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# PIER TRAINING SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

## Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse is any type of controlling, bullying, threatening or violent behaviour between people in a relationship. It can seriously harm children and young people and witnessing domestic abuse is child abuse. Visit the NSCPCC website to [find out more](#).

Domestic abuse can be emotional, physical, sexual, economic, coercive or psychological, such as:

- kicking, hitting, punching, cutting or throwing objects
- rape (including in a relationship)
- controlling someone's finances by withholding money or stopping someone earning
- controlling behaviour, like telling someone where they can go and what they can wear
- not letting someone leave the house
- reading emails, text messages or letters
- threatening to kill someone or harm them
- threatening to another family member or pet



Download the [Birmingham Safeguarding 7-Minute Briefing Document](#) to find out more.

## Neglect

Neglect is the most common form of child abuse in the UK and the most common reason for a child to be subject to a Child Protection plan. Neglect is when a parent or carer doesn't meet the basic physical and/or emotional needs of their child. Children who are experiencing neglect often go without the essential things they need to keep them happy, healthy and safe – things like nutritious food, good hygiene, a safe place to live, adequate clothing, medical care, education and love and affection.

**BREAKING THE LINK?**

*'I thought being a parent was making sure your children were clean and being fed, making sure they go to bed on time, making sure the house is tidy'*

*'I saw my son scoop up his daughter and say all these amazing things like I love you and you're amazing. And I thought you've broken the link'*

(Angela Rayner, reported in The Times, March 2022)

Section 3 AM Keynote Speech 'Making Sense of the World of the Neglected Child and their Family'

**'Making Sense of the World of the Neglected Child and their Family'**

**Keynote Speech:  
Emeritus Professor  
Jan Horwath DLit,  
CQSW, AcSS, FRSA**

Click the image to play the recording.

## County Lines and Cuckooing



**Could you spot the warning signs?**

'County lines' is the term used to describe the approach taken by gangs originating from large urban areas, who travel to locations elsewhere such as county or coastal towns to sell class A drugs. Gangs typically recruit and exploit children and vulnerable young people to courier drugs and cash. Typically, users ask for drugs via a mobile phone line used by the gang. Couriers travel between the gang's urban base and the county or coastal locations on a regular basis to collect cash and deliver drugs.

**The grieving parents of a murdered 18-year-old say their son was exploited by county lines drug dealers, leaving them powerless to help him. Read the full story here: [BBC News](#)**

Click the image to watch the short clip about cuckooing.

## NSPCC Talk Pants



Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep your child safe from sexual abuse. It was developed in consultation with children, parents, carers and teachers, Talk PANTS is here to help children understand their body belongs to them, and they should tell a safe adult they trust if anything makes them feel upset or worried.

Click [here](#) for more information and watch a video [here](#).