

EDITION 3

IICSA
changemakers

OCTOBER
2024

Taking action. Creating change.
Preventing child sexual abuse.

WELCOME TO OUR

Survivor Newsletter

In this edition you will find:

Key policy updates. The Changemakers event.
As well as hearing from one our Survivor Advisory Community.

Future of changemakers

Sir Peter Wanless, the CEO of NSPCC and the Chair of the Changemakers, will be stepping down in December from his substantive role, which does mean we will have a new chair of the IICSA Changemakers. This is going to be discussed with Changemakers over the coming weeks and we will share that update as we have it.

Peter has given many years of passion and advocacy and we wish him all the best with his next steps as we thank him for his time and leadership that he has put into the IICSA Changemakers.





IICSA: Two Years On Insights from Child Sexual Abuse victims and survivors *In our time*



Minister Phillips standing next to a Changemakers Banner, with Aunee and Poppy, who were two survivor speakers at the event

On the 10th September, members of the Changemakers Survivor Advisory Community spoke at a conference in London where they urged the Government officials in attendance to take action to ensure future generations of children can be better protected, and adult survivor have better support.

The event was unique in it's approach as **all** the speakers were survivors of child sexual abuse themselves. No Policy leads, CEO's or Ministers spoke. They were all there to listen, witness and truly hear what survivors were sharing.

It was a phenomenal day. Hard. Emotional. But phenomenal. It's quite hard to articulate the feeling in the room. So instead, I'm going to share what some of our Survivor Advisory Community members said about the event and what it meant to them:

I took so much strength from what everyone shared. It was an absolute privilege to be up there amongst incredible people speaking.

The event will stay with me for the rest of my life as I didn't feel alone anymore

This event surpassed my expectations and I was able to tell my story on my terms, to an audience who can make real and lasting change and who listened attentively. I felt that our stories made a real impact in a space that was curated just for us.

Alongside the Survivor Advisory Community, Changemakers created a booklet to support the event. [Take a look here](#) to see the messages that survivors wanted attendees to listen to and action upon.

Several of our speakers from the event, gave their consent to take part in a short film that highlighted the continued importance and urgency of the IICSA recommendations. To watch the film [click here](#) or on the image below.

Please be mindful that there are references to child sexual abuse in this film.



One of the key messages of the day was.... Survivors don't need Government's pity, we don't need to be told we're brave. We need them to **listen** and to take **action**. **NOW.**

To all the survivors that took part, whatever form it took, **thank you.**
This is **your** achievement.
You did this.



It was a privilege for Denise, Peter, Clare
and all the Changemakers to stand with you.

Survivor Advisory Member Spotlight

Below is a poem by Bryony, a member of our Survivor Advisory Community, who took part in the event.

This poem is shared here with Bryony's consent, but if you wish to use it in a piece of work or your own media pieces please email denise.pringle@nspcc.org.uk so she can discuss this with you.

We, Changemakers

I've never felt this strong and vulnerable at the same time,
a perennial dying and growing and dying and growing.


I'm so sad,
so shattered and worn,
angry at what the world has punched into our flesh.

But look at us,
this room of bruised,
look at us shine,
through rage and tears,
holding each other,
physically and with our words.

In the tremble of air that spills into our pauses, in the shaking hand that turns the page, in the shifting from foot to foot, to balance the weight of this room, our past, our truth, in the pain that cannot hide, will not hide.

I feel something brewing,
boiling,
injustice turning into action,
a step forward, no matter how small.

A way to say
no.
No.
Not anymore.





Since our last newsletter, we now have a new Government, which means that the Changemakers have been busy ensuring that IICSA recommendations haven't fallen through the cracks of the transition. This was stalled slightly with Parliament breaking for summer recess very soon after the General election, but since the end of recess at the beginning of September we've been very busy!

Our event was a huge part of this (have a look at the update on page 2 for more info) but not the only part.

Changemakers are currently working on several items of work that Government can use to make change:

1: A 'therapeutic support' report paper

A survivor led paper. The paper's ambition is to have a fully signed up to and fully described position as to best practice for therapeutic support after child sexual abuse.

2: 'Victim Code of Practice' consultation paper

Specifically focusing on the 'communication' and 'mechanisms' aspects that the Government are seeking consultation on.

3: 'Mandatory reporting' review of the new model

The Home Office are designing the model and wanting to take stakeholders on that journey. We are proposing to work with them during that model design phase as items are developed for live testing or a complete early first draft.

We've made a submission to the **Spending Review** consultation. It's [here](#) if you'd like to take a look.

We also made a statement response to the **Law of Apologies** consultation. It's [here](#) if you'd like to take a look.

Sometimes it can feel frustrating when policy work doesn't translate into actual, tangible difference and change for survivors, but these three pieces of work mark the biggest engagement from Home Office and Ministry of Justice so far, so we're hopeful they will be meaningful

Changemaker Spotlight chats

A CHANCE TO SEE THE HUMANS BEHIND THE NAME

Episode 1: [Clare Kelly](#) (Head of Programmes IICSA Changemakers)

Episode 2: [Matthew McVarish](#) (Survivor, Activist and Co-Founder of The Brave Movement)

Episode 3: [Jess Edwards](#) (Senior Policy Advisory at Barnardos) - **NEW!**

Episode 4: [Sarah Parker](#) (Research & Development Officer at Catch 22)- **NEW!**

Episode 5: [Jabeer Butt](#) (CEO of Race Equality Foundation)- **NEW!**

Episode 6: [Gabrielle Shaw](#) (CEO of NAPAC) - **NEW!**

Episode 7: [Amelia Handy](#) (Head of Policy+Public Affairs at Rape Crisis England & Wales)- **NEW!**

Reports, events and resources

It can be time consuming and emotionally taxing keeping up to date with all the different work happening in this sector. So we've tried to reduce that labour and do it for you! Below is a collection of reports and resources that have been released lately and a few events coming up.

You do not have to read or look at these if you don't want to. Being a powerful ally and advocate in this space doesn't mean you have to immerse in all details. Pick what resonates and interests you, and be mindful and considerate when moving through these as they will have references to Child Sexual Abuse within them.

[Marie Collins Foundation Annual Conference 6-7th November](#)

[I Survived Child Abuse, Now I Help Others | Dr. Kim Bond | Justice & Me \(youtube.com\)](#)

[Brave movement: Beyond the screen: hidden voices of online abuse](#)

[Victim Support: Suffering for Justice](#)

[Rape Crisis England & Wales: A real safe space](#)

[Beyond the Streets: Survival Sex - understanding and reconnecting](#)

[Data Insights Hub | CSA Centre](#)

[The Good Childhood Report](#)

'When you are ready'



The Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Taskforce have worked with a group of victim- survivors, expert practitioners and the Marie Collins Lived Experience Group to develop and co produce a nationally coordinated campaign which was released on Monday 21st October.

It focuses on encouraging adult survivors of child sexual abuse and exploitation to reach out for support **when you are ready**.

The three-minute film features the voices of victims and survivors who have experienced child sexual abuse and exploitation – this includes both contact and online offences. The film **does not discuss the abuse experienced** but details the experience each victim and survivor had in making the decision to disclose their abuse to a loved one, support organisation and/or the police, and the impact it had on their life thereafter.

www.whenyouareready.co.uk

The IICSA Changemakers Survivor Advisory Community remains open to adult survivors of child sexual abuse that would like to be part of the our influencing and work with the Government. If you'd like to join or explore more about what it would look and feel like to join, then take a look [here](#) or email denise.pringle@nspcc.org.uk who can talk it through with you to see whether this work feels right for you right now.

**I am mine.
before i am ever anyone else's.**

Nayyirah Waheed



IF YOU'D LIKE TO GET IN TOUCH PLEASE EMAIL US

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[**IICSA CHANGEMAKERS WEBSITE**](#)