Social Value Report 2025

KAREN LIVESEY & NO WHISPERS CIC:
Breaking the Silence on Child Exploitation

KAREN LIVESEY:
Founder & Safeguarding Advocate

- QUALIFIED TEACHER & YOUTH WORKER (30+ Years Experience)
- EXPERIENCED SAFEGUARDING TRAINER
- PASSIONATE ADVOCATE (Driven by rise in CSE cases)

NO WHISPERS CIC:
A Community Interest Company

MISSION: Inform, Educate, & Empower Adults to Prevent Child Sexual & Criminal Exploitation

VISION: A World Free from Child Exploitation

CORE FOCUS
- CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE)
- CHILD CRIMINAL EXPLOITATION (CCE) & COUNTY LINES
- SAFEGUARDING EDUCATION

THE APPROACH:
Knowledge into Action

TARGET AUDIENCE
- PROFESSIONALS (Teachers, Social Care, Health)
- PARENTS & CAREGIVERS
- COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

RESOURCES
(Spotting signs. Early Intervention, Reporting)

TRAINING & WORKSHOPS
(Interactive & Impactful)

THE IMPACT:
Safeguarding Futures & Giving a Voice

- BREAKING THE SILENCE (No Whispers)
- PREVENTING ABUSE (Equipping adults to protect children)
- COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT (Fostering community safety)

Source information. Based on public records and No Whispers CIC publications.

Background & Context

No Whispers Community Interest Company (CIC) was established by Karen Livesey on 28th Feb 2020 with the aim of tackling Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Criminal Exploitation. Different sources lead us to believe that child exploitation is a thing of the past and yet if we look closer, we can see the problem of Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Criminal Exploitation are of significant and current concerns, impacting people and communities across the country.

The Government's Tackling Child Sexual Abuse Progress Update, April 2025, identifies how the scale of child sexual abuse is truly staggering as children make up only **20%** of the population but are the victims of **40%** of all sexual offences.

We know from research from the Home Office, The Children's Society, and the NSPCC that Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE), and County Lines are not isolated issues but are deeply interconnected through shared grooming tactics, methods of control, and the "layering" of abuse.

The Working Together to Safeguard Children now groups child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation under the same "Extra-familial Harm" Framework. This is nothing new as child exploitation can take many forms including forced begging, child financial exploitation and county lines. The Keeping Children Safe in Education increasingly links children missing from home with the risk of child exploitation.

Mrs Amanda Parker JP, HM Lord-Lieutenant of Lancashire stated how the training …"**Helps organisations recognise the signs of exploitation and provides vital information in the fight against child exploitation and associated crimes"**

Home Office estimates show that approximately **15,500** children were identified as at risk or involved in child criminal exploitation in the year ending March 2025, this is likely to be a significant underestimate on the scale of the problem.

"Coming to these workshops has helped me understand county lines and what he had been going through" from a mother whose son was involved with knife crime and criminally exploited

No Whispers CIC leads change by educating and informing people about the issues and complexities of child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation. It creates safe space, innovative training and promotes a better understanding, so we can each make a difference and contribute towards a safer community and prevent children and young people from becoming victims of exploitation & abuse.

Right Here, Right Now National Lottery

No Whispers CIC was awarded a National Lottery Community Fund for the Right Here, Right Now contextual safeguarding project in South Ribble. This project aimed to help volunteers, parents & carers and members of the community understand child sexual and criminal exploitation through interactive, informative and impactful activities. Objectives included gaining knowledge of the grooming process and how people can prevent children and young people from becoming victims of abuse.

300 **people engaged**

- **Community Leaders**
- **Parents & Carers**
- **Volunteers**
- **School Governors**
- **NHS Workers**
- **Housing Support Staff**
- **Taxi Drivers**
- **University Students**
- **Youth Leaders**
- **Councillors**

Key Partners

These partnerships helped extend safeguarding awareness across multiple sectors and communities

- **Progress Housing Group**
- **South Ribble Borough Council**
- **Victim Support**
- **Missing People**
- **Lads Like Us**
- **Neighbourhood Police & Cyber Crime Unit**
- **Community groups**

"Strong support networks have been formed as part of this project; providing informative & supportive spaces to build knowledge & confidence in safeguarding and reporting child exploitation & abuse" **Alex Morton – South Ribble Youth Engagement Officer**

The project covered online safety, how to recognise signs of abuse, the grooming process, how to disrupt exploitation, identify child sexual offences, how and where to report; child criminal exploitation, cuckooing, human trafficking, missing from home and county lines.

Activities

Interactive Workshops

Covering Child Sexual Exploitation, Child Criminal Exploitation, County Lines and Cuckooing

CPD Training

Accredited child exploitation awareness training for professionals & members of the community

Webinars with Missing People

Information for professionals, parents & carers including the confidential helpline **Safecall**

Karen Livesey with Faith Trott & Hannah Hester students at the University of Lancashire

Community Safeguarding Events

102 people, from **18-92 yrs old** attended a community event with guest speakers at St Mary's Community Centre in partnership with **Progress Housing Group**

Project - South Ribble

Impact from the Right Here Right Now project included:

A better understanding of child exploitation and increased confidence in order to take further action. Examples include updating Safeguarding policies, questioning & challenging interventions from social workers, police and family Councillors and improved relationships with family members.

Preventing children and young people from becoming victims of sexual exploitation. Many people recognised early stages of grooming both in person and online. One mother identified signs of online grooming only because she had attended the workshops. She reported it to the police and appropriate support was provided from the police exploitation team. This issue occurred many times with people recognising the signs and spotting child exploitation in their community.

"The commitment show by everyone involved with No Whispers CIC is deeply admirable.
The project is a shining example of community-led safeguarding work in action - making a real and lasting difference to young people and families in South Ribble".

Councillor Paul Wharton-Hardman BEM Mayor of South Ribble

Certificate Presentation Event, Oonagh McDonnell, Faith Trott, Russell Hogarth, Jim Carter - High Sheriff of Lancashire, Karen Livesey, Hannah Hester, Sushma Dhakal, Alison Malcolm, Councillor Paul Wharton-Hardman BEM & Mayor of South Ribble

Recognising & reporting Cuckooing - members of the community identified properties that were being 'cuckooed' and disrupted exploitation because of Right Here, Right Now training and workshops delivered to professionals and community members.

Increased confidence & the ability to articulate child exploitation, contextual safeguarding and extra-familial harm issues of concern and report them appropriately.

Safeguarding Zines & leaflets provided an opportunity to share helpful resources and have immediate conversations with people. This was significant on the Uniform day where we spoke to **200** parents who shared concerns about online abuse and intimate images. We were able to give contacts for help and advice.

SafeCall and No Whispers Community Interest Company

Partnership Impact

missing people

Registered charity in England and Wales (1020419) and in Scotland (SC047419)

A lifeline when someone disappears

Webinars

The partnership working between Missing People and Karen Livesey from No Whispers Community Interest Company has been, and continues to be, really valuable. Combining our skills and areas of expertise enabled us to deliver impactful webinars for professionals and parents, carers and family members to raise awareness of child exploitation. By using our networks and through targeted, local promotion and awareness raising by No Whispers CIC, these sessions have reached a wide range of professionals and families, who have shared positive feedback and indicated 100 % increased awareness of exploitation, how to recognise it and how to seek support. The level of interest and attendee numbers indicate that future partnership sessions of this type would be well-received: **89** people attended the webinars: **57** professionals & **32** family members.

Safeguarding zines

No Whispers Community Interest Company has raised awareness and promoted the Missing People exploitation support service at local and national events including in-person conferences and through the creation and distribution of **6,000** safeguarding zines (mini magazines) outlining support available from key charities and professionals.

Royal Preston Hospital

In partnership with Missing People a digital campaign was created by No Whispers CIC and Pro Vision World. A 60 second video included Missing People's support service, and QR code and was shown throughout the year at the Royal Preston Hospital in the waiting rooms for Adult A & E, Children's A & E and Urgent Social Care. The QR codes were scanned and accessed **40 times**: **30 individuals** for exploitation support and **10 individuals** for our Safecall Helpline / missing support.

has been a pleasure working alongside Karen, a colleague who uses her deep knowledge of the issues, excellent networking and communication skills and passion for ensuring organisations have the understanding, information and resources needed to promote their own safety and the safety of families, create meaningful interactions and identify and drive forward opportunities to share knowledge, raise awareness and make a diU'erence for those aU'ected by child exploitation.

- Lee Cromwell, Senior Missing and Exploitation Services Manager

Activities & Impact - At a Glance

Training, Consultancy & CPD

Practical and experiential training, workshops & webinars that build knowledge and confidence to recognise and respond a broad range of needs and tailored to diverse sectors and audiences.

45 training & development sessions benefitted 696 people in 2025, spanning a range of topics:

- **Child Sexual Exploitation**
- **Child Criminal Exploitation**
- **County lines**
- **Contextual Safeguarding**
- **Cuckooing**

4900 people reached through information stalls & community events including The Royal Lancashire Show

4000 Leaflets & Zines distributed

40 people scanned the QR code at Royal Preston Hospital to gain immediate support regarding child exploitation

Awareness raising & influencing

Raising awareness of child criminal exploitation and influencing diverse professionals & community organisations through events, tools & resources to strengthen safeguarding, create safe space, understanding and innovative collaboration opportunities to take action.

100% of students recommend this training to others

"The training was excellent and really informative, I feel like everyone should have this training if they want to work with children and young people." - Student

Student Social Work experience

We provide opportunity for social work students to volunteer with us and help them develop knowledge & confidence with relevant and practical understanding of safeguarding and child exploitation to enhance their skills and future careers and impact.

Friends of No Whispers CIC

Friends of No Whispers CIC events, offer peer support and activities creating safe spaces for connection, shared lived experience and collaboration between professionals, communities and those affected by or seeking to create positive change around exploitation.

77 attendees benefited from quarterly events in 2025.

"The Friends event was incredible listening to people's stories. It was insightful, powerful and dynamic, plus highlighted the multitude of vulnerability across the different groups, this was really powerful and made me realise that CSE really can affect everyone."

Karen Livesey and People

Danny Wolstenecroft, Yas Entwistle, KL, Sam Beattie, Janet Malone, Dave Suffield & Roger Hussey

KL & Professor Carlene Firmin

KL & Oliver Ryan MP

KL & Clive Grunshaw Lancashire Police & Crime Commissioner

KL & Rev Anton Muller & Yaz Entwistle

KL & Cat Smith MP

KL & Cllr Katherine Fletcher

We celebrated our 4th Birthday at Lancashire Football Association with guest speakers & Councillor & Mayor of South Ribble, Peter Mullineaux, Russell Hogarth, Ambassador - University of Lancashire, Rev. Anton Muller, Churches Together in Lancashire & Tony Dawber from Preston Community Network

2025 A Year in Numbers

4,000 SAFEGUARDING ZINES & LEAFLETS DISTRIBUTED In association with National Charity Missing People, we created a zine to include Safecall, a confidential helpline for young people worried about or involved in child exploitation & county lines. Also, Young Minds, Childline & Fearless Lancashire

2,263 ATTENDEES AT SHOWCASING EVENTS
Our community engagement stall offers resources, information, advice & referrals and include the Royal Lancashire Show in partnership with Churches Together in Lancashire, World Mental Health awareness day, Health Mela's at the University of Lancashire, Preston and Burnley, Leyland Festival, Lancashire Encounter & Suicide Awareness day

704 ATTENDEES AT 8 NATIONAL & REGIONAL CONFERENCES
Delivered presentations for EDUK x 3, Safeguarding Schools and Optimus Education in London and distributed resources at the Lancashire Police and Cyber Crime Conference, Crime Prevention Expo & Greater Manchester Social Work Academy

696 TRAINING ATTENDEES in Child Sexual Exploitation, Child Criminal Exploitation, Cuckooing, Contextual Safeguarding, County lines and the mandatory reporting of child sexual abuse

244 TRAINING ATTENDEES AT CPD COURSES In association with the University of Lancashire and as part of the Right Here, Right Now project we delivered Child sexual exploitation awareness training Accredited CPD Courses

102 ATTENDEES AT COMMUNITY SAFEGUARDING EVENT in partnership with Progress Housing Group

89 ATTENDEES AT WEBINARS in partnership with Missing People - webinars for professionals & parents and carers about child criminal exploitation, county lines and Safecall

88 REFERRALS & SIGNPOSTING
We helped people get support, counselling & advice regarding sexual abuse, county lines, modern slavery, trauma, mental health and child criminal exploitation

77 ATTENDEES AT FRIENDS OF NO WHISPERS CIC EVENTS Enabling shared lived experiences in an empowering & supportive safe space

40 PEOPLE SCANNED THE QR CODE at the Royal Preston Hospital and gained immediate support regarding child exploitation, county lines and missing from home with issues linked to threats of violence and potential fatalities

35 ATTENDEES AT THE BIRTHDAY EVENT A diverse mix of people attended our fourth birthday event with guest speakers, stalls, networking, resources, buffet and birthday cake

21 CROSS SECTOR AGENCIES ENGAGED

4,340 PEOPLE ENGAGED

My Time with No Whispers CIC

I was given the chance to volunteer as part of a series of workshops for parents, carers and volunteers as part of the Right here, right now project, awarded a National Lottery Community Fund. I got involved with teaching and independently presented workshops on British legislation, social media platforms, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and Adverse Childhood Experiences. I also attended a Lancashire Constabulary Police and Crime Expo, supported shared lived experience events and was awarded a Certificate by the High Sheriff of Lancashire as part of a Celebration event. Otherwise. I was helping facilitate training to the group on child sexual and criminal exploitation.

The Right here, right now project addressed grooming, cuckooing, county lines, trafficking, modern slavery and of course, safeguarding. In South Ribble, we were able to see instant results. The environment I built from dedication and attending every session, putting hard work in behind the scenes and being a listening ear, meant that the community members felt safe to share their experiences. Some people built stronger relationships with their children and grandchildren, some people began to perceive situations they saw in media and real life differently whilst others started seeing their childhood with a different light, seeing the injustices.

Not only did I bring education to the group, but I found education too. Constantly taking notes and remembering websites and quotes to research later. Not many can say they completed volunteering like this, and I am all the better for it.

The most important lesson I was taught was how to recognise a listening audience, even if they are not actively participating. It's a lesson to all on reading body language, and that not everyone processes as fast as others, so that they will have something to say. Sometimes we like to sit in our own brain and consume what is going on around us, especially when the topics can be seen as candid, powerful and pointing as this.

Faith Trott, University of Lancashire Student & Volunteer with No Whispers CIC

Referral Partners & Pathways

No Whispers CIC works alongside a wide range of partners who share a commitment to safeguarding children and strengthening communities. These partners include professionals, voluntary organisations, community groups and individuals who engage with No Whispers CIC through referrals, training, collaboration and events.

"The best CPD course!
I would highly recommend"
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Many partners connect with No Whispers CIC to deepen their understanding of child exploitation, access specialist knowledge and build confidence in recognising and responding to safeguarding concerns.

"After the training, I was able to cascade the learning to the children and YP team at HARV"
Yasmin Entwistle
Healthy Relationships Practitioner, HARV - Hyndburn & Ribble Valley Domestic Abuse Team

"The in-house training was easy to book, and Karen provided valuable insights and professional development for colleagues around a difficult area"
Helen Allen, Stepping Stone Projects

Through these partnerships, the learning and impact of No Whispers CIC extends beyond individual sessions, influencing professional practice, strengthening networks and helping communities become better informed and more able to protect children and young people.

Alex changed both her professional & personal approach since attending No Whispers CIC training:

"This training has had a significant and measurable impact on my professional practice as a teacher in FE as through this training programme, and development of a much deeper understanding of CSE which I have been able to implement into my own lessons around safeguarding within the apprenticeship programmes I deliver.

"This impact extends further than the classroom. By equipping my learners predominantly those working in residential children's services with clearer knowledge of safeguarding processes, rights and responsibilities, they too are more empowered to contribute to safer homes, peer groups through knowledge sharing and the wider community impact.

"This ripple effect extends and supports the creation of a culture where safeguarding is recognised as a shared responsibility rather than an isolated duty. Overall, the CSE training has not only enhanced my professional confidence and competence in this area but has also strengthened the protective factors around learners I support, which in turn, contributes to safer, more informed, and more resilient communities."

Alex Lockie, Teach & Learn Delivery Team - Teach, Reach, New Horizons

Frankie

Frankie is a registered children's home manager with eight years' experience working in social care when he attended a training course for child sexual exploitation awareness. No Whispers CIC was recommended to him via a colleague who said the organisation had great leadership and disseminated fantastic knowledge and Frankie saw this for himself on the training course. "The most valuable thing from the course was the empowerment for the community. Seeing the collaboration amongst a group of new people and companies who want to protect children was amazing and it was clear someone like Karen was needed in the community. Especially seeing collaboration with a local mayor and sheriff, it was really amazing. In the group, there were two young people, probably late teens, who were engaging massively and it was so lovely to see the sessions not just impacting adults, carers, parents, and professionals but also young people and this inclusion was brilliant." Frankie experienced first-hand how collaborating and learning with a wide range of people helps everyone to broaden their knowledge and create a bigger impact. "There were even people from victim support and addiction support groups on the course, making the cross-sector need for this evident."
Through the course, Frankie has not only widened his knowledge but has also met friends within the sector and they've stayed in contact, messaging each other for advice and taking a collaborative approach to this massive problem.

"Child sexual exploitation is happening all the time, it's probably happening right now, and bringing forward change is crucial. No Whispers is amazing, but this needs to be shouted from the rooftops. Now, more collaboration is needed to spread awareness, and maybe also finding external professionals who can offer support to children affected." **- Frankie**

Rebecca

Rebecca is a mature student studying a health and social care degree, she came across No Whispers CIC through a university placement. In her degree, she had already covered a lot of theory work on child sexual exploitation and county lines and found that No Whispers courses widened her lens and how she looks at the wider community, plus gave her new and relevant language for the workplace and community. The learning and experience also helped her to recognise signals in body language and approach the topic in a more trauma-informed way. The course also gave her valuable connections, inside and outside of university with wider agencies. It has also changed her perspective on employment avenues after graduation; she is now looking more into family liaison officer positions as she wants to be able to build better relationships with the families. "There's still so much work to be done, especially around challenging policies and legislation, and more agencies need to be involved, particularly schools." The course also prompted Rebecca to take a research module at university where she researched the experience of deployment and mobility on attachment and development for children of military families, also prompted by her own experience of growing up in the military and witnessing the grooming and coercion that happens. Since being involved in the course, Rebecca has been signposting people from her workplace to No Whispers for CPD and has been volunteering with the team at a range of events to help support their work.

"No Whispers courses were different, focusing on real life events, changes in practice and how to identify the children impacted. The course itself was very well structured and well presented, and it's very clear that Karen has a lot of knowledge and understanding. The work No Whispers CIC does is second to none, Karen and the course leaders are truly fantastic. Now, there needs to be more promotion towards universities and schools on the prevalence of child sexual exploitation and county lines. Wider awareness is still needed to truly tackle this problem." **- Rebecca**

Quotes

"Really useful for all professionals as well as for all parents to understand the risks and not be blinkered because it is a difficult subject." **Training Attendee**

"The parts I found most useful was learning how to recognise the early warning signs and indicators. Understanding how behaviours, communication patterns, and changes in presentation can signal risk really helped me feel more confident spotting concerns early.

It has enabled me to strengthen my knowledge on attachments and the complexities of unsafe relationships." **Training Attendee**

"I have seen firsthand the fantastic work that No Whispers deliver in terms of the training, workshops and detailed knowledge that they have provided South Ribble Borough Council and partners"

"..the work they do had led to increased confidence in safeguarding & understanding, practices and reporting, all of which had benefited the local community".
Paul Foster, South Ribble MP

"Having the speakers and trainers contextualise things with their own lived experiences was very powerful." **Event Attendee**

""I would definitely recommend volunteering, it is a meaningful opportunity whilst gaining valuable experience in community engagement, communication & safeguarding"
Hannah Hester, Student

"The real-life stories really hit home. The course is very up to date with all the latest figures and facts."
Training Attendee

Partners, Funders & Supporters

Lancashire Partnership Against Crime
www.lanpac.co.uk

Pace ACSEP
Member of the Pace register of Advanced CSE Practitioners

COMMUNITY FUND

CPD MEMBER
The CPD Certification Service

Association of Child Protection Professionals

Propeller
UClan Propeller Enterprise Award

WR WatsonRamsbottom SOLICITORS
nationally recognised specialists in cases concerning domestic abuse, stalking and honour based violence
01254 67 22 22 | enquiries@watsonramsbottom.com | www.watsonramsbottom.com

Community Impact Examples

- Increased Awareness of the vulnerabilities of children & young people
- Stronger Community Voice
- Increased confidence in Safeguarding
- Greater understanding of Child Sexual Exploitation, Child Criminal Exploitation, Grooming & County Lines
- Better recognition of early warning signs
- Gained appropriate language to avoid victim blaming
- Increased understanding of positive strategies
- Enhanced awareness of how cuckooing takes place
- Identifying own role and responsibility in safeguarding
- Knowing where and how to report issues of concern
- Knowing about the Safecall helpline and available support for parents
- Gaining community cohesion by participating in shared activities
- Pride & achievement on completing the CPD training course
- Becoming a volunteer with No Whispers CIC
- Updating Safeguarding Policies within organisations & groups
- Enhanced relationships between parents, children & young people
- Increased resources to empower adults, children & young people
- Increased understanding of support and advice services
- Meeting new people & building connections
- Increased partnership working with community groups & organisations
- Avoidance of suicide & self-harm

Further reading & useful information

Tackling child sexual abuse progress update April 2025
https://short-url.org/1ltaJ

Language matters 2024 Barnardo's https://shorturl.at/gSDSO

Communicating with children – A guide for those working with children who have or may have been sexually abused. www.csacentre.org.uk

Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines guidance
https://shorturl.at/ho71t

National review into child sexual abuse within the family environment https://rb.gy/9r23ui

Child sexual exploitation faith guidance NWG 2024
https://nwgnetwork.org/thanks-and-call-for-support-faith-animation-launch/

Tackling child sexual abuse strategy 2012 https://short-url.org/1lt8O

Child exploitation disruption toolkit 2022 https://short-url.org/1qCbe

Communicating with children

A guide for education professionals where there are concerns about sexual abuse or behaviour https://short-url.org/1qCbM

Helpful contacts, advice & resources

Barnardo's www.barnardos.org.uk

The Children's Society www.childrenssociety.org.uk

Ivison (formerly known as PACE) – Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation www.Ivisiontrust.org.uk

NSPCC www.nspcc.org.uk Child Protection Helpline 0808 800 5000 ChildLine 0800 1111

CEOP Child exploitation online protection. www.ceop.police.uk & www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Seen and heard www.seenandheard.org.uk

Contextual Safeguarding www.contextualsafeguarding.gov.uk

Child net www.childnet.com

NWG Networking group for information and free downloadable resources www.nwgnetwork.org/say-something

Missing People www.missingpeople.org.uk

CSA Centre of expertise on child sexual abuse www.csacentre.org.uk

Awards, Funding & Accreditations

- University of Lancashire Propeller Enterprise Award
- **Inspiring Women Award**
- National Lottery Community Fund
- **Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund**
- Member of PACE, Parents Against Child Exploitation now known as Ivison
- **Member of CPD Certification Service**
- Member of LANPAC (Lancashire Police Against Crime)
- **Member of PLASP (Pan Lancashire Anti- Slavery Partnership)**
- Member of Association of Child Protection Professionals
- **Member of GB Shared**

Inspiring Women

No Whispers CIC

No Whispers CIC logo designed by Lewis Rowe

For further details please contact info@no-whispers.co.uk
or visit our website www.no-whispers.co.uk