

Parents as Partners in Safeguarding Children:

An evaluation of Pace's work in Four
Lancashire Child Sexual Exploitation teams
October 2010 – October 2012

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Executive Summary

The aim of this evaluation is to consider the role and contribution of the Pace Parent Support Worker (hereafter PSW) in four multi-agency Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) teams in Lancashire. The evaluation considers their contribution to these teams between October 2010 and October 2012. The two PSWs and 12 professionals who work or oversee the multi-agency CSE teams were interviewed for this evaluation. In addition, four parents were interviewed to explore their experiences of being supported by the PSWs. The evaluation reports on seven key outcomes, which underpin the 'relational safeguarding model' approach. In this model, early intervention and prevention involving the whole family is key; parents are valued as those who can best protect their children, even in the difficult circumstances that CSE can create.

Key Findings

1. A PSW offers extensive and sustained support which makes a difference to parents and families coping with their experience of child sexual exploitation.
2. It assists parents in understanding the grooming process and CSE, which helps them to protect their child. As parents become better able to identify signs and understand the manipulation involved, they can contribute to the reduction of risk to their child and possibly to his or her friends.
3. Families in this evaluation were at breaking point because of the strain of CSE but the input of the PSW held them together.
4. The PSW encourages parents to share information. This in turn is used by the police and can lead to targeted operations and arrests.
5. The information sharing can ultimately lead to prosecutions. There is evidence in this evaluation that the work of the PSW led directly to successful convictions.
6. The PSWs have developed a sophisticated court support package. Parents and their child feel able to go through the court process as they are prepared and supported by their PSW throughout.
7. The outcomes that the Pace PSWs achieve in Lancashire are because of their unique contribution to the multi-agency teams' work; it is this synergy between the PSWs and the multi-agency teams that makes the positive difference.

Introduction:

Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation (Pace) is a unique, parent-led charity, which works with parents to end the sexual exploitation of children and young people. Formerly known as CROP, it was founded by Irene Ivison, following the murder of her daughter who was sexually exploited by a known pimp. Pace has always been run by parents for parents, offering individual telephone support and running self-help groups. When parents organised the inaugural CROP/Pace conference in 1998, they ensured that police officers, social services, health authorities and children's charities attended to hear their voices for the first time. In 2002, CROP/Pace received funding for its first full-time Parent Support Worker. Their work enabled them to identify a new form of child sexual exploitation, organised by local networks of formal and informal groups, rather than just by individual perpetrators.

Pace has actively researched the role of parents in CSE and has succeeded in influencing national policy and guidance as a result. The report on localised grooming and gangs in 2006 led to a change in perception about victims of child trafficking; this report established that victims could be UK nationals as well as children from abroad (CROP, 2006). Other publications have been aimed at increasing practitioner awareness about CSE and providing practical resources to assist with training (CROP, 2006; Kosaraju, 2008; 2011). Many of the findings of this evaluation report echo the key points in the 2008 CROP guide to Parent Support Work, which detailed what parent support should look like and why it is required (Kosaraju, 2008). Since Pace's involvement in the multi-agency CSE teams, a number of publications have been produced that explain exactly what a PSW can bring to multi-agency team and why this work is so critical (Willmer, 2011; Jenkins & Kelly, 2011). Finally, Pace has produced two guides to court work (2013), which gives parents and professionals an outline of the court process, as this is something that is not well understood.

In April 2009, Pace secured a 2-year grant from the Department of Children, Schools and Families (now Department for Education) to work with the Engage team, a multi-agency CSE team in Blackburn with Darwen. Pace was awarded a 3-year grant from Comic Relief, starting in October 2010 through to September 2013, to continue the work in Engage and extend it into other police divisions in Lancashire. Today Pace works with four of the six police divisions in Lancashire: Engage in Blackburn, Freedom in Burnley, Cherish in Ormskirk with Skelmersdale, and Deter in Preston. Pace employs 1 full time worker and one part time worker to achieve this work.

The evaluation considers Pace participation in the four multi-agency teams in Lancashire for the period October 2010 – October 2012.

Make up of the four CSE teams

Lancashire Constabulary is dedicated to tackling child sexual exploitation and is seen to be promoting best police practice (DOE, 2011; Police Life, 2012). Overall, there are six CSE teams in Lancashire, however Pace is only involved in four of these. The influence of Pace involvement in the four teams is in line with the policy adopted by Pan-Lancashire Safeguarding Agencies (three safeguarding boards and the Lancashire Constabulary) whose action plan stresses the need for a “total family approach when supporting families ...and....to ensure the commitment of multi-agencies response to work with families” (Lancashire Constabulary, ND, p7).

The first team to be established was Awaken in Blackpool in 2003, followed by Engage in 2005 and then by the others in 2008/09. Whilst all teams are dedicated to tackling CSE, each team has a different multi-agency make up and approach to their work, which in part reflects the local demographics (see Table One).

Range of activities carried out by Pace	ENGAGE (Blackburn with Darwin)	CHERISH (Ormskirk & Skelmersdale)	DETER (Preston)	FREEDOM (Burnley)
Multi-agency preventative work	✓	✓	✓	✓
Training/awareness raising	Schools/foster carers/residential carers	Children's Social Care	Children's homes/ Looked after children (LAC)	
CEOP Training	✓		✓	
Family support - 1 to 1 support	✓	✓	✓	✓
- Parent support groups	✓	✓		
Witness Support work	✓	✓	✓	✓
- peer support	✓			
- post court debriefing	✓	✓	✓	✓
- Production of witness support pack	✓			✓

Table One

Table One: Comparison of CSE-related activities carried out within four multi-agency CSE teams

1. Cherish

Cherish was established in 2009. The team make up has varied, but until recently included a Detective Sergeant, three Detective Constables, a Social Worker, a worker from 'Street Safe', a Missing From Home coordinator and a PSW from Pace. The team is not co-located and the multi-agency set-up is not as well established as other teams in Lancashire.

A PSW from Pace has been involved in the team since 2010, on a part time basis. Most of Cherish's work is preventative, working to protect young people from peer group perpetrators and lone adult males.

2. Deter

Deter is the newest of the four CSE teams considered in this evaluation. It was established in 2009, with one Detective Sergeant and four Detective Constables. Deter is intended to become a multi-agency team but the frontline team is currently primarily police-based. In the past, the team has also comprised a social worker from Children's Social Care (CSC) and a Family Support Worker, also from CSC. Deter is steered by a multi-agency management committee, known as the Integrated Working Group (IWG). The IWG meet monthly at the Preston Police HQ to discuss referrals and share intelligence.

Pace's involvement with Deter has fluctuated over the time period concerned, although they first became involved in 2010. Pace proactively facilitated this involvement. Limited resources, changes in working practices and the restructuring of the police have meant fewer referrals and, as a result, less work for Pace, as is evident in Table Two.

3. Engage

The team was established in 2008, following a lengthy police-led operation from 2005. Engage retains its multi-agency format, with staff from a number of agencies co-located at the office. Co-location is considered by all the team to be a vital factor in their effectively working together. The team meets for a weekly brief to discuss new referrals and ongoing casework. The work of the team is guided both by Lancashire Constabulary and by Blackburn with Darwen Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).

A Pace worker has been involved since 2009 and is embedded in the team. The role of the PSW in this team is considered vital and it is noted that 'We [the team] would be massively compromised if Pace lost service funding'. The Engage model is held as an example of good practice (Ofsted, 2013). The role of Pace and its unique contribution to ENGAGE has been examined previously (Jenkins & Kelly, 2011; Willmer, 2011).

4. Freedom

The Freedom Team was established in 2008. The co-located team includes police officers, a social worker, a sexual health worker, Missing From Home coordinators and charitable organisations including Brook, Lifeline and Barnardos. The majority of personnel have stayed the same since the team's inception. The team has focused on high profile court cases in the past two years, involving gangs, which is reflected in the high intensity work that the Pace PSW has undertaken there (see Table Two).

A Pace worker has been involved with the team since October 2011.

Overview:

All four teams have experienced significant operational change in the past 6 months. In April this year, Lancashire Constabulary established Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH), which consists of the CSE team, the Domestic Abuse team and the Public Protection Team merged into one. Many officers interviewed for this evaluation commented on the impact of this reorganisation and the subsequent dilution of their CSE work. Whilst this reorganisation has occurred outside of the time frame being evaluated, it has heavily influenced interviewees' responses.

It was the unanimous view of those interviewed that the best model of practice was a co-located multi-agency team, which has a sole focus on CSE. Concerns were expressed about the recent Police Authority restructuring and the ongoing funding issues that affect the Children and Parent Support Workers and the involvement of Children's Social Care.

Table Two: Referrals to the PSW in the four CSE teams

Table Two indicates the numbers of referrals to each team and those referred to a PSW for support. These figures come from Pace. The difference in terms of volume of referrals between the four teams is striking. The difference is attributed to a number of factors, including location and local demographics, how the team manage risk and the emphasis placed on preventative work. If preventative work is successful, then cases do not go to court, as a young person successfully exits the exploitation. This is a paradox. As one interviewee noted: ‘What is better? We intervene early and the perpetrator gets 9 months or we get involved later on and he gets 14 years?’

	ENGAGE	CHERISH	DETER	FREEDOM
Referrals to team	579	NK	310	NK
Referred to PSW	72	5	12	4
Supported at Court	27	1	0	3 (1 pending)

Table Two

Section 2: Research methodology:

The aim of the evaluation was to explore the effectiveness of working to a relational safeguarding model, rather than a child protection model, with parents as partners. This included an analysis of Pace’s contribution to achieving the following objectives:

1. To support work with parents/carers
2. To increase parents’ understanding of CSE
3. To improve relations within the family
4. To reduce risk to children and young people
5. To improve evidence gathering
6. To support parents through prosecutions
7. To realise potential cost-savings by involving parents

These aims and objectives were suggested by Pace and refined by the authors.

Ethical approval

Ethical approval was provided by the University of Salford (ref HSCR/1289) to undertake this research. All participants were given an information sheet explaining the evaluation and outlining their right to change their mind; written consent was obtained from all interviewees before the interviews began.

Methodology

The evaluation was undertaken using a variety of methods. The evaluation consisted of a series of interviews with staff working in the four multi-agency teams (see Table Three), semi-structured interviews with parents and analysis of the outcome data kept by the Pace workers and for each CSE team.

Table Three lists those professional staff interviewed for this evaluation. As can be seen, we could not achieve an equal distribution of interviews across all the four teams. Each team was approached the same way, with an introductory letter and follow up telephone call. In addition, the multi-agency nature of some of the CSE teams meant that we were asking a number of organisations for consent to participate; overall the police were the most responsive.

1	PSW	Pace
2	PSW	
3	Detective Sergeant	Deter
4	Detective Sergeant	
5	Detective Constable	
6	Detective Constable	
7	Manager	Engage
8	Detective Sergeant	
9	Children’s Support Worker	
10	Children’s Support Worker	
11	Detective Sergeant	Cherish
12	Detective Chief Inspector	Pan-Lancashire role
13	Detective Sergeant	Freedom

Table Three

Table Three: List of professionals interviewed by role and by team

The teams were principally staffed by the police, despite their nominal multi-agency basis (at the time of interview). All the comments from those interviewed have been anonymised and are italicised. Throughout the interviews, the professionals mentioned cases in which Pace had been involved. In order to ensure anonymity, these are listed as an Appendix and are not directly referred to in the main body of the report.

Parents

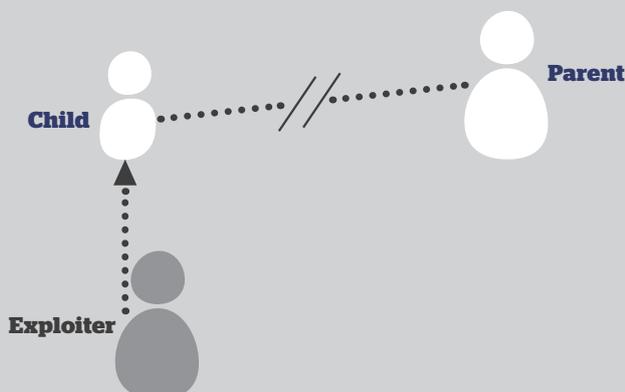
In addition, four parents who had been through the court process were interviewed for this evaluation. We had hoped to interview six parents; however the majority of parents approached by the Pace workers were unwilling to participate. This unwillingness was attributed to not wanting to revisit old and traumatic feelings and events. There is some learning here for Pace, as how to best capture information and feedback from parents post prosecution, before it is too late. All the comments from parents have been anonymised and are in bold print.

Diagram One:

Distinctive Features of the Relational or Holistic Approach to Working with Families Affected by Child Sexual Exploitation

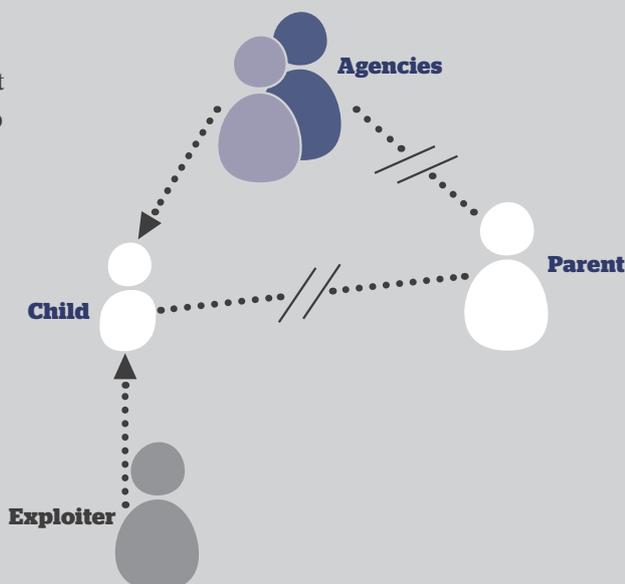
1: The Grooming Process

The exploiter breaks the child's relationship with their parent(s), in order to control the child for the purposes of child sexual exploitation.



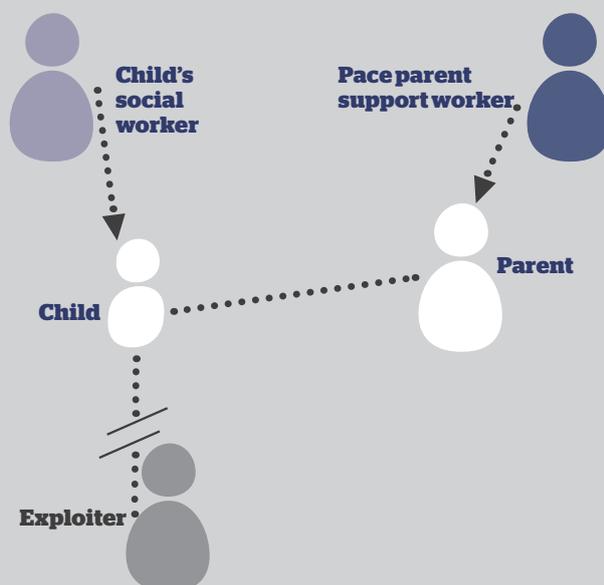
2: Traditional Child Protection Model

Once involved, agencies focus attention on the child, but often tend to reinforce the breakdown of the relationship between child and parent.



3: The Relational Model

The Pace Parent Support Worker works as an integral part of a multi-agency specialist CSE team, to support the parent(s), rebuild their relationship with the child and end the sexual exploitation.



Project Data

Finally, data from the four teams was sought including project data e.g. referrals, uptake of services, report cards of support work undertaken with families affected by CSE, prosecutions, convictions and other relevant outcomes. Again our experience was that some teams were more able to locate and share this information than others. This data is supplemented by Pace's own data collection on the number of families they have supported in each of the four teams.

One of the key challenges, in such an evaluation, is how to separate Pace work and outcomes out from that of the rest of the team. In the teams where multi-agency working was strongest, the Pace worker role was considered to be a vital element, but one of several such elements. In such scenarios, it is impossible to disaggregate data and say one specific outcome was achieved because of Pace, as the whole team approach contributes to the outcomes. Parents also attributed the support they received with the team as a whole, rather than to just the PSW; parents appreciated their one-to-one support, but also saw the work undertaken by the Police and the Children's Support Worker as part of this package. The four parents interviewed could only identify the support they received as coming from the CSE team, and they were not aware of Pace as a separate organisation.

Section 3: Evaluation

This evaluation will consider each of the seven objectives, to establish the effectiveness of working to a relational safeguarding model, rather than a child protection model. The child protection model assumes that parents may be partly responsible for the abuse that a child is experiencing. It is the standard approach in familial child protection, where the role of the social worker is to assess parental and home circumstances (DOH, 2000). This approach does not fit with CSE, as the grooming and the exploitation are taking place outside of the family home. Whilst there may be factors at home that, in some cases, exacerbate a young person's vulnerability, the relational safeguarding model, identified in these teams, assumes that parents want to and have the capacity to protect their child, unless repeated evidence or their behaviour proves otherwise. As such, it represents a variation on the safeguarding model outlined by Jago et al., 2011, in which safeguarding describes lower level early intervention work. Nevertheless all four teams were absolutely clear that the child always came first in their work.

The central problem with the traditional child protection model applied to CSE is that it fails to engage with and appreciate the critical role of grooming in preparing a young person for sexual exploitation (see Diagram One). Working effectively with CSE, in the experience of the teams studied, requires a much more holistic view, which is relational and family-centred, and one which acknowledges the crucial and

damaging effects of CSE on siblings and parents, as well as on the targeted child.

A family-centred approach also engages with the emotional and relational dynamics of grooming, in terms of broken relationships within the family, rather than simply noting behavioural indicators of increased risk or vulnerability for the targeted child. The normally protective relationship between parent and child has to be gradually undermined and then decisively broken by the adult exploiter through the grooming process (Diagram One Part 1), if the sexual exploitation can be effective. The disempowerment of parents as protectors can then be unwittingly increased by some professionals, who may assume that the parent or family is unwilling, or incapable, of protecting their child from exploitation (Diagram One Part 2).

A family centred approach to CSE understands the dynamics of grooming, its impact on family life and seeks to engage parents and family members as allies and partners, rather than as objects of professional suspicion (see Diagram One Part.3). This approach is rooted in best practice, as recommended by statutory guidance (DCSF, 2009), Pace policy (Kosaraju, 2008; Willmer, 2011) and as demonstrated in practice by the professionals in this report. This family-centred approach also complies with the shift to a more 'relational model' of child protection, strongly recommended by the Munro Review (2011) of safeguarding policy and practice, i.e. emphasising 'the centrality of forming relationships with children and families' (Munro, 2011, p 8).

Outcomes:

1. To support work with parents/carers:

Supporting parents is at the heart of the PSW role (see Diagram Two). It was summed up by one interviewee as:

'Their role is to work with that parent, representing the wishes and feelings of the parent, advocating and educating, whilst being fully aware of the work that is being done to protect the child.'

The role of the PSW is multi-faceted and can involve:

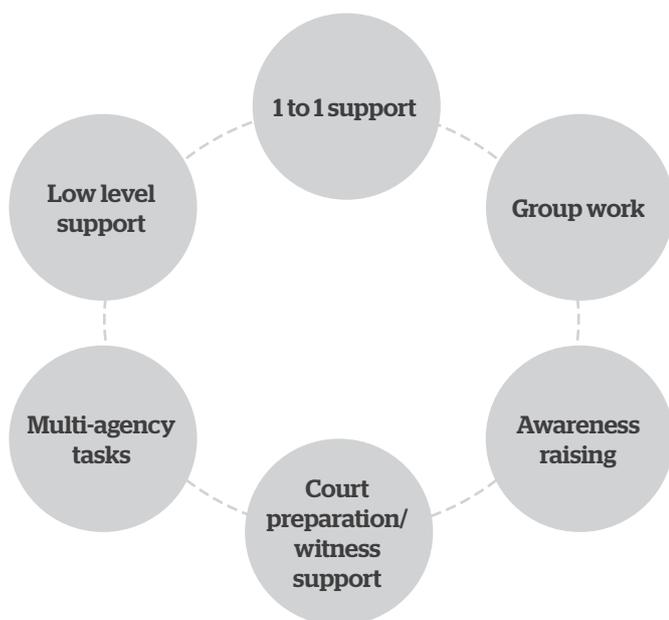


Diagram Two: Key dimensions of the Pace Parent Support Worker role.

Clearly, the PSW cannot dedicate the same amount of time to each task and the emphasis in their work shifts according to parental need, CSE team requirements and organisational priorities.

There has been learning over time about where their efforts are best directed. An example of this concerns the group work that the two PSWs offer. Previously, a number of parents were invited to a set of group sessions for support and raising awareness. Now the focus is on a one-off session, which focuses on what grooming is and how to record information. Whilst this change in content is successful, the method of recruitment is not; the PSW only sends a letter to parents if they are deemed low risk, or if their children have been identified as vulnerable through a raid. This approach has led to a drop in the number of parents attending.

The support work offered to parents varies as a consequence of three interrelated factors: capacity, flexibility and multi-agency perceptions.

1.1. Capacity: Both workers are presented with more cases that they can manage, especially given the geographical distribution and travelling time incurred. Capacity is in part managed by a threshold assessment (low, medium and high risk). This threshold assessment is a core aspect of the CSE team process.

The full time PSW began by offering support to a wide range of families, including those whose children were assessed as low risk, according to the model used by the three of the four teams. In the past two years, this preventative work has been supplanted by a more concentrated focus on high-risk cases. High-risk cases are defined as those in which the child is

subject to CSE and/or is going to court about the CSE. This role is made operationally explicit in three of the four teams (i.e. Engage, Freedom and Cherish).

The one-to-one support is often intensive and time consuming and continues over a significant period of time. For example, in one case, the PSW visited twice a week and phoned daily to build a good rapport with the parents and family. The PSW supported parents at home, in meetings, including child protection case conferences, and well as prepared them for court. The court preparation involves visits to court, making any necessary special arrangements, explaining the process and associated jargon to the parents and accompanying them to numerous hearings. The fact that the PSW can dedicate so much time to a family was seen as the key contribution by other agencies.

Organisationally, Pace has agreed to prioritise some aspects of support work over others; one PSW has spent over two years supporting one particular family through a protracted court case. This was agreed because of the number of perpetrators involved in the case and the history of Pace involvement. Whilst this is a significant investment of PSW time in one family, the justification is that the learning from the case is likely to have national ramifications. Already, the Children's Commissioner for England has sat in on one court hearing. In addition, the PSW is liaising with the Crown Prosecution Service about changing the current practice of multiple defence barristers questioning one young person, an area of practice which is currently subject to national review (DfE, 2011; BBC, 2013).

Both workers have attempted to supplement their high risk support work with group work and contacting parents who may be affected by CSE. This enables them to manage their anxieties about not providing a service: 'In the back of my mind, I might not be able to work with them, but they could go and phone Leeds'. The PSWs also spoke of the dangers involved in not taking low-risk referrals and the fact that they might be missing early indicators caused them concern. In contrast, some interviewees did see the PSWs as undertaking preventative work, if the Police had no further role with a family, as no criminal investigation was planned, then it was the PSW who would continue to work with the family.

In view of the substantial pressures on PSWs in working with both low and high intensity CSE work, it is suggested that they continue to be offered access to external therapeutic supervision, in addition to their line management supervision, if desired.

2 Flexibility:

Pace currently employs two PSWs, one full time covering three teams and one part time covering the fourth team. At one point, the part time worker was specifically working in the evenings and weekends, but now works during the day. However, both PSWs show considerable flexibility in their role and make themselves available to parents out of office hours. One interviewee noted how such sustained support can progress a case:

The PSW did intensive work, maybe every day for the first 2 weeks as they [the family] could not comprehend what was happening to them, X was on the phone with mother a lot, mum needed it, even out of hours in the evening.

Flexibility has also been exercised on what form support may take, with the one-to-one support changing over time as parents' needs change. One PSW noted:

Whatever role that might take us in, because so many things happen during that time, whether it's mental health, family breakdown, just somebody who's there, who's kind of be a constant and that for me has been really kind of key.

This knowledge of the whole family was a quality that was particularly praised by several interviewees. The PSW demonstrated capacity to understand the whole family, not just the parents and were able to see all the family's needs, not just focus on the young person affected by CSE. Recently one PSW has supported a young person in court at the request of the parent. This decision was not taken lightly, but done with the belief that it was the best way that Pace could offer support to this parent. The Detective Sergeant overseeing this case was unequivocal that, without the PSW support, this case would not have gone to trial. Three men have been convicted as a result of this work.

Finally the PSWs have been able to offer some support post conviction. Whilst a successful conviction is the end of an investigative case, the parents and young person still have support needs. Careful planning is required, to ensure that parents are not 'abandoned' post-court. In one case, a parent said that she still phoned the PSW, 9 months after the end of the trial, as she worked through further emotional needs (a need to visit the perpetrator in prison) and practical matters (application to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board).

1.3 Perceptions:

The perceived role and subsequent allocation of work to the PSW in supporting parents varies between the four teams. One team would prefer that all parents work with the PSW, even if the parents do not want to engage. The PSW has to challenge this in a multi-agency environment. At the other end of the spectrum, one team has deployed the PSW to support one family only.

The involvement of the PSW has also led to broader discussions about the role of parents in protecting young people from CSE. All four teams were unanimous that some parents cannot be offered support because of their unwillingness to engage, or because their parenting is 'compromised'. Clearly this presents a challenge to the ethos of Pace. This negative view of some parenting styles was always counter-balanced with an acknowledgement that many families will engage. Moreover, it was commented on that families affected by CSE are from across the social spectrum, although those that do not engage often have multiple needs and a history of contact with statutory services.

The understanding of parents has also been extended in some teams to encompass paid carers, e.g. foster carers and residential carers. Support has been made available to paid carers in terms of how to best protect the young people in their care from CSE.

Across the four teams, there was agreement that the PSW's most important role was to 'build bridges and open doors'. In some cases, a family which would not work with a statutory service will speak to a PSW, as they value their role as being independent. This role is being maximised in a police operation, where 17 men are suspected of exploiting two young people. Whilst the families do not want to speak to the police, they are happy to meet and receive support from a PSW. There is a potential for some role blurring here, however. The police were clear that the PSW were only asked to do work within their remit; they were never put in a position of having to undertake police tasks.

The faith that Lancashire Constabulary has in Pace's is evidenced by them arranging national presentations that showcase their work. Police forces from England are being invited to the Lancashire HQ to listen to a presentation from a Pace worker.

1.4 Parental views:

Affected parents are unanimous that they would not have survived their ordeal without the support offered by the PSW. From point of discovery, the PSW supported the family and made parents believe that they could cope; all four parents alluded to how potentially they could have had a break down and believed they were saved from doing so because of the PSW input. For one parent, this was a long and sustained

process, as the PSW supported them from point of initial discovery, through three separate trials and support after a conviction. None of the parents interviewed made any critical or negative comments about the PSW support.

The aspects that the parents particularly valued were:

- **That they felt believed:**
‘What you thought and felt was important to them.’
- **That the PSW kept them involved/updated at all times**
‘They let us know anything new that came along, what was changing’.
- **That the PSW was reliable and always returned their phone calls and updated them**
‘Any problems I could just ring her...she helped us through it all...she came with us to the safe house (every other day)... as we were dumped there...she was our spokeswoman.’
- **That they do what they said they were going to do:**
‘I don’t know what we would have done without her. She’s been our shoulder to cry on, she’s approachable and you can talk to her.’
- **That they genuinely cared about the welfare of the family:**
‘Their initial concern is your security... then they are concerned about you as parents, especially around what the perception will be. They acknowledge and believe you. You are valued, your feelings and opinion.’
- **That they understood what a family might be going through:**
‘Things changed in a better way. They [X] deal with these things on a daily basis; they know the questions that need to be asked. So they would pre-empt what I wanted to know.’
- **That they were there throughout:**
‘X was with us the whole way through... without her I would be in hospital now.’
- **That they helped parents understand that it was not their fault:**
‘X explained everything to me... he groomed all of us.’

Many of the comment made by the parents resonate with Munro’s recommendations on child protection reforms (DfE, 2011), in particular the emphasis on building up good working relationships with families and maintaining continuity in support and building up trust.

2. To increase parents’ understanding of CSE:

‘If you educate the parents, you educate the children’ - Interviewee

Improving parental understanding of CSE is vital for a number of reasons. First, it enables the parents to understand that they are not at fault for what has happened, as they learn about the grooming process. It breaks the stranglehold that the perpetrators have, as the parents begin to understand that their child is being manipulated and deliberately being estranged from them. Moreover, some parents need to understand that their child is not responsible either for what has happened, which can have a significant effect on family relations (see point 3).

Improved parental understanding is achieved through a variety of means by the PSW. Individual or group support are ways of sharing and exploring the process of grooming. Often the parents are learning the same things that their child is covering with the Children’s Support Worker. This joint work is essential:

‘[It is] really important that we have that mirroring effect... it’s about the equality of information shared...whatever the outcome may be, they [the parents] are part of the decision making process.’

Several interviewees commented on how important it was for parents to understand the grooming process and that it was this moment of comprehension that led to a positive change of direction in a case.

3. To improve relations within the family:

‘We have had lots of successful cases but never without the scars...it always causes the friction in the home’ Interviewee.

There is no doubt that CSE places a huge strain on family relationships. As part of the grooming process, the perpetrator(s) will deliberate seek to sever family relationships and instil a sense of distrust (Kosaraju, 2008). Many parents will already have experienced difficult events at home before the PSW becomes involved. Parents comment on noticing significant behaviour changes in their child, but may not understand the cause (e.g. a child stops attending school, is out at night, their mood changes, or

having frequent baths). Realising the cause of the behaviour change does not make it easier for parents either, as they have to deal with distressing events and concerns that their daughter or son has been subjected to criminal offences, possibly including rape.

Once a CSE team becomes involved, then some parents experience disbelief that this could happen to their child without them realising it. Given the significant strain that CSE brings to family life, the role of a PSW is vital. All the professionals interviewed noted that by supporting the parents, they could then better protect the child.

Many of the professionals commented on the damaging impact that CSE can have on families. Discovering CSE within a family can cause or exacerbate parental problems. It is a time of huge stress and professionals note that parents may start drinking, arguing or even separating as a consequence of the CSE. Unfortunately, in some families, this rift becomes permanent, with parents separating and one or more of the siblings becoming a looked after child. One interviewee noted:

‘The impact on parents is varied and huge; drink/self-harm/ rejecting the children. So by supporting them the investment in parents is massive...impact is so significant...this can be a matter of life and death for parents too.’

Guilt was raised as a major issue in some families, with some professionals attributing subsequent family break up to the fact that the parent(s) could not cope with the sense of guilt. ‘CSE fragments them...it creates mistrust within a family’. Several of the interviewees noted that parents may well chastise themselves for not realising sooner what was happening or wonder what they could have done differently.

‘For some parents this was compounded by the fact that they did attempt to seek help sooner, from school or from the local police station and their concerns were not valued, recognised or responded to.’

Siblings are also affected by CSE. Some siblings report feeling left out and seek to gain attention in other ways. One interviewee noted that ‘there was a potential for them to become involved in crime at this point’, which may be triggered by younger siblings creating the same opportunities for themselves to be sexually exploited. Other siblings feel that they want the same intervention as the subject child is receiving. One parent noted that her daughter had struggled with the attention that the subject child was

receiving and this ultimately led to a rift in their relationship and the young person being asked to be taken into care.

The four parents interviewed spoke of the enormous impact the discovery of CSE had on themselves, their family and their child(en) and that they could not have got through the ordeal without the support of a PSW. For some parents this ordeal was longstanding:

‘It is difficult to describe, it has been relentless, you cannot breathe. It felt like forever.’

This aspect of CSE work is rarely acknowledged in the literature. Pursuing a case to court takes a long time, as the young person has to repeatedly go over what has happened in Achieving Best Evidence (ABE) interviews. Parents may be interviewed as witnesses and the family may be subject to threats and intimidation whilst they wait for the court date (Pace, 2013). The support is not just about what happens at court, but the consequences, such as housing needs, managing harassment, bullying and in one case, managing the fall-out from newspaper commentary. One parent noted how difficult their life became in their local area after a newspaper picked up on and printed a barrister’s comments in court that ‘it takes two to tango’. One of the families interviewed had been moved three times, because of the threats they received, as the case against a number of men went through the legal process. This ended up with a further court case and two men being sentenced for intimidation offences.

Part of the work that the four CSE teams do via the PSW is to bring the family back together. For some parents this will mean taking the perpetrator to court and for others being involved in the decision not to prosecute is just as critical. The key is that by involving the parents and the young person, families are given choices, when they thought these had all be taken away: ‘We’ve given parents permission to move on and help them understand that it is not their fault’.

4. To reduce risk to children and young people:

In the initial stages, the support of a PSW can hold a family together as it experiences the crisis. Evidence from both the professionals and parents interviewed suggests that, without the PSW, some families would break up. This early support from a PSW also enables the parent to be there for the child:

‘The PSW was amazing...I did not have a breakdown but I was on the brink, but I could not as my child needed me.’

Supporting parents reduces the immediate risk of further crisis, so that they can all focus on the young person's needs and protection.

Risk is also reduced because of the network approach that the PSW and CSE teams take. If one young person is affected by CSE, then it is likely that other young people may be being groomed. Using a network analysis approach (Cockbain 2011), links can be made between potential victims. One example given was that in one case, 'the PSW went on to do some work at the school, as the group of friends all knew about it [the abuse].' Whilst it cannot be proved that this prevented further CSE, it is likely that, with raised awareness, the group of friends would be more cautious about risky relationships with adults.

Measuring long-term outcomes is challenging, given the number of variables involved. The professionals acknowledge that, in most cases, risks to young people do diminish when the parents are supported. However this decrease in risk goes hand in hand with the support work done by the Children's Support Worker too. It is the combination of dual support that is considered by all the interviewees as the vital component of success.

Intervening early and adopting a relational safeguarding model was seen to reduce the risks factors for both the child and parents. The sooner intervention commences, the more likely it is that the outcomes will be positive. Success is deemed to rest on the level of risk the child has been exposed to. Generally the lower the risk, the more likely the child is to successfully exit. Unfortunately, this is not the case with some of the higher risk scenarios. Proactive early intervention work was seen as vital in protecting young people; however if these young people came from 'chaotic' backgrounds, with parents who had experienced statutory services, the view was that it was harder to extricate them from the exploitation, to that point that CSE has become 'entrenched in their way of living'. In the handful of cases where this applied, familial abuse was part of the young people's experience, before being sexually exploited.

Finally, in the higher risk cases, the young person generally remains at longer term risk of exploitation, or side-steps personal risk by recruiting siblings into CSE. One CSE team had also examined the links between CSE and being a victim of domestic abuse in adult life, after a distressing case, in which two female victims of CSE became high-risk young adults on the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) for domestic abuse.

5. To improve evidence gathering:

'So much more [is] gained from a Pace worker than you would ever get from a detective or social services.'

Another key role of the PSW is to encourage parents to see the value in sharing information about what they notice and overhear; 'she is always giving little snippets, or doing a provenance log...names, nicknames, cars, times etc'. This role is considered vital by the multi-agency partners, and several interviewees commented that, without this information, some cases would not have proceeded to trial. There are two important aspects here. First, parents can be encouraged to take an active role in information gathering and can feed this back to the right person. Some parents will have had negative experiences of phoning the police or social services to try and share information in the past. Moreover they may phone with information that would not meet a statutory service threshold, but that can be used by the PSW. The PSW 'phoned these parents lot...and they would have not phoned in with this info otherwise as it seemed so insignificant.' In one case, this led to a disclosure and to an arrest on the same day.

Secondly, the PSW can encourage parents to gather the right kind of information, such as car registrations, time of phone calls, names mentioned in discussions, Facebook comments etc. 'X has come back with a lot of info about whom we need to work with and whom we need to target and enabling us to target hotspots, names of offenders etc.' One senior police officer mentioned that the information that the PSW provided each week was often substantial enough to generate new referrals for the team about other vulnerable young people.

At this stage, such information may not be enough to act on, however feeding it back to the CSE teams gives the police and partners the chance to formalise this information and turn some of it into intelligence, as illustrated in Diagram Three. In some cases, this process has culminated in a sophisticated network mapping that has led to a police operation, targeting multiple offenders. The DS in charge notes that 'Without her...I cannot do my work...without a go-between we do not get the same results'.

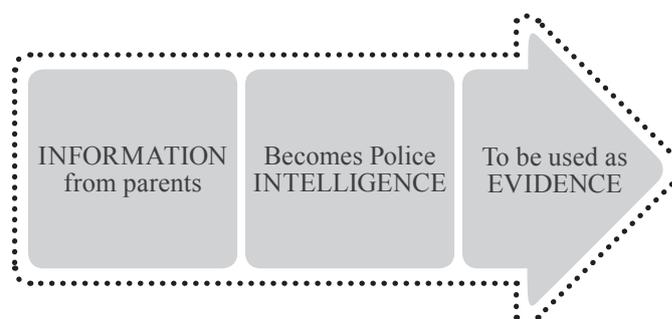


Diagram Three: Developing the continuum of information, intelligence and evidence

There is a distinction between information and intelligence and frustration can arise when parents share information that they think is intelligence and will be acted on. One of the

important roles of the PSW is to ‘help them understand the difference’ and act as a ‘vessel to pass information on’.

In addition, the PSW has developed a system of logging concerns, which have proved to be especially useful for foster carers and residential care workers. These ‘provenance logs’ capture relevant information, which the police can then use. The PSW has trained residential and foster carer staff on how to record in these logs and include evidence in a section called ‘How do you know it is true?’ Recently this led to a speedy arrest, after care staff became concerned about a 14 year old female and brought her phone into the team office. This led to an immediate investigation and a 30 year old man was arrested and charged. As one of the team noted, ‘this came about because of the work that had been done by Pace with carers’

6. To support parents through the process of prosecution:

‘If she wasn’t here, we could not get the same outcome, because of the dynamic in family, especially, around court time, support is needed at this time, ...which is why you need two workers, as it releases all of that pressure.’

Involving parents at an early stage has meant that cases have gone to court and perpetrators have been prosecuted. As one interviewee noted: ‘I have only had prosecutions since the PSW arrived, prior to that, mainly guilty pleas.’ Pace workers are seen as one of the vital ingredients to ensure success in prosecution, because of their commitment to long term involvement. Establishing good working relationships at the start is acknowledged as key by the Government (DfE 2011).

Involving parents in prosecution takes a huge amount of time and skill and it is an area of developing expertise for the Pace PSWs. The preparation covers emotional, practical and legal aspects. One PSW described the role as:

For me it would be contacting witness support, arranging for them to take parents around the court and the young person, to introduce them to the systems and processes and what would be expected of them. Perhaps a couple of visits pre-trial, liaising with family around information, perhaps the police might need any last minute information, trying to reduce the impact of the shock, because things just crop up right before court cases for some reason. So I would do that, then on the day, the night before, I would make contact with them, confirm travel arrangements and stuff like that. Then I would pick the parents and sometimes the young person up.

From the above, it is evident that the PSW will do whatever is required to support the family through the process, be it being in court with the parents, to explaining the jargon associated with court process, to ensuring adequate witness support protection, if required

In a nutshell, what we have learnt is that having a constant person that they [the parents] trust has been the biggest part of the prosecution support.

In addition, the PSW have developed a booklet for professionals and one for families that explains the court process (Pace 2013).

7. To realise potential cost-savings by involving parents:

Assessing the potential cost savings of an intervention is a challenge. Given the complexity of social relations, there is rarely one intervention that on its own can be said to have made a difference. Attempts have been made to calculate the cost of early intervention services in CSE, suggesting that for every £1 spent on Barnardos support services saves the taxpayer either £6 or £12 in the future (2011). Such calculations are complex and not within the remit of this research. Nevertheless, the intervention provided by the PSW does, in some cases, prevent the need for more extensive services for a young person and their family.

In a number of cases, the interviewees believed that the PSW intervention had lowered the risk, as the parent became better equipped to deal with the situation. This resulted in the risk decreasing and no further need for police or social services. Related to this is the reduction of missing from home incidents. One interviewee was able to state that the PSW reduced the number of times a young person ran away, which had the potential to save £1,300 each time, a sum which represents the cost for the police of searching for a missing from home child per night.

Second, some cases proceeded on the basis of information from the parents only, leading to a ‘victimless prosecution’. This option is noted by the Government as one way forward, ‘so long as all the elements of a criminal offence can be proved with sufficient other corroborating or supporting evidence’ (DfE, 2011, p. 21).

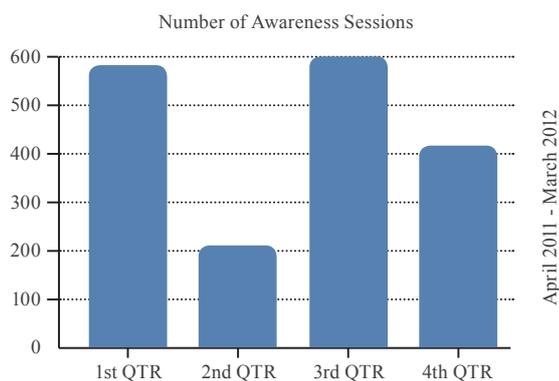
Third, many of the interviewees commented on how the work of the PSW had held families together, when they were at breaking point. This is significant, as without that support, families may have separated and in some cases the children been taken into local authority care. According to the House of Commons, the average cost per looked after child was £37,669 in 2009/10 and there would be further expenditure on after care services if the young person remained looked after (Harker, 2012).

Outcome data¹

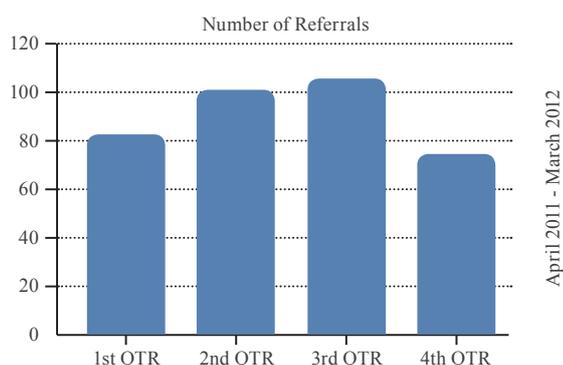
Evaluation of outcome data:

In addition to the interviews carried out with professionals and parents, this report is also based on project evaluation by Pace and on quarterly report cards by ENGAGE. Outcome data for the other three teams was obtained at a relatively late stage of the evaluation, too late to be analysed. There are some intermittent gaps in the data for the ENGAGE team, but there is relatively consistent data for the recent period of April 2011 to March 2012. Some examples of the key outcomes achieved by the ENGAGE team include:

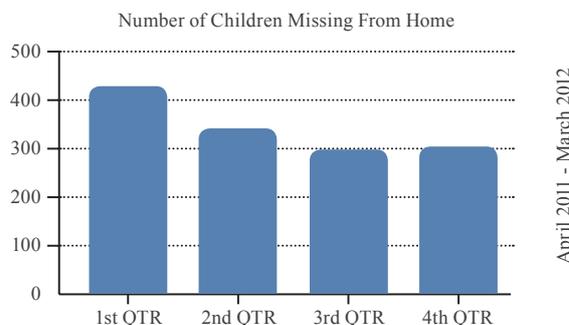
Prevention:



Training: Awareness raising and training has been one priority for ENGAGE, with an average of 300 – 400 attending CSE sessions per quarter. 1750 professionals took part in awareness raising on CSE in 2011-12;

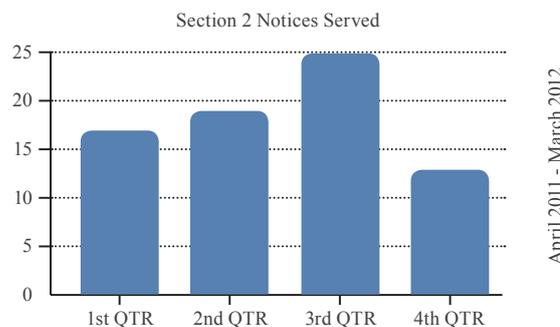


Referrals: Increased from 46 in last quarter of 2009 to 127 in corresponding last quarter of 2012; referrals have been running at an average of 100 per quarter. There was a total of 636 referrals for 2012.

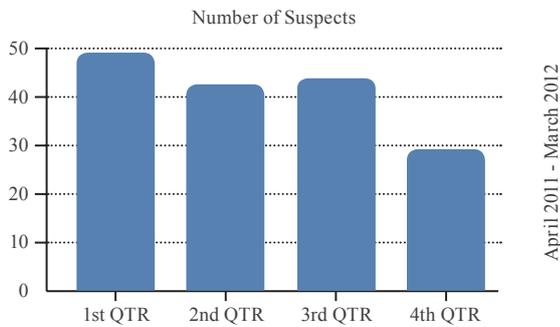


- Missing from home:** The baseline of ‘Missing From Home’ (MFH) reports was 305 per quarter for ‘E Division’ in 2009, with one of the highest rates within the Lancashire Police Authority. While figures for MFH have not declined from this baseline, one innovation has been that ENGAGE became involved in ‘return’ interviews of young people not already receiving social work support from 2010, in order to aid support for any potential disclosure of sexual exploitation by the young person concerned.

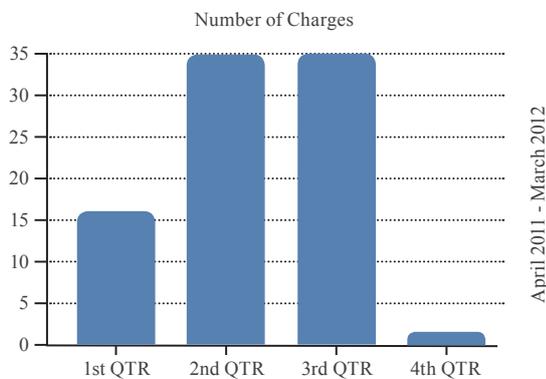
Prosecution:



- Use of section 2 abduction notices (s.2, Child Abduction Act 1984):** These are used as a ‘red line’ warning notice to suspected perpetrators. This measure, crucially, does not require the child’s consent. Use of s.2 notices has varied according to the team’s perception of their value with regard to overall strategy and tactics in relation to individuals and to groups of offenders. In the very early days after the team was first established, 150 s.2 notices were issued within a short period of time. This subsequently declined to a much lower level as other responses were then employed. S.2 notices rose again from 5 in 2009, to 38 in 2012.



- Increased numbers of prosecutions and convictions:**
 Prior to 2008, only one offence of CSE was prosecuted within this Division. The number of offenders increased from 12, with 25 charges, in last quarter of 2009, to 44 offenders and an estimated 19 charges, in the last quarter of 2012.

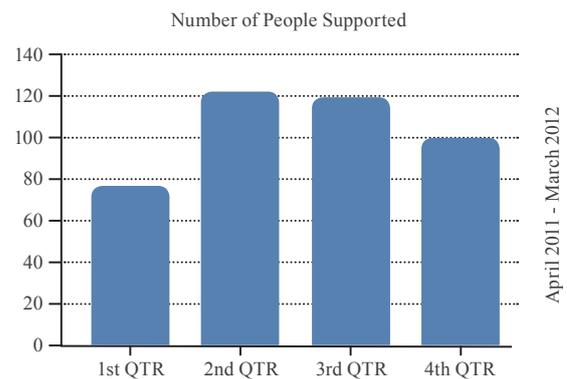


- The number of charges for the final quarter in the graph below is uncharacteristically low, and is not representative of most quarters, which have an average of 25-30 charges brought against suspected offenders per quarterly period.

It is also worth highlighting that 2012 saw the team's first successful 'victimless' prosecution, i.e. a case brought to a successful conclusion, which was based on forensic and other evidence, and which was therefore not reliant upon a complaint in person by the child who was a victim of sexual exploitation.

Protection:

- Pace Support for parents and families:**



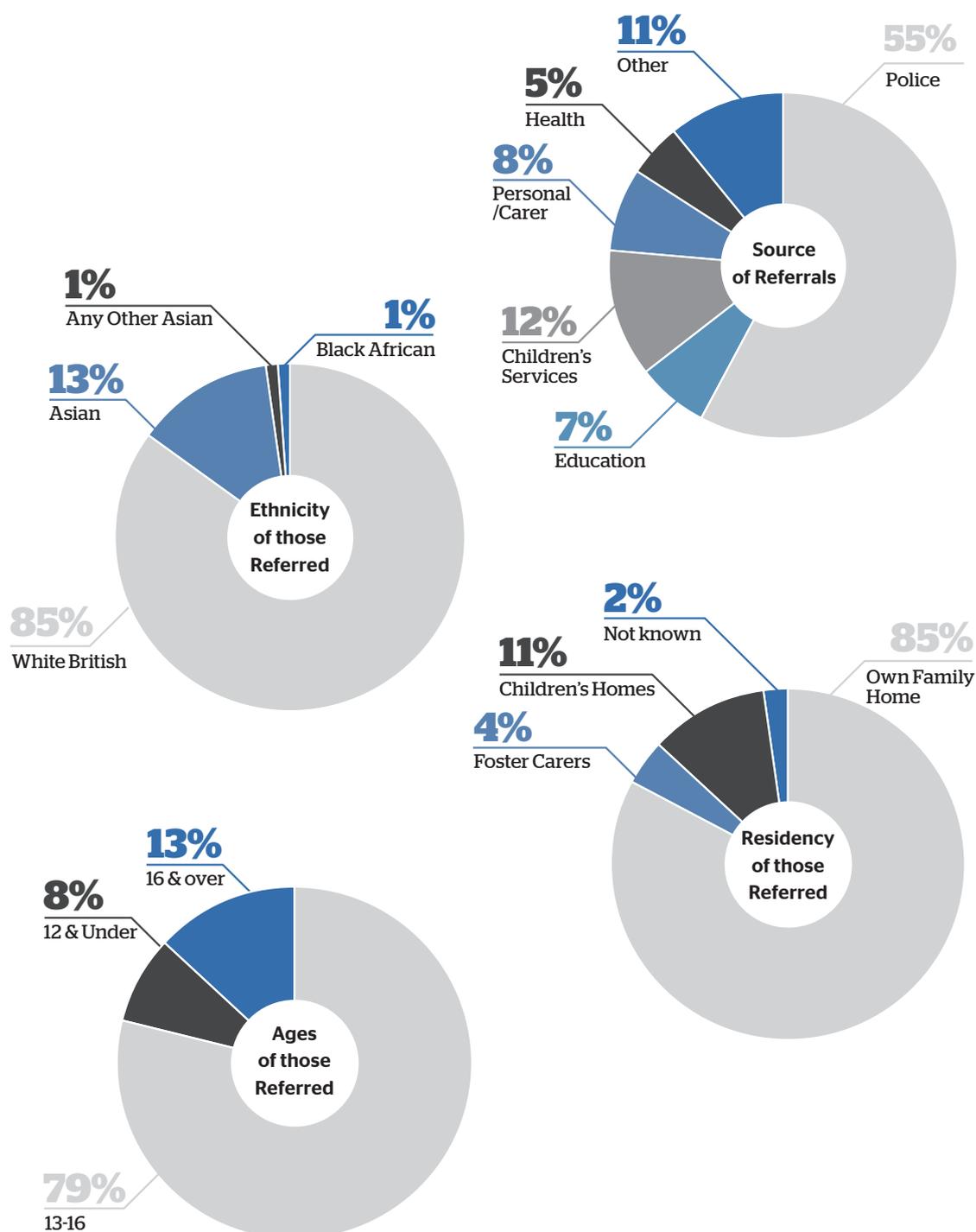
ENGAGE provides a specialist service for families and children referred as being affected by CSE. The team has consistently worked with an average of about 100 young people and families from during each quarter during 2009-12. Roughly a quarter of this figure would comprise parents supported by Pace.

Assessments of risk are carried out by a team member and, generally, both parent(s) and child are allocated a worker. Prior to Pace's involvement, the team member would work with both parent(s) and child, which could be problematic, given that relationships between parent and child were usually intentionally broken or damaged by the abuser via the grooming process, precisely in order to facilitate CSE.

Data on characteristics of children referred to ENGAGE:

More recently, data has been gathered and presented by ENGAGE on the characteristics of children subject to CSE, based on the National Working Group Toolkit format. For the period July – September 2012, the majority of children were referred by statutory agencies, with almost two-thirds coming from the police, but with 18% also coming from parents or carers. In terms of ethnicity, 85% were classed as being White British, with a further 13% being classed as Asian. The majority of those children referred, i.e. 83%, were living at home, with 15% living in children's homes or foster homes. In terms of age at referral, 6% were aged under 12 years (a critical age under the terms of the Sexual Offences Act 2003) and a further 79% aged 13 – 15 years, a key age range for children targeted for CSE purposes, with 15% being aged 16 or over. This data suggests that ENGAGE is working with a diverse population of children at risk, of or experiencing, CSE in terms of age, ethnicity, residence and referral source.

Data on characteristics of children referred to ENGAGE for July - Sept 2012



Conclusion:

It is clear from this overall evaluation that the PSW provided by Pace makes a positive difference to the families affected by CSE. Through PSW support, parents have felt enabled to support their child, throughout the investigation and to the point of prosecution. All four parents interviewed were adamant that, without the constancy of support, they would not have been able to go through the ordeal.

The PSW role makes a unique contribution to multi agency CSE working and one which is valued highly by other members. A model of practice is being developed which has led to a cultural shift within these and other teams. Parents in these four teams are no longer seen as necessarily responsible for the young person being exploited by other adults, but as individuals who want to do everything they can to protect their son or daughter. As such, the CSE teams bring parents on board to protect the young person, so parents are valued and seen as an essential part of the safeguarding process. These four teams have moved away from a traditional child protection model focus to one which emphasises safeguarding using family and parental resources; families feel valued and respected in the process.

Specifically, a PSW in a CSE team enables:

- **Families to engage with the police and Children's Services, because of the trust they place in the PSW;**
- **Parents to feel supported and as a result they become partners in protection;**
- **Parents to share information, which frequently progresses a case, sometimes to the point of prosecution;**
- **Information to become intelligence, which is then used to map and target offenders;**
- **Parents and the young person to attend court in the full knowledge of what will happen and are prepared to give evidence;**
- **Attendance at court which has led to convictions, providing some closure for the victims and family and safeguarding other young people in the process.**

The targets set by Pace for the funders have been exceeded and in the process some innovative best practice for CSE work has been developed. In relation to court work, the model of wrap-around support for one family during a lengthy court case is to be replicated in future CSE work in Lancashire. This model has been outlined in the Pace publication, in an attempt to share best practice nationally (Pace 2013). The PSWs have also linked parents with the Office of the Children's Commissioner for England (OCC), ensuring that their voice is heard and represented in their documentation and guidance. Finally, the Crown Prosecution

Service, are taking into consideration the learning from one court case in their review of cross-examination practice.

Some aspects of the PSW work could be formalised to ensure that all agencies have the same understanding of their role. The PSW is valued for their capacity to gather information from a parent. Given that the information may be used by the police, it is important that any information sharing is carried out in line with the principles of the Data Protection Act 1998. The work of the PSW in each team is slightly different; this has come about as the teams have evolved, however Pace may wish to consider how they would like the PSW role to be defined in future. This seems particularly critical in relation to whether to focus on lower risk preventative work, or high intensity support which is limited to a few families. This would need to be discussed further, before any attempt could be made at national roll out of a PSW role. The issue of capacity is a feature of this evaluation; the PSW work hard and are extremely committed, but the sustainability of such intense and demanding work must be considered.

Although only four parents were interviewed for this evaluation, it is significant that all of them were unanimous in their praise and thanks for the work that the PSW has done with them. In no uncertain terms, each of the parents made it clear that, without the input of a PSW, they would not have been able to manage as a family. It was significant that only four parents wanted to participate in this evaluation. In future, Pace may wish to consider how it engages parents in a qualitative evaluation soon after the end of a trial, in order to prevent these experiences being lost.

It is difficult to abstract Pace's contribution to the Multi-Agency Team and to identify it as being distinctively and solely 'Pace' work. However, each team noted that they could not have achieved the same outcomes without Pace's involvement, especially in the domains of information gathering and court support. It should also be noted that the outcomes that the Pace PSWs achieve in Lancashire are because of their unique contribution to the Multi-Agency Teams' work; it is this synergy between the Parent Support Workers and the Multi-Agency Teams that makes the positive difference.

Appendix A:

Case examples where a PSW has made a difference:

Scenario 1

A female aged 14.8 months was sexually exploited by a male aged 17. Her parents attempted to intervene and raised concerns with school and the Police. These concerns were not acted upon until the young person disclosed that she had been raped and was referred to the CSE team. The perpetrator was sentenced to 14.5 years. Child is no longer at risk.

Scenario 2

A 40 year old man was convicted, given a suspended sentence and name added to Sex Offenders Register, after the parent contacted the police. Her daughter, aged 11 years and 11 months, was in contact with an adult male. Fortunately the CSE team intervened before they met, so it was a non-contact incident involving online grooming and obscene images. Child is no longer at risk.

Scenario 3

A female aged 12 was groomed and sexually exploited by a group of men over a period of 3 years. The mother supported her daughter, via Pace, to go to court on three separate occasions, leading to convictions against a number of men. Child is no longer at risk.

Scenario 4

A PSW became involved with a family, known to social services, at the request of the child's support worker. The young person was being sexually exploited by a group of males; unfortunately, the parents blamed the young person and they tried to protect their younger children by frequently asking to leave. The PSW managed to support the parents, to the point where their attitudes changed towards their daughter. Unfortunately, the young person behaviours escalated to such a degree that she was placed in care. From there she went on to supported living, where she was tracked down again by the men who had exploited her.

Scenario 5

Two sisters aged 15 & 16, one diagnosed with a learning disability, were groomed and sexually exploited by a single male. Three workers were allocated to this family, one for each child and the PSW for the parents. After much discussion, including an internal meeting with the parents, a collective decision was made not to prosecute as it was not in the best interests of the child and would be too traumatic. This is an example of how parents can shape the decision making process. The child is no longer at risk.

Scenario 6

'The PSW did a lot of work with a female who was a constant worry to us, she was a CSE victim but she was not engaging and she did a lot of work' and as a result the intelligence/referrals about the young person stopped. The PSW worked

with her parent and gathered information which led to an arrest, but no prosecution; however a Section 2 notice was served. Child is no longer at risk.

Scenario 7

The PSW worked with a 14 year old girl, and her mother, as the father works abroad. The girl was displaying sexualised behaviour and associating with a number of adult males. The PSW worked with the mother on some of these issues to reduce the risks.

Scenario 8

The CYP worked with a young person who was a Looked After Child in residential care, after making a disclosure of familial rape, involving the mother's new partner. The mother blamed her daughter and suggested that she had 'targeted' her new boyfriend. The CYP asked the PSW to become involved to support the mother. The PSW managed to change the mother's perception about events, which resulted in the case going to court. The family are now reunified and the young person is back at school and less vulnerable. The child is no longer at risk.

Scenario 9

A young person was found by the police in a car with a man. This discovery caused a strain on the family's relationships and the parents felt like they had lost their daughter. The PSW became involved and the parents began to feel supported by the strategies put in place. Despite initially being at high risk of CSE, the young person is now attending college, has made a new set of friends and her behaviour has changed for the better. The child is no longer at risk.

Scenario 10

Five young women under 16 were groomed by a Local Authority adult dance teacher. One girl became pregnant and forced to have an abortion by him. There was a lot of investigative work done by the team with the PSW and the dance teacher was convicted and sentenced to 10 years. One parent went public with this case, exposing the details of how the man groomed their 14 years old daughter and estranged her from her family: 'He taunted her parents over the internet, telling them he was the only family their daughter needed' (Chadderton, 2010).

Scenario 11

A young person at some risk of CSE was staying with her grandmothers, with parents visiting. The young person did not want to engage with any CSE services, but was happy for her parents to. Over a weekend, the PSW received texts about the young person going missing. This was followed up with a visit and led to a disclosure from the young person. If the parent had not texted the PSW, then it would not have been known that the child was missing, because the grandmother did not report it.

Case Scenario 12

A 14 year old girl started to spend time with a crowd of men. There was conflict between the daughter and her mother (who was a single parent) and the young person did not want any intervention. The PSW worked with a CSW for seven months to gain the confidence of them both. Gradually the young person began to trust the workers and ultimately this led to a disclosure. Whilst there was a police investigation, there was not enough evidence to prosecute.

Case scenario 13

A 14 year old girl met a 24 year old male and they began a relationship. When the young person went missing from home, the police searched for the girl and found her being sexually exploited in a hotel. The man was convicted and given a prison sentence of 2.5 years. Since then he has served a further sentence after trying to re-establish contact with the young person. The role of the PSW was to support the parent over a period of 9 months whilst the court case was being pursued.

Case Scenario 14

A 13 year old male met a 23 year old male on the internet. They began communicating and in the end the adult male came to the area, met the family, groomed the family and began a secret relationship with the young person. Somehow, the adult male ended up living in the boy's family home, without the parents being aware that a sexual relationship was taking place. The PSW supported the parent by advising safeguarding solutions, providing emotional support, arranging court visits and supporting the parent through the ABE. The case went to court and ultimately the man was convicted and sentenced to 7.5 years and made to sign the Sex Offenders Register for life. The young man has managed to successfully exit the exploitative relationship and is now doing well.

Case scenario 15

A 14 year old female had a sexual relationship with a 17 year old male, who became violent. The mother did not want any statutory involvement and was reluctant to involve the police. The PSW spent time supporting the mother and realised that she was worried that her daughter might run away if she did anything. In the end, they agreed to police involvement and an abduction notice was served. The relationship ended and the young person was protected from further abuse.

Appendix B: Interview Schedules

Interview Schedule for Parents

Research Question:	
Phases	Interview Questions
Introduction	<p>Introduce self & why we are doing research</p> <p>Thank them for agreeing to see me/us</p> <p>Remind them of right to withdraw/ confidentiality</p> <p>Be clear that the interview is being recorded</p>
Consent	Ask them to sign the consent form, checking if they have any queries
Introductory phase	Can you tell me how you found out about Pace?
Main body of interview	<p>What work has the parent support worker from Pace undertaken with you and your family?</p> <p>Did this support lead to any changes in your situation?</p> <p>Can you tell me about your experiences of the prosecution process?</p> <p>What role did the family support worker play during the prosecution?</p>
Overall question	<p>What has been the impact of CSE on you?</p> <p>And your child?</p>
Concluding questions	<p>Overall can you tell me what did you find most helpful from the Pace family support worker?</p> <p>Overall can you tell me what did you find least helpful from the Pace family support worker?</p>
Closure	<p>Is there anything else that you would like to mention?</p> <p>Is there anything that you would like to ask me?</p> <p>Thank them for their participation</p>

Interview Schedule for professionals

Research Question: Parents as partners in safeguarding children	
Phases	Interview Questions
Introduction	<p>Introduce self & why we are doing this research</p> <p>Thank them for agreeing to see us</p> <p>Remind them of confidentiality</p> <p>Be clear that the interview is to be recorded electronically</p>
Consent	Ask them to sign the consent form, checking if they have any queries
Introductory phase	<p>What is your role within X team?</p> <p>How does the team operate on a day to day basis...? (referrals, case working etc)</p> <p>What are the team's objectives?</p>
Main body of interview	<p>Can you describe to me when you have worked with Parent Support Worker (PSW) to improve the safety of the child?</p> <p>Can you tell me if you have received information from the parents (either directly or through the PSW) and what information was given?</p> <p>Can you tell me what (if any) information have you as an agency shared with a parent?</p>
Overall question	<p>Can you tell me about what impact CSE has on parents...family relations</p> <p>Prompt –could you say more about this...(response dependent)</p> <p>Do you think involving families has had an impact on prosecution rates?</p> <p>Prompt –could you say more about this...(response dependent)</p>
Concluding questions	<p>Finally, what if any evidence do you have of a child exiting CSE ?</p> <p>Prompt: what helped with this?</p>
Closure	<p>Is there anything else that you would like to mention?</p> <p>Is there anything that you would like to ask me?</p> <p>Thank them for their participation</p>

Appendix C: Author Biographies

Emma Palmer

(née Kelly) is a Lecturer in Social Work at Lancaster University. Emma is a registered social worker and has experience of child protection social work. Emma has a particular interest in child trafficking and child sexual exploitation and the links between the two.

Peter Jenkins

is a Senior Lecturer in Counselling at the University of Manchester. He is qualified as a social worker and worked as a social worker, prior to developing a career as a counsellor, trainer and researcher

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