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Our vision is to create a world where all young people can thrive, free from exposure to gangs, sexual exploitation and crime





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#SaferLDN

#safeguardingLDN

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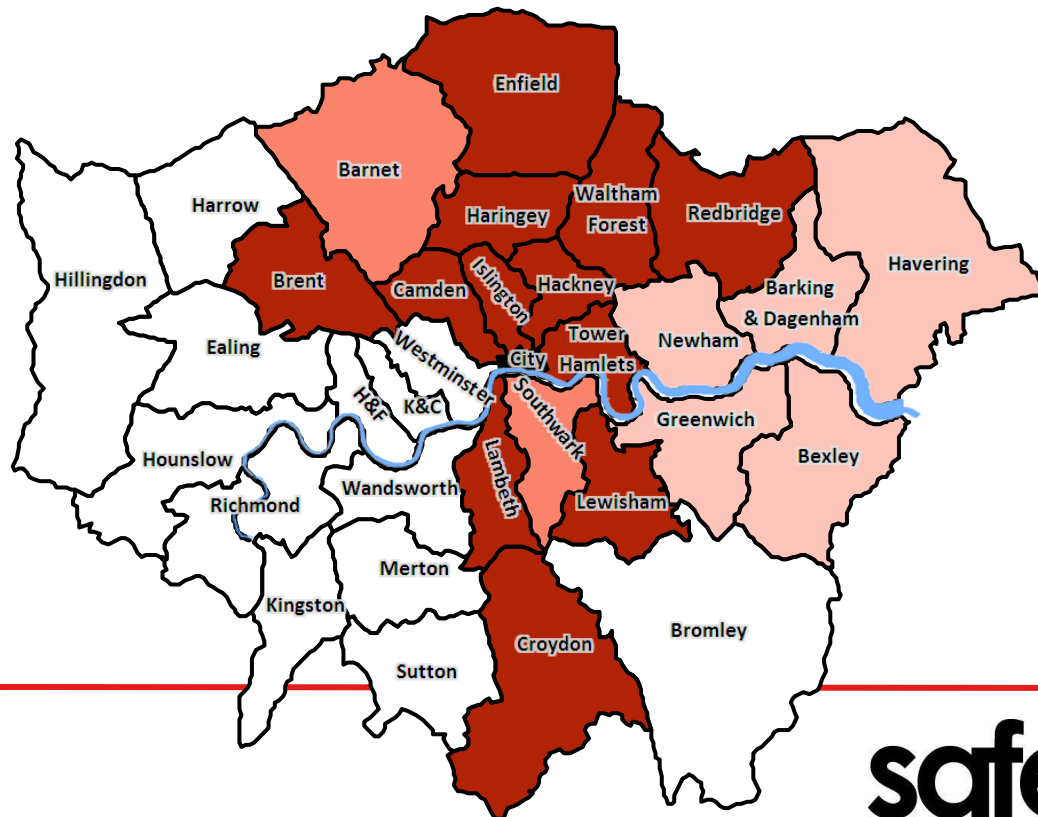
Safeguarding Young Women Affected By Gangs:

- What Works?
- What are the gaps?
- Influence Policy and Decision Making

Supporting young women - Empower

- Delivered in 19 boroughs across London

Croydon, Lewisham, Lambeth, Brent, Enfield, Haringey, Camden, Islington, Hackney, Waltham Forest, Redbridge, Tower Hamlets, Barking and Dagenham, Newham, Havering, Greenwich, Bexley, Southwark (edu) and Barnet (edu).



Supporting gang affected young women - Empower

- Multiple strands of delivery:
 - One to one work with young women and families
 - Specialist advice
 - Training
 - Education programmes
 - Capacity building and awareness raising
 - Contextual Safeguarding in public spaces
- Policy development and strategic influence

Empower scope

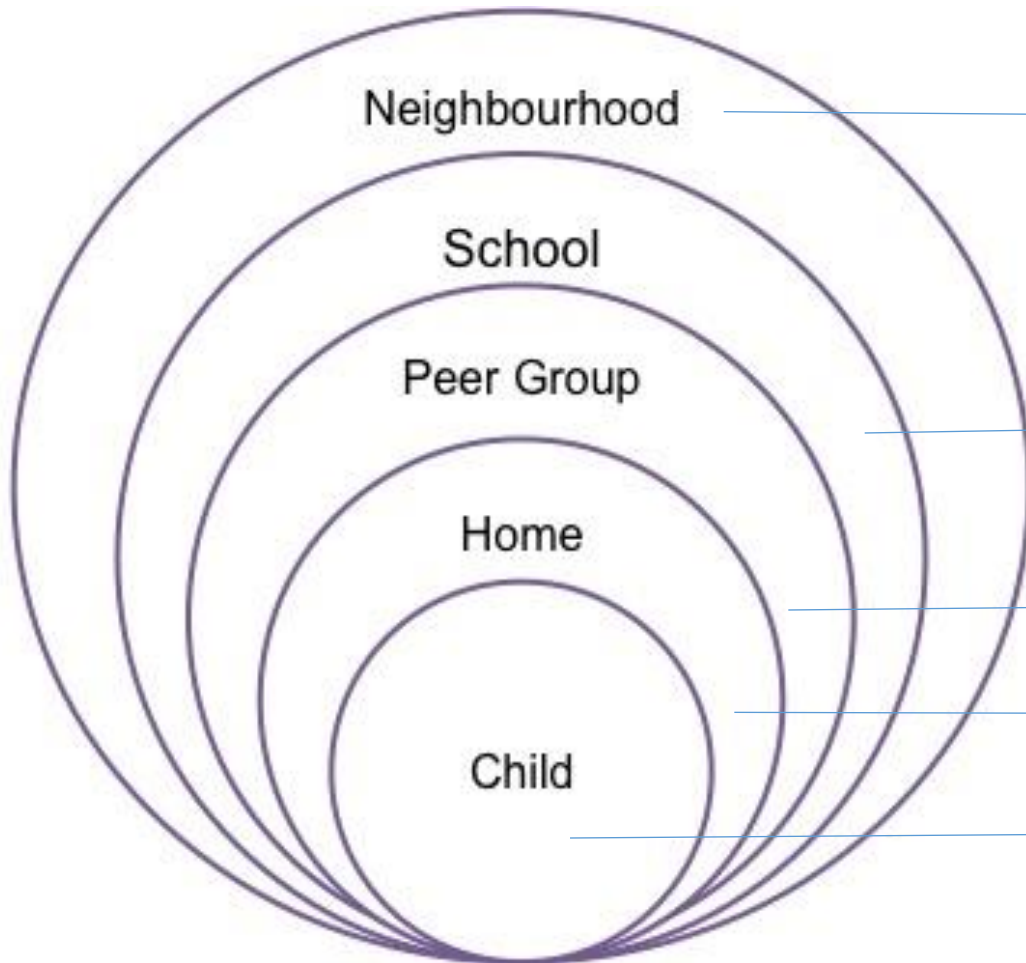
In 2016/2017 we have:

- Worked with 313 young women affected by CSE
- Worked with 113 parents/carers of young people affected by CSE
- Offered consultation to 893 professionals
- Delivered 294 one off awareness raising sessions with 8650 young people
- Delivered 21 young women's groups with 209 participants
- Delivered 4 young men's groups with 37 participants
- Delivered a safeguarding in public spaces programme – 575 interviews conducted

The EMPOWER Approach

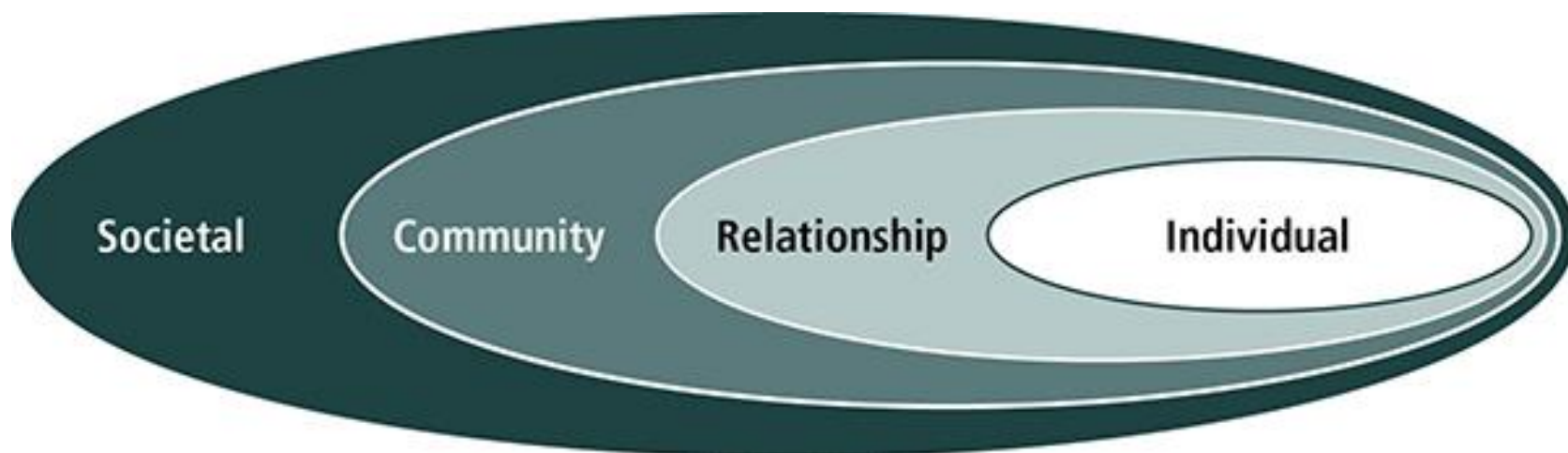


Multiple strands of delivery:



- Contextual safeguarding project
- Policy and strategy development
- Specialist advice for professionals
- Training (inc. those not within traditional safeguarding roles)
- Capacity building within communities (support workshops)
- Assemblies and PSHE workshops
- Training of school staff
- Group education programmes
- One to one work with families affected by CSE
- One to one work with young people affected by CSE

Understanding Gender Based Violence



**Child Centred Approach that
Places the Child in the Centre of
the Intervention**

Bespoke Trauma Informed Service to Meet Needs

- Flexibility in Model Of Work
- Clear Confidentiality Policies
- Robust Response to Disclosures
- Trans Cultural Approach
- Strength and Optimism
- Advocacy, Consultations and Training

Addressing Values and Attitudes that affect practice

- Barriers to Engagement
- Unconscious Bias
- Self Care

Gender Sensitive Approach



Gender Responsiveness:

- Gender-neutral policies and provision can have the outcome of disadvantaging women (CEDAW, 2008)
- Substantive inequalities between women and men mean that services need to address these inequalities in order to provide the same outcomes for women as they do for men

Why gender specific?

- Increase in young women's attendance
- A greater sense of solidarity
- Increased self-confidence, willingness to try new things and to speak openly.
- Increased feelings of physical safety e.g. not worrying about sexual harassment
- Young women being able to express feelings openly and try new things
- Female group leaders provided positive role models that helped break down stereotypes
- Improved relationships between young women
- Encouraged girls to take more risks

Dromey for the YWCA (now Platform 51) in 2005 and later the Women's Resource Centre

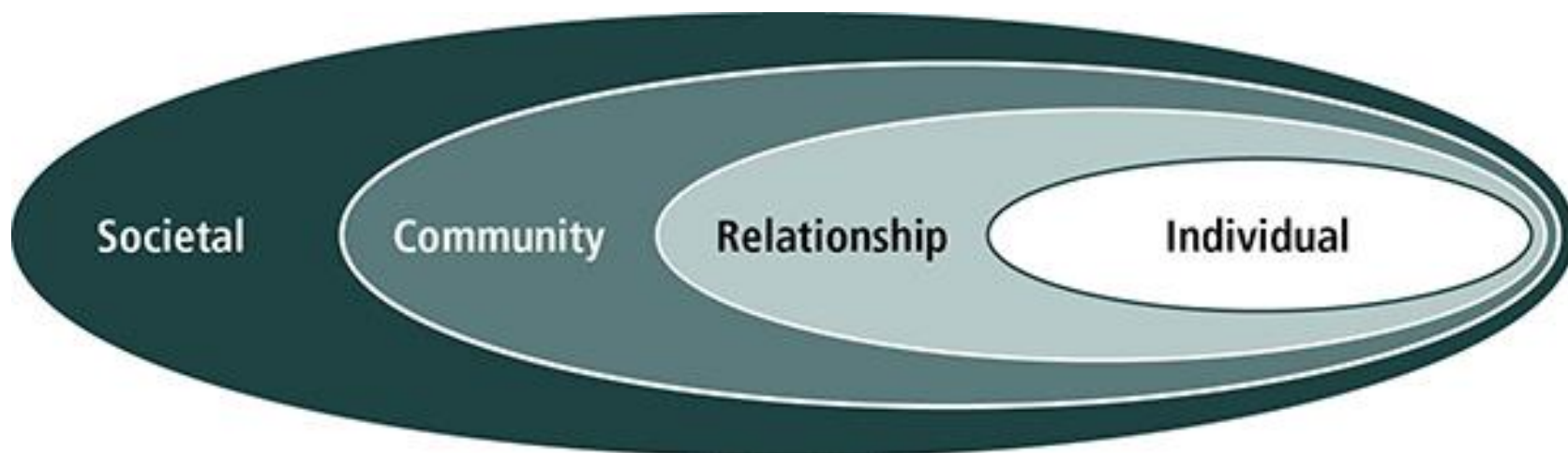
Empower outcomes 2016/2017

- 82% have demonstrated increased safety
- 92% have reported an increase in resilience and coping strategies
- 92% have an increased understanding of healthy relationships
- 83% have shown improved engagement in EET (where applicable)
- 89% have reported increased health and well-being

'it's a programme set up to support people, with nothing but good intentions for the individual. It will enable you to become independent, strong and comfortable in whatever area you feel you need support'

'[The YPA] is like a friend who gives you correct advice to all the stuff you would probably not want to talk to your mum about or my old friends. She is very trustworthy and confidential and won't freak out over the word sex'

Understanding Gender Based Violence



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What this pilot is:

The CSE safeguarding pilot for public spaces project aims to scope, pilot and evaluate an innovative contextual safeguarding model, applicable to a range of community settings, producing research and a toolkit informed by the views of young people. Utilising a peer support and bystander model, the project seeks to improve safeguarding of young people in public spaces and their communities.

Our film:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mMsEQGuHQCM>

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Methodology

- Recruited peer advisors (24 recruited / 15 finished with us)
- Peer advisors training
- Co-design of programme including surveys/training
- Security staff and 'community care takers' 73
- Reviewing local policies
- Community engagement (642 U25 and 83 O25)
- Worked Westfield Stratford, The Mall Waltham Forest and Central and Whitgift in Croydon.

Awareness and views on CSE

'When you feel intimidated and someone tries to touch you in a sexual way'

'When young people made to do sexual things. Not consent.'

'A guy can approach a girl with compliments and can use the girl to get his own way'

50% of young people peer advisors spoke to said they had heard about CSE and gave descriptions:

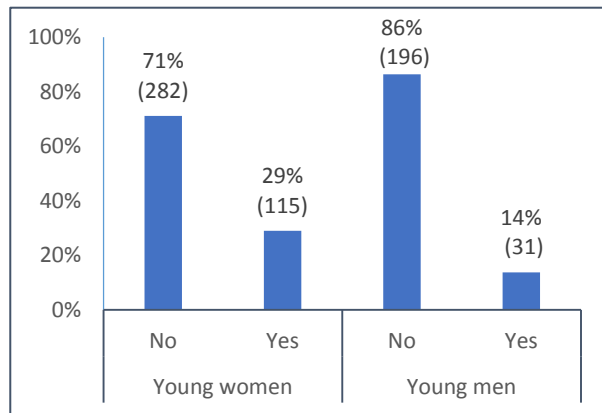
'Girls are pressured by boys and forced to take pictures etc'

'Black mail a child to do things'

'Really really scary & it's not obvious to spot'

Feelings of Safety

Young People: Have you ever felt uncomfortable, intimidated or scared here?

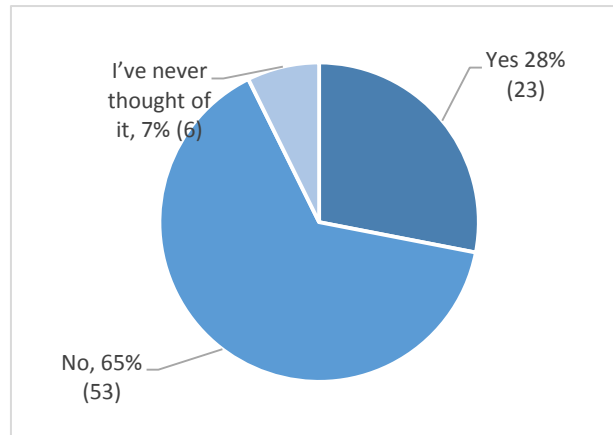


On Average a quarter of young people said they'd felt unsafe. This was between 29% of young women and 14% of young men.

Young women are disproportionately affected

Feelings of Safety

Have you ever seen anything in this shopping centre that would make you think a young person is at risk of CSE?



Getting Help: asking



Getting Help: improving safety

	Young women	Young men
Youth Worker or peer advisor to help	26% (92)	34% (69)
A safe space	29% (103)	25% (50)
More security	26% (93)	23% (46)
A help desk for young people	24% (84)	18% (37)
Panic button near toilets	13% (45)	8% (17)
Awareness raising of support available	8% (29)	7% (15)
CCTV	3% (9)	4% (8)

Interestingly – when speaking to parents, the most common response was that it was parent’s responsibility to keep young people safe!

Responses to Videos

- 68% of young people had heard of filming young people such as 'baiting out skets' and many were able to name specific videos.
- 89% didn't think the behaviour was ok.
- When asked why:
 - *"Because they're being forced to do something they don't want to."*
 - *"Dangerous, sticks for life, labels."*
 - *"The girl consented and trusted the boy and the boy abused that."*
 - *"Slut shaming should not be a thing it's not anyone business."*
 - *"Embarrassing them is wrong - they can become targets."*
- 88% of young people identified the young women in the videos could be at risk.
- When asked how they'd feel:
 - *"Embarrassed and like it's their fault."*
 - *"They feel horrible. Happened to a girl in my school and she didn't come in for months."*
 - *"They had to move schools."*
 - *"Cheated and scammed."*
 - *"Like they've been wrongly accused and labelled."*

Recomendations

- Trained and competent staff to support young people (involves security and support staff)
- Creation of safe spaces
- Business buy-in and commitment to role in safeguarding young people
- Compliance processes i.e. licences and shared accountability
- Robust procedures and expectations for responses
- Clear Safeguarding frameworks and processes
- Breaking down barriers for young people seeking help
 - Consider stereotypes
 - Provide safe spaces

Core Components of Intensive Work/Whole School Approach

- Policy
- Teacher Training
- Awareness raising
- Menu Of Options
 - Group Work
 - CSE Advisors
 - Crisis Intervention
 - Parents Work
 - Community Engagement

Case Study

HERSTORY



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