



Annual report 2010/11





Safe & Sound Derby support young people who are at risk of, or are being sexually exploited. This year our project team have worked directly with 101 females and 28 males to provide them with advice and information to enable them to move away from risky situations. Also this year our Parent Support Worker began to support parents and carers whose children were affected by sexual exploitation.

Contents:	3
Keeping Derby Safe and Sound	4
Stories	7
Runaway	8
Operation Retriever	10
Raising Awareness	12
Numbers	14
Just Whistle	15
Summary	

Keeping Derby Safe and Sound



In early 2011 Safe & Sound launched the 'Keeping Derby Safe & Sound' appeal, aiming to raise £500,000 over two years, thus ensuring the future of the charity and its work with vulnerable children and young people.

Friends and supporters of Safe & Sound Derby joined Fiona Cannon, High Sheriff of Derbyshire, and Steve Boxall of Boxall Brown & Jones to launch the Keeping Derby Safe & Sound appeal at Pride Park Stadium in February. As a charity, Safe & Sound is dependent on public support and donations, and all funds raised through the appeal will help secure the future of the charity for the next few years and beyond.

“The recent case [Operation Retriever] which resulted in a number of men being jailed for sexual offences against children and young people in the city must have shocked everyone... The problem hasn't gone away... Safe & Sound work with these children every day, I've seen their work and making sure they can continue with it needs to be a priority for all of us.” – Steve Boxall, Appeal Chair.

The appeal hopes to raise half a million pounds over the next two years which will ensure Safe & Sound Derby can continue working with children and young people in the city who are at risk of, or are being sexually exploited. Safe & Sound's role in bringing the Operation Retriever offenders to justice has been described as pivotal by the Police.

Maria

Maria's story

Maria's* daughter, Aneesa* was referred to Safe & Sound in July 2010. Maria was struggling to cope with the effect that sexual exploitation was having on her daughter; Aneesa was often missing from home, and her behaviour had changed. Aneesa's Project Worker referred Maria to Safe & Sound Derby's Parent Support Worker.

Maria felt very alone, despite the fact that many agencies, including children's social care and the police, were involved in her life. She believed that everyone thought she was a bad parent. Maria says, "My life felt like a snow globe; everything had been shook up, I was stuck in the middle, and the snow never settled." Safe & Sound's Parent Support Worker visited Maria once a week, getting to know her and learning to understand Maria's relationship with her daughter. The worker also helped Maria to understand what was happening to Aneesa by explaining how young people can be groomed and exploited by adults, and looking at what her daughter might be experiencing.

Maria continues to meet regularly with our Parent Support Worker, while Aneesa sees her Safe & Sound Project Worker weekly. Maria feels much more positive about the future; Aneesa's risk of being sexually exploited has reduced, and Maria's relationship with her daughter is much improved.

"Safe & Sound make me smile. My worker doesn't always come round just to talk about my daughter; it can be all about me. She brings some normality to my chaotic life."

*All names have been changed to protect identities



Aneesa

Maria's daughter Aneesa* wrote these words to describe her life when she was being exploited, and how she feels now.

Hearts can be broken, minds can be f*****
Dreams can be shattered and lives can be took
Life can be dark and times can be sad
You curse everything with words spoken bad.

You try anything to get you high and smiling
Browns, white, ganja, pills and white lightning
For a couple of minutes buzz what you do gain
When you know in the morning you'll still be in pain.

It's ok, dry your eyes you know you are stronger
That's what they tell you but yet you feel it no longer
Close your eyes while you're laying there
Because you know it will scare you seeing him stare.

It will be over sooner than you think
You can get out of there now and find another link
Then the same thing will happen just the person changes
Don't forget what I told you and be careful of the dangers.

She says that to me silently
I give it no thought and get into the car quietly
But tonight I was raped and my life won't be the same
For I was a drug addict just another whore to the game.

When you think you're cool smoking weed with your friends
Getting kicked out of school and 'repping your ends'
Listen to me now and listen to me good
I was you at one point reppin my hood.

It got me nowhere just a bad reputation
I lost touch of reality and civilisation
Lost everything like my friends and family
Never thought that I'd be that lonely.

Sitting in the rain crying and clutching my knees
Praying to God saying take me please
How did I get there I do not know
I can honestly say I never felt that low.

But I'm higher now and getting back on track
No more drugs now, no phet, weed or crack
I've got the life that I want without all the bad
Doing well with my life and got back my mum and dad.

My happiness is back and that's how it's staying
But that was my story and this is the ending.

Simon

Simon's story

Simon* was 12 when he was referred to Safe & Sound Derby for support. The referral was made when it was discovered that Simon was planning to meet an older male he had been messaging on the internet.

"I wanted to find out more about my sexuality and used the internet to do this. I understand now that I was putting myself at risk of sexual exploitation." Simon explains.

Simon met regularly with his Safe & Sound project worker to explore how he could learn more about his sexuality in a safe way. Simon says, "It was nice to be able to talk openly about my feelings, and not be interrogated. My project worker really listened and helped me through it."

Simon also took part in lots of activities on offer at Safe & Sound Derby, including drama therapy sessions and music workshops.

His self-esteem and confidence increased, enabling him to deal with other issues in his life more effectively, such as the bullying he encountered at school. Through Safe & Sound Derby, Simon also became involved in a national project looking at the development of support services for sexually exploited children and young people, and he continues to input his ideas into this project.

Simon now has clear plans for his future, including further and higher education, and no longer needs Safe & Sound Derby's support, but he knows that he can get in contact with us whenever he feels he needs to.

"If I saw someone suffering the way that I did I'd send them to see Safe & Sound. Safe & Sound has really helped me - I am stronger, more confident and feel better within myself. The people here are amazing."

*All names have been changed to protect identities



Runaway

Words courtesy of a young person aged 14

I packed my bag this morning
Left a note of warning
I need to get away
Run far away
I'm getting out
I'm breakin' free
I'm leavin' home
You will see
To get away from you.

I'm gonna runaway
Get away
Escape from you
Be wild and free
You will see
I'm breakin' free
I'm about to leave
Escape from you.

I'm on the train now
I'm running away now
I'm not insane now
I've escaped yeah.

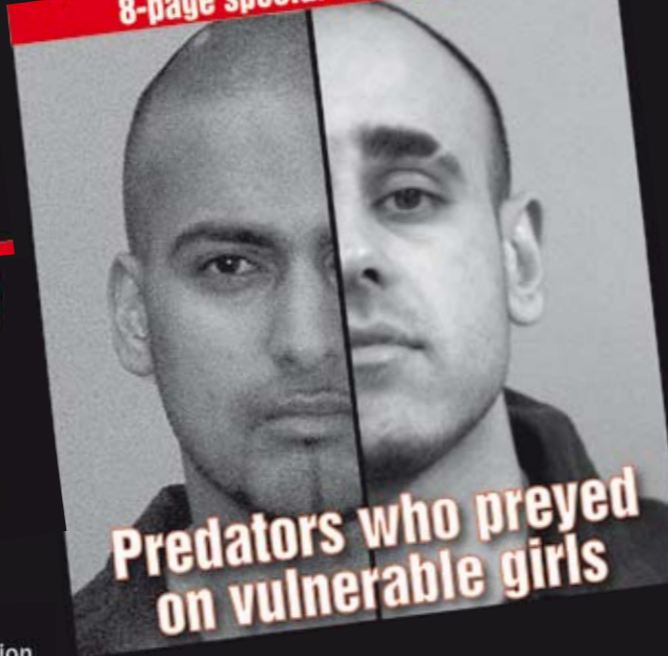
I'm on the highroad
I'm doing it alone
Get away from you
I know what to do.

I'm far away now
I'm breakin' free somehow.

MONSTERS IN OUR MIDST

A Derby Telegraph publication

8-page special investigation



Predators who preyed on vulnerable girls

Operation Retriever

Operation Retriever was a large scale Derbyshire Police investigation resulting in nine men being found guilty of a range of sexual and other offences involving 27 children and young people. The verdicts attracted national media coverage and raised awareness and understanding of child sexual exploitation across the UK and beyond.

In November 2010, after ten months of court hearings, nine men were convicted for their part in the sexual abuse and other crimes involving 27 young women. In January 2011, the two ringleaders were given indefinite prison sentences, and branded 'sexual predators' by the judge.

Safe & Sound Derby worked with a number of the victims and witnesses before, during and after the trial. Project Workers supported the girls and young women as they courageously came forward to give information to the police, and later when they gave evidence in court, talking openly about what they had experienced.

Detective Superintendent Debbie Platt, from Derbyshire Constabulary, said, "Safe & Sound has been an invaluable support to the force throughout the recent long-running investigation into child sexual exploitation in Derby... Child protection is the number one priority of the force and the work done by Safe & Sound makes a real difference to the welfare of young people in Derby."

Safe & Sound Derby supports young people who have experienced sexual exploitation by building a relationship with them, offering them a safe space, listening to them, and helping them to make their own decisions about the future and how they move away from exploitative and abusive relationships. "We give time to these children. They might bake a cake... or play on the computer, which is usually when they disclose what has been happening to them, a little bit at a time." – Sheila Taylor, Chair.

Raising awareness of child sexual exploitation



Over the past 12 months Safe & Sound Derby has worked tirelessly to raise awareness of child sexual exploitation. We have met with government ministers, presented at conferences, delivered training, and spoken with those working both inside and outside Derby City, offering our experiences to help in the fight against child sexual exploitation. We were also featured on Radio 5 Live in an audio-documentary for Comic Relief.

The national media interest that followed the verdicts and sentencing in Operation Retriever brought the issue of child sexual exploitation to the forefront of the minds of the public, politicians and policy makers alike.

Throughout this year, Safe & Sound Derby has regularly contributed to national policy and planning around child sexual exploitation including:

- Meeting with the Minister for Crime Prevention and the Minister for Children & Families to discuss the scale of child sexual exploitation and possible solutions to the issue
- Presenting at the Tackling Sexual Violence Conference in London
- Hosting the Deputy Children's Commissioner on a visit to Safe & Sound to discuss Operation Retriever and suggest ways to move the issue forward at a national level

- Attending Preventing Child Sexual Exploitation: Project Advisory Group meetings at the Home Office
- Attending the 'Vulnerable Young People on the Run' conference in Brussels, following an invitation from the Queen of Belgium
- Attending the European Human Trafficking Symposium at The Hague.

Locally, Safe & Sound Derby's training coordinator provided training to 713 professionals working with children, young people and families in Derby. Training aims to increase awareness of child sexual exploitation and how to spot it.

"(The course has given me) more awareness of how a child is drawn in... I know what to look for now."
– Training Course Attendee

Through work, we aim to influence policy and practice to ensure that the victims of child sexual exploitation and their families receive the support they need to move forward positively in their lives.

"We have been tackling this issue in Derby since 1999 so would argue that sexual exploitation isn't a new or growing crime but many people seem to be unaware of it." – Sheila Taylor, Chair

Numbers

The statistics behind our work

**SAFE and SOUND
STREET TEAM**

Safe & Sound Derby continues to work with children and young people who are vulnerable to sexual exploitation. This year, our support has extended to include the parents and carers of these children, as we piloted a Parent Support Work project.

In 2010-11 Safe & Sound Derby received 105 referrals to their service, many of which were for children and young people who were at risk of being placed in danger through sexual exploitation. This is a marked increase in the number of referrals received in 2009-10, which may be due to the increased awareness following the publicity around Operation Retriever.

This year 129 children and young people received support from a Safe & Sound project worker through one-to-one work. We have also introduced weekly small group sessions where up to six young people are invited to complete an eight week piece of work to reduce their risk of being sexually exploited.

“Safe & Sound help me understand more about all the risks that could happen every day which makes me more alert.”
– Young person, aged 14

This year, our work with these young people has been strengthened by our pilot Parent Support Project. A Parent Support Worker was appointed in June 2010, and supported 17 parents/carers of whose children were being, or at risk of being,

sexually exploited. Safe & Sound have long understood the need to support families affected by the abuse of their child, helping them to develop strategies to protect not only their child, but themselves and the whole family unit. Next year, this work will further develop thanks to increased funding.

The outreach team, consisting of two staff members and a dedicated team of volunteers continued to be seen around Derby this year. The team spoke with 1,038 children and young people at under 18s events, in youth clubs and on the streets, about staying safe and offered advice on specific issues which were brought to their attention.

Our work in schools and other educational settings meant that 5,707 children and young people in Derby were made aware of child sexual exploitation, providing them the information needed to help prevent them from becoming victims.

“I have found this lesson really helpful and I have learnt a lot. I know more about sexual exploitation than I did before.” – Young person, aged 13

Just Whistle

If you need to understand more about child sexual exploitation, justWhistle.

This year, our social enterprise company, registered in January 2010, has gone from strength to strength, and with the help of a grant from Comic Relief, the team started running child sexual exploitation training and events under the trading name justWhistle. The team also organised the fourth National Safe & Sound Conference in Nottingham.

Despite the tough economic climate, the enterprise has delivered 51 educational events and training courses across the UK, generating additional sales income of £65,000. Two young people with direct experience of sexual exploitation spoke at some of these events, giving delegates a real understanding of the impact of this abuse on a victim and their family.

justWhistle,
for help in the fight against child sexual exploitation.

These events have helped 1,273 professionals working in relevant fields to improve their service delivery, increasing awareness and understanding of child sexual exploitation by an average of 55%.

Feedback from delegates has also been very encouraging with many people scoring our events at 10/10 and some saying that it was the best training experience of their careers. The average value of all the training events was scored at 8.4/10.

To help expand delivery across the UK, a team of well-qualified Associates has been recruited.

Summary

This is a short financial summary taken from the Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2011.

Income	2009-2010	2010-2011
Grants	£306,119	£xxx
Donations & Gifts in Kind	£61,071	£xxx
Training and Conferences	£9,825	
Interest	£58	£xxx
Other income	£4,392	£xxx
Total	£381,465	£xxx
Expenditure		
Fundraising	£8,430	£xxx
On-site support & outreach service	£361,280	£xxx
Governance costs	£11,562	£xxx
Total	£381,272	£xxx
Carried forward		
Restricted	£85,235	£xxx
Unrestricted	£81,505	£xxx

Safe & Sound Derby would like to thank all its supporters, including:

All Saints Trust
Austin & Hope Pilkington Trust
BBC Children in Need
Cameron Hughes
Comic Relief
Derby City Council
Henry Smith Charity
Home Office
Ingles Charitable Trust
LankellyChase Foundation
Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales
Lubrizol
Ministry of Justice
Origination
Rolls-Royce plc
The Ryklow Charitable Trust 1992
Sofronie Foundation





Safe & Sound Derby

PO Box 7077, Derby DE1 0AL

tel: 01332 362120

email: info@safeandsoundderby.co.uk

web: www.safeandsoundderby.co.uk

Registered Charity 1093936

Company Limited by Guarantee 4411425