

Welcome to the November news roundup and Seasons Greetings from the SAFE Team. If you would like to see our video card please click on the image below:

SEASON'S GREETINGS from the SAFE Team

You will find below a summary of the key safeguarding news from November this year along with details of our 2018 training courses in Suffolk for staff, volunteers, senior management and also those who lead on safeguarding in their organisations. All our courses take place in our Suffolk office at IP23 7HU. We have added some exciting new courses to the portfolio. Click the links below to find out more or [click here](#) to see all our currently scheduled 2018 training dates.

Managing Adult & Child Safeguarding in Your Organisation

[23rd January 2018](#)

[20th June 2018](#)

Warner Value Based Recruitment Training

[20th February 2018](#)

[14th June 2018](#)

Single Central Record Workshop

[15th March 2018](#)

Safer Recruitment Training

[16th May 2018](#)

Combined Child and Adult Safeguarding Courses

[1st February 2018](#)

[8th May 2018](#)

[11th September 2018](#)

Child Safeguarding for Designated Leads

[8th February 2018](#)

[24th May 2018](#)

[19th September 2018](#)

Safeguarding Adults at Risk for Designated Leads

[27th February 2018](#)

[8th June 2018](#)

[12th October 2018](#)

A round up of safeguarding news for November 2017

Legislation and Bills

UK

The Law is to change on position of trust to include sports coaches.

Tracey Crouch, Parliamentary Under-Secretary (Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport) has announced that she has secured ministerial agreement with the Ministry of Justice and the Home Office to change laws on the position of trust to include sports coaches.

The abuse of the position of trust is defined in the Sexual Offences Act 2003

To read this legislation [click here](#)

Statutory, Non Statutory Guidance, Guidelines, Advice and Briefing updates

England

1. Statutory guidance visiting children with special educational needs and disabilities or health conditions in long- term residential settings November 2017

This is statutory guidance from the Department for Education. This means that recipients must have regard to it when carrying out duties relating to health and safety and security issues. The guidance covers safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people placed in residential schools, hospitals, and other residential establishments for consecutive periods of three months or more. This guidance does not apply to looked-after children.

To read the guidance [click here](#)

Reports, Reviews, Research and Inquiries

1. The results of the survey, published by the National Children's Bureau, show that two-thirds (66%) of lead members for children said their local authority lacked the resources to provide universal services like children's centres and youth clubs. Four in ten (40%) said they didn't have enough money to meet one or more of their statutory duties to children. Over a third (35%) said their local authority lacked the resources to support 'children in need' [i], with 35% having insufficient funding to help children in care, and nearly 1 in three (30%) lacking the resources to support children with protection plans.

2. Children's Voices: The Wellbeing of Children involved in Gangs in England November

2017 This paper published by the Children's Commissioner for England reports the findings from an evidence review of the views, perspectives and experiences of children involved in gangs, on matters related to their subjective wellbeing.

3. The Cafcass Policy Team has produced new research to better understand what can be learnt from Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) in Cafcass

. The report analyses data from 15 SCRs to which Cafcass contributed between December 2015 and 2016, and from 97 submissions to SCRs between 2009 and 2016. It looks into the children and families involved, the serious incident, the risks known at the time the case was open to Cafcass and practice learning.

The study of the 97 cases found:

- Just over a third of serious incidents occurred while family court proceedings were ongoing.
- About 60% of cases involved the death of a child and 40% serious harm.
- Almost half involved physical abuse or homicides.
- A quarter related to neglect or co-sleeping, occurring in both private and public law cases.

4. Statistics on individuals referred to and supported through the Prevent Programme, April 2015 to March 2016 has been published

Worthy of note

1. Police investigations into children sharing sexual images of themselves and others, have more than doubled in two years, figures have shown. Forces in England and Wales recorded, 6,238 underage "sexting" offences in 2016-17, a rate of 17 a day.

2. Action Fraud have noticed that Fraudsters have been setting up fake adverts on social media (including Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp) and job browsing websites to dupe people into believing they are recruiting for prospective models. Once a victim shows interest in the modelling jobs, fraudsters contact victims on the false promise of a career and ask them to come in for a test photo shoot.

The fraud is then carried out in two ways;

- Fraudsters pressurise victims into sending an upfront fee to book a slot for the test shoot. Once they have received the upfront fee, the victim will never hear from the fraudsters again.
- Fraudsters will take the advance fee that the victim sends for a photo shoot and arrange a photo shoot with the victim. After the photo shoot, the fraudsters will contact the victim after a few days and convince them that their shoot was successful and offer them a job as a model. The victim will then be asked to sign a contract and pay another upfront fee, usually to secure the modeling contract.

3. A victim of child sex abuse denied compensation by a Government agency because it said he "consented" has now received an apology.

The young man, who was abused from the age of 13, [was told by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority](#), that he would not receive any money because he had not been the victim of a crime.

He was groomed online and abused by 23 men, 21 of whom have been convicted of offences including sexual activity with a child, causing or inciting a child to engage in sexual activity and meeting a child after sexual grooming.

His family's appeal for compensation was rejected and an appeal was due to be heard later this month. But the agency [has now revised its position](#) just days ahead of the planned appeal.

4. Operation Pallial, the independent NCA investigation into allegations of past abuse in the care system of North Wales, began in November 2012 at the request of Mark Polin, the Chief Constable of North Wales Police

To date there have been nine convictions, including care home owner John Allen who was sentenced to life in prison in December 2014.

In the five years the operation has been running, 365 people have made contact with the NCA team. Investigations into the evidence provided by 250 of them have concluded and details provided by 42 complainants are either with the Crown Prosecution Service for consideration of charges, or are part of active investigations.

5. The number of young people acting as 'money mules' has doubled. A mule allows their bank account to be used by others to transfer money in and out of it, and in return, keep some of the money for themselves.

The money to be laundered is likely to have come from drug smuggling, people trafficking and terrorism, experts say.

If caught, money mules have their bank accounts closed and could face jail.

Between January and September of this year, there were 8,652 cases involving 18-24-year-olds.

6. Three more women have come forward to claim they were sexually abused by a Cistercian monk at Caldey Island abbey in the 1970s and 80s, This followed that six women had brought a civil claim against the Cistercian order on the island off the coast of Pembrokeshire, alleging they were sexually abused as children by one of its monks, Father Thaddeus Kotik, who died in 1992.

7. There has been a fake Fingerling warning after razor blades were found when a mum who ordered a must-have Christmas toy from eBay. She found razor blades taped inside the packaging.

And the reason to remain vigilant in all aspects of safeguarding

1. A construction engineer has been sentenced after repeatedly watching the rape and sexual abuse of children in an online chat room.

Michael Sheehan, aged 54, possessed 981 illegal images of child abuse including 253 category A stills (the most serious) and nine category A videos. He also had an application form for a secret paedophile club interested in image sharing and contact abuse and that Sheehan had discussed his interest in raping young boys and searched for, shared and

encouraged others to use access codes to the chat room.

2. A father who caused fatal injuries to his 18-month-old adopted daughter has been convicted of her murder.

Matthew Scully-Hicks, 31, had denied killing Elsie Scully-Hicks in May 2016 but was found guilty by a jury at Cardiff Crown Court.

The trial heard how Scully-Hicks told the 999 call operator that he was changing Elsie's nappy and found her "limp and floppy" on the floor. She was rushed to hospital but died four days later as a result of her injuries.

A medical examination following her death revealed that Elsie had suffered injuries to her brain and eyes which experts considered to be consistent with being gripped and violently shaken.

The examination also revealed Elsie had suffered fractures to her ribs, thigh and the base of her skull.

3. A pensioner has been sentenced to 40 months in jail after repeatedly trying to engage children in sexual activity. Trevor Rudge, 65, pleaded guilty to 17 charges after a National Crime Agency investigation.

When NCA officers arrested him at his home on 6 May 2016, he said: "The stuff I've done has been role play, I've never met anyone."

4. Jon Page, 46, used the screen name wolfpupjohn as he shared and discussed indecent images of children and extreme pornography.

NCA officers found messages in which Page responded enthusiastically to a fantasy about rape and necrophilia involving children.

He was sentenced to three and a half years in prison at Southwark Crown Court yesterday after admitting 22 offences relating to indecent images of children, drug possession and bestiality.

5. A Belfast man who had more than 20,000 images of child abuse on his computer has been jailed following a joint National Crime Agency-PSNI investigation.

The material held by Ramsay Pennycook, 29, of Holywood, Belfast, included items in the most serious category for child abuse images.

Pennycook was today sentenced at Downpatrick Crown Court to six months in jail and 18 months on licence.

We was ordered to sign the sex offenders register for 10 years and given a five-year sexual harm prevention order.

And Finally

When the next roundup of news is circulated Christmas will be over and a new year commenced. Action Fraud Christmas shopping reports a rise by over a quarter in 2016 in frauds. They urge vigilance when shopping for this Christmas.

- 15,423 people reported being a victim of shopping fraud
- Online auction fraud accounted for 65% of reports
- Victims reported losing over £16 million in total, 45% more than the year before
- Men aged 20-29 most commonly fall victim

This Christmas the [City of London Police](#), who run Action Fraud, and supported by police forces across the country, are launching a campaign to help prevent people from becoming victims of shopping and auction fraud, as well as other types of fraud which people fall victim to during the seasonal period. Throughout the Christmas period, the City of London Police will be reminding Christmas shoppers that 'It's the thought that counts' at Christmas time and the importance of thinking about potential fraudsters and how to avoid them.

And the Information Commissioners blog lists 12 ways that Christmas shoppers can keep children and data safe when buying smart toys and devices

To read these tips [click here](#)

If you would like to know more about SAFEcic don't hesitate to contact us.

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