



BSCB Conference
Liz Hall

6th June 2019

+ UK statistics

2016 – 2017

63,663 sexual offences against children recorded by the police in the UK (England and Northern Ireland under 18, Scotland and Wales under 16)
(Bentley et al 2018)

2011 – 2012

21,493 sexual offences recorded. *(Harker, L et al 2013)*

196% increase in 5 years

2015 – 2016

52, 898 sexual offences
(Bentley, H et al 2017)



+ The increase is substantial

An escalation in prevalence

Improved police recording

Reflection of an increased willingness to report abuse

High profile cases in media



+ What are the problems with our current service provision for child sexual abuse and exploitation?



+ It is increasingly being recognised as a public health problem. *(Brown, O'Donne;; & Erooga, 2011)*



- Impacting substantially on long term outcomes including physical health.
- Recovery is complex, specialist/tailor made care required
- A variety of agencies – statutory voluntary, & community involved which can make care disjointed.
- **Concern raised in 2015 by children’s commissioner – only 1 in 8 victims of CSA come to the notice of statutory authorities.** *(Children’s commissioner for England 2015)*

The Goddard Review
+ identified a better approach would be to introduce ‘child houses’
Goddard, Harewood, & Brennan 2015

+ 'Child House' groups several models adopted internationally together...

- **Child Advocacy Centre**
- USA & Canada 1980's
- Multi disciplinary team
- Trauma informed practice
- Access to variety of therapeutic interventions including therapy dogs
- Interviews conducted by professional interviewers.
- **Barnahus** (Children's house)
- Iceland 1998
- Homelike setting, all services delivered under one roof
- Least possible interviews conducted by child-expert staff
- Guaranteed and rapid access to therapy
- Links with judiciary

+ Barnahus model since been adopted in Sweden, Norway, Denmark (Children's Commissioner 2016)

- Improved partnership working between police and CSC
- Improved therapeutic outcomes for children and their families
- Improvements in children's and families experience of the criminal justice process
- Improvements in the quality of investigations
- Increase in perpetrators charged & increase in conviction

+ The Lighthouse, London's Child House (MOPAC December 2018)

- Opened in October 2018
- 2 year pilot
- Foremost aim to be focussed on the child
- Brings together a range of organisations under one roof.
- Child friendly
- Multi disciplinary service for child sexual abuse and exploitation
- Based in Camden – serves Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey & Islington

+ Primary outcomes

- Enhanced referral pathway into and out of the Lighthouse
- Enhance CYP, family and carer experience of support received post disclosure
- Enhance mental health and well-being outcomes for CYP
- Enhance CYP experience of the criminal justice process
- Enhance professional awareness, competence and confidence
- Increased likelihood of charge and conviction
- Providing CSA victims care & support to reduce the long term impact of victimisation
- Enhance partnership working

+ www.thelighthouse-london.org.uk



Figure 1: Enhanced aspects of the Lighthouse

+ www.thelighthouse-london.org.uk



+ www.thelighthouse-london.org.uk



+ The young persons advocate

- An advocate will guide children and their families through their journey towards recovery. This helps make sure they receive all the support they need easily and quickly. The advocate also supports children and young people through the court process

+ Medical support

- A play specialist helps children prepare for the medical assessments with the paediatrician who is supported by a nurse. The child or young person can be seen alone or with a parent, carer or trusted adult.

+ Evidence gathering

- A clinical psychologist can conduct the Achieving Best Evidence (ABE) interview, with support from a police officer. By putting the young person's emotional needs first we can help reduce re-traumatisation and gather the best evidence

+ Emotional health and wellbeing

- Early and long-term support is offered through Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), the NSPCC's Letting the Future In (LFI) and Protect and Respect services. This additional emotional support helps children and young people to recover
- Each child has a tailored response for up to 2 years.
- 20 - 30 sessions using 'Letting the future in' programme.
- 'Protect & respect' programme used for CSE

+ Support from police and social workers

- Two police liaison officers and two social care liaison officers, act as links offering advice and liaison to local police, children's social care services and MASH teams (multi-agency safeguarding hubs)

+ Funding partnership

■ The Lighthouse is funded by the Home Office, NHS England, the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and the Department for Education. NHS England has commissioned the health and wellbeing services which will be provided by University College London Hospitals (UCLH) and The Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trusts, and NSPCC, supported by Morgan Stanley



+ <https://youtu.be/4pJlTWcDDsU>



+ What are the likely obstacles? and how could we overcome them to deliver something similar in Bristol?



+ Any Questions?



Seven horizontal lines for notes.



Thank You

Liz Hall
aspire.inbox@gmail.com

Seven horizontal lines for notes.