



## Submission Details

<b>Organisation or individual to which this submission relates (if different from above):</b>	Bradford MDC with Collingwood Learning Solutions Ltd, [our private sector partner]
<b>Approximate size of organisation (number of employees) if applicable:</b>	8000 Employees
<b>Number of employees covered by the initiative if applicable:</b>	National reach

In recent years, Safeguarding has become a national issue with high profile cases of abuse relating to children, adults, and domestic abuse. Councils have a responsibility to make Safeguarding a number one priority. Bradford Council have been striving for many years to not just train our people, but work with our many partners to provide integrated services that will help tackle safeguard our community.

We need as many staff, partners, and the general public as possible to engage with issues relating to safeguarding so that they understand them, recognise them, and feel empowered to take action if they feel someone is being abused, neglected, exploited, or is simply at risk. Whilst becoming the priority training and awareness issue in our organisation and community, we identified a lack of appropriate, powerful training tools that we could use to engage people.

November 2016, [www.realsafeguardingstories.com](http://www.realsafeguardingstories.com) went live. Real Safeguarding Stories has been developed in a highly effective partnership with Collingwood Learning, a local training and education provider. In 2015, as part of a Bradford training event for Councillors, Collingwood interviewed three survivors of domestic abuse. These became three tremendously powerful monologues, delivered by actors, used for the training event. These 'real safeguarding stories' were so popular that they were used internally and by our many partners as part of their training and awareness activities. This led us to realise these brilliantly engaging stories were an excellent way to help people learn and we had to develop the concept further.

[www.realsafeguardingstories.com](http://www.realsafeguardingstories.com) is a bank of over 20 video monologues, accompanied by advice and guidance for use in training and awareness. Bradford Council engaged our own adults and children's safeguarding boards, domestic abuse team, partners including the Police, Barnardo's, Trading Standards, Social Services, local domestic abuse charities, service users, and survivors of abuse to develop content. Collingwood Learning learnt their expertise to writing, casting, filming the videos, and developing and maintaining the website. The online service is free to all users as we want these stories told in as many training and awareness contexts across the UK. External organisations can also buy live facilitated workshops using the actors for training in their region, and memory sticks of the videos are available should Wi-Fi not be available. The initial investment has been at cost, and has only been £10,000 with contributions from various funding sources. The results have been extraordinary.

- The website has had over 3000 visits, 2,500 users, and 10,000 page hits within four months, from across the UK
- Real Safeguarding Stories Live (the live training events) will be delivered in partnership with 9 Councils at over 17 events outside of Bradford this year, reaching 3,400 safeguarding professionals with training requests coming in daily
- At a recent multi-agency training event with 200 delegates Bradford Training Event, the Real Safeguarding Stories seminar was rated as excellent by 97% of delegates.

In the Bradford region alone, Real Safeguarding Stories has been used to:

- Enable Councillors to be community leaders in all the areas of Safeguarding who are using them at community events
- Training at the Mothers Union in child sexual exploitation
- Training for Taxi Drivers and Operators in CSE and the Night-time Economy
- Barnardo's training programme with hotels and B&Bs highlighting CSE issues
- Bradford Council staff inductions
- Social Workers training
- Used as part of Bradford's 'Recognising and Responding Safeguarding course, which is available to all public and private sector organisations in the area
- Part of the induction for West Yorkshire Trading Standards staff
- Used by West Yorkshire Trading Standards in community workshops
- Incorporated into West Yorkshire Trading Standards' Partner Training for frontline professionals in the care industry, West Yorkshire Fire Service, and West Yorkshire Police
- Bradford College use the videos as part of the student awareness programme including permanent access on their intranet system

- The CSE videos had such an impact at one Children's Residential Home, led by Barnardo's, that there are plans for delivering in more Children's Homes for staff
- Community Awareness Event in Keighley in responding to CSE
- The Police, Sexting training and awareness for students in schools across Bradford District

#### Outside of Bradford:

- City of York Safeguarding Adults Board training
- Doncaster Council Multi-agency training
- North Lincs Council Multi-agency training
- Sheffield Council Multi-agency Safeguarding Conference
- York's Independent Care Group are using the videos within their training for care givers
- Nottingham City Council are training 30 community trainers to use the videos in the community
- Student Awareness in 5 schools across West Yorkshire (a 50 school tour is planned for September 2017)

In summary, Real Safeguarding Stories is the result of our partnership with Collingwood Learning where we have, together, developed creative and powerful training programmes over many years, which has led to the concept of [www.realsafeguardingstories.com](http://www.realsafeguardingstories.com). More than that, has been the partnership working with Council teams, frontline staff, partner agencies, user groups, and victims and survivors to develop the content. Then there is the way in which this resource has empowered so many partners listed above to feel confident and capable in delivering vital training and awareness in so many different learning environments.

*"I lead a team of police officers who work in secondary schools within the Bradford District. We deal with a myriad of issues in schools, however what appears to become the most common of all, is the issue of 'sexting'. Through my role as Partnership Sergeant, I formed links with Chris and James from Real Safeguarding Stories who, I could tell were passionate about safeguarding the vulnerable. We worked together to assist them scripting a film about sexting, the dangers, the long term impact and moreover how as the police we practically deal with the topic. What has been produced can be shown to my officers, the schools, parents and gives a real and honest insight (beautifully acted) into how such an act can affect a young person life. Chris and his team 'get it', they care about safeguarding and they have been a dream to work with in producing this film. It's been a pleasure and this film will really get the message across!!"* Sergeant 6332 Adam Taylor, Bradford District Safer Neighbourhoods and Partnerships

<http://realsafeguardingstories.com/index.php/danis-story/>

*"As a Ward Councillor, I used the training materials to frame a discussion around the risks to children from people who want to sexually exploit them. Working with members of the Mothers Union at the local Church we discussed what is child sexual exploitation, looked at a couple of films, learnt what is happening in Bradford and how children are being protected. The session enabled me as a Ward Councillor to talk about what we can do locally to protect children, how people can report their concerns and how we can support organisations working with young people. It was a topic that local people knew little about and although they were initially shocked by the materials it provoked thoughtful discussions about their own experiences and those of their families. A measure of success is that I have been invited back to talk to other members of the church and to include more about how the internet is being used to groom young people."*

Jeanette Sunderland, Ward Councillor for Idle and Thackley Ward

<http://realsafeguardingstories.com/index.php/tashs-story/>