Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

Title: Talking Prevention: Community Learning Keeping Children Safe

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Template: DCC Template

Project abstract:

Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) is a global public health emergency with devastating long-term implications for population health and well-being (Edwards et al., 2022). Addressing this crisis requires a public health approach that prioritises protective factors across entire populations (CDC, 2021). While professional intervention is vital, preventing CSA necessitates informed and engaged communities. Research indicates that early, preventative work with men who may pose a risk of sexual harm is critical for child safety (Levenson & Grady, 2019). However, this "secondary prevention" approach—addressing risk before harm occurs—is often met with public discomfort, fear, or resistance. This project addresses this gap by facilitating dialogue to challenge misconceptions and foster a shared responsibility for safeguarding. This project builds on a feasibility study commissioned by Plymouth City Council and Safer Plymouth regarding possibility to develop secondary prevention services in Plymouth.

This project aims to explore how communities can be effectively engaged in conversations regarding preventative work with adults at risk of causing sexual harm to children.

Objectives include:

Identifying community perceptions and feelings toward secondary prevention.

· Enhance public confidence in public health approaches to CSA.

· Co-create a collaborative understanding of how early intervention reduces harm.

Research Design & Site Selection

This project is a collaborative effort between Circles South West, University of Plymouth, and the communities of Ernesettle, Honicknowle and Stonehouse.These locations were strategically selected due to their "prevention readiness." The communities have previously engaged in Together for Childhood, a place-based prevention project providing a foundation of trust and prior awareness that facilitates deeper dialogue.

Methodology & Recruitment

The project utilises a multi-method approach centred on two community learning events (10–15 participants each). The Learning Events: Sessions will introduce the rationale for secondary prevention, explaining how addressing risk early creates safer environments for children. A sequential, mixed-methods approach will be used to ensure the findings are grounded in participant experience: 1. Pre- and Post-Event Surveys: These will capture shifts in knowledge and emotional responses, as well as perceptions of how the wider public might

receive such interventions.

2. Focus Groups: Following the events, a focus group (8–12 participants) will be conducted to facilitate shared reflection exploring the benefits and challenges of the prevention model. These sessions will be audio-recorded and transcribed verbatim.

Early survey findings will directly inform the focus group themes. Participants will be invited to reflect on these emerging patterns, ensuring the final analysis is a collaborative and evolving representation of their lived experiences. The research will produce data communities that will inform the wider development of ‘Project Guardrail’, the developing service that is designed to work directly with men with an enduring sexual attraction to children to prevent them from sexually harming.

ID: 209483

Start date: 01-07-2026

End date: 28-02-2027

Last modified: 22-08-2026

Grant number / URL: GH110067-122

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Talking Prevention: Community Learning Keeping Children Safe

Data Collection

What data will you collect or create?

Pre and post workshop survey data.

Focus group data

Personal data: names for the legal basis of consent only.

How will the data be collected or created?

Type of data and methods of collection:
The data collected in this research will be in the form of pre and post workshop surveys and focus groups. All data will be treated with a level 1 classification due to the sensitive topic being discussed.

Surveys: The data from the surveys will collected via JISC or via paper surveys to five participants optimum choice and will be stored electronically on OneDrive and will be kept on a university computer that is password protected. In the instance of paper surveys being collected, the lead researcher will collect the paper surveys and transfer them to a university of plymouth computer and shred the paper copies. All data will be treated with strict confidentiality and any data deemed personal or sensitive will carefully anonymised in accordance with UKDA data standards. The only people who will have direct access to the data are the data managers Alex Burgess and Bartosz Zaniewski. The other project members Shelley Shaw and Jamie Stephenson will be aware of the data contents but will not have access to the data or store any of the data.

Focus Group Data processing for all participants: Participant data including initial consent and screening data to be collected via consent form either digitally or on paper and paper copies will be shredded once scanned. All data will be stored electronically on OneDrive and will be kept on a university computer that is password protected. All data will be treated with strict confidentiality and any data deemed personal or sensitive will carefully anonymised.

The only people who will have direct access to the data are the data managers Alex Burgess and Bartosz Zaniewski. The other project members Shelley Shaw and Jamie Stephenson will be aware of the data contents but will not have access to the data or store any of the data.

File management will ensure that consent documents are stored separately from interview data to ensure anonymity of participants is maintained.

Data Collection methods focus groups: All focus groups will be audio recorded on TEAMS and transcribed verbatim. Data collected will be analysed using thematic analysis.

Focus goups will be held in person and will be recorded using Microsoft TEAMs which is a secure and robustly tested platform for data security. Once the interviews are over the recording will be immediately transferred to the lead researcher Alex Burgess's secure University of Plymouth OneDrive and the Microsoft TEAMS recording will be immediately deleted from the TEAMS server.

Anonymisation all interviews: Data processed and analysed using will be de-identified,

anonymised using codes and pseudonyms where appropriate and stored to enable potential data sharing. Data formatting will be aligned with UKDA standards and data will be given a unique identifier for each transcript which is consistent.

Documentation and Metadata

What documentation and metadata will accompany the data?

-Data management plan
-Researcher Risk Assessment R1 form

Ethics and Legal Compliance

How will you manage any ethical issues?

Ethical Considerations: Ethical approval is being sought through the university of Plymouth in connection with the Faculty of Health Ethical approval process; no data will be collected until ethical approval is received.

Third Parties and Gatekeepers: Following ethical approval, third party gatekeepers will be approached, namely community leaders in the chosen areas of Stonehouse, Honicknowle and Ernesettle.

Disclosure: Due to the sensitive nature of the topic, careful consideration will be put into the risk of disclosure from participants, each participant will be made aware of the confines of consent prior to engaging in the research, they will be made aware both verbally and in writing that they are not being asked to describe or discuss any safeguarding issues or cases of abuse.

Participants will be made aware before they give consent that if they do disclose any information that raises concerns for their welfare or the welfare of anyone else then the lead researcher may have to breach confidentiality in the interest of safeguarding.

Participants: All participants will be adults over the age of 18 and will have capacity to consent to take part in the research.

Survey participants: Participants will be given a participant information sheet and consent form that outlines their participation and confines of confidentiality and will also be instructed verbally of its contents.

Focus group participants: All participants will be given a written participant information sheet and will be instructed verbally of its contents. This will detail focus group length, right to withdraw, queries and complaints and dissemination of research. Informed consent will be obtained on an opt in basis for all participants. Consent forms will be presented in writing and explained verbally to participants. Names for all participants will be collected under the legal basis of consent.

All participants will be asked not to speak about specific incidents of safeguarding during the course of the focus groups and within the surveys and will be made aware that the principal researcher may have to breach confidentiality should we have a safeguarding concern.

Risk Considerations: There are a number of risks that must be considered prior to undertaking this research. There is a potential risk that participation in these focus groups could be triggering for

participants which has been and will continue to be thoroughly considered throughout the study.

Lead Researcher Experience

The lead researcher, Alex Burgess, will lead data collection undertaken as part of this research. Alex is an experienced researcher with more than 10 years' professional experience working with people with complex needs, including people with experience of multiple disadvantage, housing instability and homelessness, and involvement with the criminal justice system. This experience has involved working with individuals with a range of complex and potentially sensitive needs, providing a strong foundation for undertaking research involving potentially vulnerable populations.

Alex currently works as a researcher for the NSPCC and is Visiting Specialist at the University of Plymouth and has extensive experience undertaking qualitative research, including individual interviews and focus groups across a range of topics. Alex has conducted many hours of research interviews and focus groups and has particular research experience relating to sexual abuse, sexual abuse prevention and the experiences of people affected by sexual harm. This includes experience of conducting sensitive research and engaging with participants on potentially distressing or stigmatised topics.

Alex's professional and research experience means that she is experienced in creating safe, respectful and non-judgemental environments for participants, recognising signs of distress, maintaining appropriate professional boundaries, and responding appropriately to safeguarding or wellbeing concerns. All data collection will be conducted by Alex in accordance with the approved research protocol, ethical approval, safeguarding procedures and the informed consent process.

Due to the sensitive nature of this research all participants will receive a full explanation of the parameters of the interview and consent process and will be given a robust debrief that will signpost them to relevant services.

This research will not include any discussion of specific incidents of harm and participants will be explicitly advised of this prior to taking part in the research. Should a participant begin talking about a specific incident of harm then the focus group will be ceased and where appropriate the content of the disclosure will be reported.

Focus groups will take place in person room in a public place such as an appropriate community location that is accessible for participants.

Survey data will be collected by research team members Shelly Shaw and Jamie Stevenson, with Alex Burgess available to assist if required; Shelley Shaw and Jamie Stevenson will not manage or analyze data. All survey data will be securely transferred to designated data managers Alex Burgess and Bartosz Zaniewski for secure storage, processing, and anonymization in accordance with the approved data management plan. Focus groups will be facilitated by two researchers, led by the principal investigator Alex Burgess, with support from Jamie Stevenson. Alex Burgess will handle focus group data management, including secure handling of audio recordings, transcript anonymization, and post-transcription audio deletion.

The research team meet regularly to discuss the project and will debrief with the Project lead Bartosz Zaniewski if needed.

Equality and Diversity: Participants will not be excluded based on any protected characteristics. Should the participants need reasonable adjustments to take part in the research these will be sought and provided.

Openness and Honesty: Participants will be briefed on the confines of confidentiality prior to taking part in the research. Participants will be invited to ask questions both pre and post taking part in the research. Participants will be made aware of how their data will be used. This research project will not involve deception.

Right to Withdraw Participants can withdraw from the study at any time without explanation. If participants withdraw before their survey or interview data is transcribed, we will delete any data collected. 4 weeks after data collection, the data will be anonymised, and it will not be possible to withdraw individual data, this information is detailed within the participant information sheets.

Protection from harm This research involves discussion of the topic of sexual abuse, this has the potential to cause distress, however participants will have the option to leave and stop participation at any time and will be invited to ask questions and or complain if necessary and will be given a full debrief and signposting both verbally and in writing.

Confidentiality Participants will be briefed on the confines of confidentiality both verbally and in writing and will be advised not to disclose any safeguarding issues as part of the research. They will be made aware should they disclose a safeguarding issue then the principal investigator may have to breach confidentiality to follow safeguarding procedures.

Debrief All participants will be given a verbal and written debrief which will signpost them to relevant services should they need to speak to someone. Dissemination.

Participants will be made aware that their anonymised data as per UKDA data regulations will be used to produce a report to inform the development of Project Guardrail. The anonymised report and findings will be shared with the University of plymouth, Circles Southwest and other relevent partners who are involved with Project Guardrail and may also be published in external journal articles.

Queries and Complaints: Participants will be given the details of the project lead Bartosz Zaniewski should they wish to complain or ask a question about any aspect of the research. Training the lead researcher successfully completed the University of Plymouth GDPR training on 25/02/2024 as required before undertaking the ethics process.

Anonymity: Participants consent forms will be stored appropriately in a secure university password protected drive. All participants will receive a verbal briefing regarding the consent process and a written form to ensure fully informed consent. Participants will be provided with a participant information sheet and given a debrief sheet containing signposting services following participation in the research which will include details on how to withdraw their information. Ethical approval will be sought in accordance with the University of Plymouth (2022).

How will you manage copyright and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issues?

Intellectual property rights (IPR): The Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) of the data generated will remain with the University of Plymouth in accordance with the University’s Intellectual Property Policy.

Storage and Backup

How will the data be stored and backed up during the research?

Archive, storage and backup: Project documents including transcripts and field notes will be stored in OneDrive, compliant with UKGDPR regulations. The data will be backed up regularly to ensure recovery and will be kept in a password protected folder on OneDrive

How will you manage access and security?

Access and security The lead researcher will follow data protection guidelines pertaining to the digital and physical safety of devices. The laptop used to store data will be programmed to lock quickly after activity is ceased.

Selection and Preservation

Which data are of long-term value and should be retained, shared, and/or preserved?

Data preservation strategy Data will be stored for 10 years in keeping with the University of Plymouth research data standards. All personal information will be destroyed once it is no longer needed for the research project in line with what the participants have been told when they signed their consent form.

What is the long-term preservation plan for the dataset?

Data preservation strategy Data will be stored for 10 years in keeping with the University of Plymouth research data standards. All personal information will be destroyed once it is no longer needed for the research project in line with what the participants have been told when they signed their consent form.

Data Sharing

How will you share the data?

Data sharing: Qualitative interview and survey data will be shared with bartosz Zaniewski the projecct lead via OneDrive. Permission to share data for dissemination purposes will be sought from the university Ethics and Integrity Committee. Participants will be fully briefed on how their data will be shared during the initial meeting. The University of Plymouth will manage data sharing once the project comes to an end.

Are any restrictions on data sharing required?

N/A

Responsibilities and Resources

Who will be responsible for data management?

Responsibilities and resources The main researcher will be responsible for data collection and management accordingly to the University policies, and legal, ethical, and regulatory requirements. The principal investigator takes responsibility for all data collection and subsequent management. The

data management plan will be reviewed throughout the project. The University of Plymouth will be responsible for the long-term storage of the data.

What resources will you require to deliver your plan?

Access to the University of Plymouth OneDrive, JISC and Microsoft TEAMS.