

Witness Name: Rosie Benneyworth
Statement No.:
Exhibits:
Dated: 03.08.2020

THE INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Witness Statement of Rosie Benneyworth

I, Dr Rosie Benneyworth, will say as follows:

1. I joined the Care Quality Commission in March 2019 as Chief Inspector of Primary Medical Services and Integrated Care.
2. In this role, I oversee work across a wide range of sectors that CQC regulates. These include GP and dental practices, 111 and out of hours services, independent health clinics. Alongside this, my role includes the oversight of joint work with inspectors and regulators such as: Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons to ensure good health outcomes across prisons, immigration removal centres and probation services; Ofsted through our inspections of children's services; and the Defense Medical Services Regulator to monitor medical care for members of the HM Armed Forces.
3. In January 2016 I joined NICE as a Non-Executive Director with NICE and became Vice-Chair in May 2017 where I oversaw the technology appraisals and highly specialised technologies appeals process. I have been involved with NICE for several years having previously been a member of a guideline development group and a NICE Fellow.
4. I have also been a Director of Strategic Clinical Services Transformation for Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group and previously practiced as a GP between 2001 and 2017. Additionally, I have held many clinical leadership roles, mainly around service redesign and improvement programmes.
5. Regarding further requests for information relating to the number of male victims and disabled children that are registered as missing or are impacted by child sexual exploitation (as per 2a and 2b in your witness statement request), we are not best placed to provide this data. We do not hold the case demographics from our joint targeted inspections as we use SharePoint with Ofsted to access the information. The information on the tracked cases that could identify gender and disability is uploaded from the providers (or the lead inspector Ofsted) for us to use during the inspection period but is not held or kept by CQC separately. Our

Memorandum of Understanding with the lead inspector of children's services, Ofsted, is based on an agreement that Ofsted should hold this information on demographic characteristics.

6. As per your question in 2c, your inquiry identifies six geographical areas of interest: St Helens, Tower Hamlets, Swansea, Durham, Bristol and Warwickshire. Our inspections of children's services are conducted across the country, which include some findings relating to the six areas you have specifically asked for information on, in addition to other localities. Where possible we have included relevant information from inspections in these areas - these are included in the original submission (dated 30.06.2020). We have supplemented these findings from other recent inspections in the following areas: South Tyneside, Oxfordshire, Central Bedfordshire, Croydon, Liverpool, Greenwich, Southend, Dorset, Northumberland, Kent and Halton.
7. Our original witness statement draws on a range of themes and findings relating to our inspection activity. These relate to:
 - a. How local partners (particularly health bodies) understand and address child sexual exploitation.
 - b. How child sexual exploitation requires a level of 'professional curiosity' on part of health professionals to ensure hidden forms of exploitation are identified and acted on.
 - c. How there is an increasingly visible link between criminal and sexual exploitation.
 - d. How collaboration across local agencies and services is key to preventing child sexual exploitation.
 - e. What steps need to be taken to improve system working, information sharing, effective risk assessments and approaches which factor in children's input.
8. More information on the above themes can be found in our original witness statement.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief of its truth.

Signed:

DPA

Dated: 11 August 2020

