **TARGET**

**Targeting and Reducing Grooming, Exploitation & Trading**

*Of Children and Young People Online*

### **Facts**

2012-2016: 26% increase at S6 in cases involving Online Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (OSEA)

The extent, context and impact of OSEA are unknown representing a major intelligence gap

Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse is the first and highest threat listed on the National Crime Agency National Control Strategy for 2015-16

### **Key Findings @ August 18<sup>th</sup> 2016**

Since October 2015, Service Six's TARGET project has engaged 1001 young people, 826 of whom were disadvantaged. All resided in Northamptonshire or Leicestershire and were aged between 5 -25 years, with most between 9 -17 years. 793 young people responded to semi-structured questionnaires and they told us;

- **51%** are regularly contacted online by strangers:
- **36%** have received pornography including child:
- **26%** have sent pornography:
- **19%** have been asked to meet stranger/s:
- **8%** have met strangers:
- **0.5%** reported to an adult.

Furthermore disadvantaged young people are;

- **8%** more likely to receive sexually explicit images or video
- **6%** more likely to send out sexually explicit images or video
- **23%** more likely to send out sexually explicit material willingly
- **21%** less likely to report unwanted stranger contact and or receipt of sexually explicit material to an adult

The questionnaire findings were affirmed within 15 follow-up case study semi-structured interviews.

#### **TARGET: Aims**

It is increasingly apparent that disadvantaged young people's online activity represents;

- Significantly high risks:
- Substantial negative impacts:
- Absent or inadequate online protective behaviours:
- Absent or inadequate safeguarding.

We are working with disadvantaged young people within Northamptonshire and Leicestershire who have experienced online sexual abuse and exploitation (OSEA). They are helping us to;

- Understand their experiences and share this knowledge:
- Develop the project:
- Undertake further research:
- Implement responsive services and resources:
- Find meaningful and sustainable solutions:
- Improve online safety for children and young people.

The initial research has highlighted various con-current themes which need exploring further including;

- **Addiction** to mobile phone use in particular (1000+ average communications per day):
- **Physical Impairment** due to repetitive strain injury and potential reversal of cervical lordosis:
- **Apathy** to pornography and online criminal activity:
- **Mental Health** based on significant indicators of profound loneliness:
- **Disruption to Education** due to constant mobile phone use during lessons:
- **Disruption to Cognitive Development** and associated long-term negative impact:
- **Absence of Parental Monitoring** and associated risk:
- **Inadequate Internet Security** at schools and homes.

## **TARGET Partnerships & Collaboration**

48 partners have already signed up to support TARGET's ambitions to develop a youth-led model to challenge OSEA and implement meaningful and sustainable solutions.

Current partners include;

- De Montfort University (Dr Lee Hadlington PhD FHEA CPsychol AFBPsS)
- East Midlands Special Operations Unit – Regional Cyber Crime Unit (DS Carole Walton)
- RISE CSE team Protecting Vulnerable Persons Department. Northamptonshire Police (DCI Richard Thompkins)
- Serenity - Sexual Assault Referral Centre Northampton (Kate Woodfield)
- NHS Nene & Corby Clinical Commissioning Groups (David Lloyd Hearn)
- Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs (Richard Buckingham)
- Women's Aid Northampton (Ann Bodsworth)
- Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire (Matthew Toresen)
- The Falcon Centre (Marie Davis)
- Eclectic
- Positive Pathway Alliance:
  - The Faraway Children's Charity
  - East Northants Faith Group
  - Action for Aspergers
  - The Mallows Company
  - Scott Bader Ltd
  - Richmond Villages Ltd
  - Asda Community Life
  - Weatherby's
  - Places for People
- The Maud Elkington Charitable Trust
- Northamptonshire Health Foundation Trust (Sharon Robson)
- Ilife Children & Young People Services
- The Education Fellowship (Kate French):
  - Blackthorn Academy
  - Clarendon Academy
  - Desborough College
  - Olympic Academy
  - Pembroke Park Academy
  - Risdene Academy
  - Rushden Academy
  - Ruskin Academy
  - Thorpelands Academy
  - Warwick Academy
  - Windmill Academy
  - Wrenn Academy
- Northampton Academy

- Weston Favell Academy
- Sir Christopher Hatton Academy
- Gateway Academy
- Streetvibe – Braunstone Grove Youth Centre
- Birstall Fire Cadets
- Action for Children (Laurie Long)
- Bottesford Youth Group
- Army Cadets Force - Leicestershire
- Northamptonshire County Council (Rachel Sanson)
- Leicestershire County Council (Brian Bodsworth)
- Burton Latimer Mayor, Mr Nigel Padget

**Help us to help challenge online sexual exploitation and abuse and sign up to TARGET**

**Email us to confirm your support for TARGET @ [janedeamer@serviceisx.co.uk](mailto:janedeamer@serviceisx.co.uk)**

‘The protection of children is a priority and as the EMSOU Cyber Protect Coordinator I am extremely pleased to be supporting and working on the TARGET project with Service Six. Understanding the true extent of the problem will then ensure effective prevention and protection of children and young people online (and off).’

*Detective Sergeant Carole Walton, Cyber Protect Coordinator, EMSOU Regional Cyber Crime Unit, April 2016.*