

Responding to client disclosures of viewing indecent images of children: legal and ethical issues in England and Wales

Good Practice in Action 122 Fact Sheet

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**Good Practice in Action 122
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Context

This resource is one of a suite prepared by BACP to enable members to engage with BACP's *Ethical Framework for the Counselling Professions* in respect of child protection, safeguarding and working with children and young people.

Using Fact Sheet resources

BACP members have a contractual commitment to work in accordance with the current *Ethical Framework for the Counselling Professions*. Resources are not contractually binding on members, but are intended to support practitioners by providing information, and offering questions and observations practitioners may need to ask themselves as they make ethical decisions within their practice in the context of the core ethical principles, values and personal moral qualities of BACP.

Specific issues in practice will vary depending on clients, particular models of working, the context of the work and the kind of therapeutic intervention provided. As specific issues arising from work with clients are often complex, BACP always recommends discussion of practice dilemmas with a supervisor and/or consultation with a suitably qualified and experienced legal or other relevant practitioner.

In this resource, the terms 'practitioner' and 'counselling related services' are used generically in a wider sense, to include the practice of counselling, psychotherapy, coaching and pastoral care. The terms 'therapist' or 'counsellor' are used to refer to those trained specifically as psychotherapists and counsellors.

Introduction

Information about child abuse can be harrowing – the following resource contains information about the production of indecent images of children that may be distressing to read. Before the introduction of photography, indecent images of children were circulated as drawings. In the 1800s they were distributed or shared as photographs, and later as films. Recently, as digital media has developed and taken precedence, they are mainly circulated as video recordings and live transmissions. Now, increasingly, indecent images of children are being viewed on social media, the internet, and in other ways.

In law a 'child' is defined as a person under the age of 18 years. A young person aged 16-18 years can consent to many things including consensual sexual activity. They may be sexually active and sharing sexually explicit images of themselves with their friends and partners on social media while in a sexual relationship. It is legal for young people over 16 to view sexual images or videos of others over 16, provided that they are sharing photographs solely between themselves for their own use within a marriage, civil partnership, or enduring family relationship (see 1.3). It is not legal to distribute these images in any way.

Other children and young people under 18 may be unlawfully sharing sexually explicit images of themselves, under strong influence by peers or criminal pressures. For example, they may be being 'groomed' by those who, for money or sexual gratification are deliberately exploiting the young person's vulnerability.

Other indecent images of children may show adults and/or other children interacting sexually with a child. Some practitioners may find such images shocking, and possibly painful too. It may be difficult to acknowledge these images are not being acted, but are a real physical image or record of children being actively sexually abused. Children are being abused, tortured, and even in some cases, killed, to produce these images for the gratification of those wishing to watch or witness that abuse. People who deliberately purchase, sell, or are otherwise complicit in the viewing or dissemination of these images are therefore encouraging this illegal trade and supporting child abuse.

Counselling professionals have an ethical responsibility to give:

...conscientious consideration to the law and how we fulfil any legal requirements concerning our work (Good Practice, point 46).

The purpose of this resource is to inform and assist practitioners, training organisations, supervisors, counselling service providers and schools regarding legal and ethical issues in practice relating to client reports of viewing images of child sexual abuse in England, and Wales. When offenders require children to photograph themselves to create indecent images for distribution, the viewers may be of any age.

In Northern Ireland and Scotland, the law may differ, but operates similarly to try to limit the creation and dissemination of indecent images of children – references to resources in these jurisdictions are also included. For definitions of the legal and other terms used in this resource, please refer to the *Glossary*.

This resource briefly covers what information might be disclosed, by whom, how and when. How practitioners might respond at a personal level to this and what they may usefully do is also discussed below. Indecent images of children may be accidentally accessed or come into your possession, and guidance is also given in this regard.

This resource is not exhaustive, just an introduction, containing information about some of the many complex legal and practice issues that may be involved. It does not constitute practice or legal advice. BACP always recommends discussion of practice dilemmas with a supervisor and/or consultation where appropriate with a suitably qualified and experienced legal or other relevant practitioner.

1 The Law

It is important to understand the law as it relates to the work of a counselling professional because a client's disclosure of viewing indecent images of children might constitute an admission of a serious criminal offence.

The practitioner may need to consider ethical and legal issues about referral, reporting, and/or breaching confidentiality in the public interest, as well as considering the implications of disclosures for the therapy itself.

It is also important to understand that the law is not absolutely clear – there is no 'one size fits all' answer regarding the actions to take and, in order to make a decision as to an appropriate disclosure, a practitioner needs to consider the law *in relation to their particular client's case*, including their age. Is the client admitting to, or telling you about a serious offence? Consider ethical issues (exceptions to the duty of confidentiality, how to make an effective disclosure where appropriate, etc) and the context in which the practitioner is working (for example does government guidance with statutory force apply to the role?).

1.1 Law in relation to adults and obscene publications

The Obscene Publications Act 1959 creates the offence of publishing material which might 'deprave or corrupt' those who are likely to see, read, or hear it. 'Publishing' can include distributing, selling, lending or giving the material in question, or offering to sell or lend it. The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) *Legal Guidance on Obscene Publications* can be found at: www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/obscene-publications.

1.2 Law in relation to indecent images of children under the age of 18

The full text of current UK legislation can be found at www.legislation.gov.uk. The two main statutes creating offences are: the *Protection of Children Act 1978* (PCA 1978: s 1); and the *Criminal Justice Act 1988* (CJA 1988: s 160). Both statutes create offences in respect of images that are:

- indecent, and
- photographs or pseudo-photographs of a child.

In relation to these images, the offences are to:

- make
- distribute or show
- possess with a view to distributing or showing the image by oneself or showing by others
- publish the images or cause them to be published.

Please refer to the *Glossary* for more definitions of these terms.

The UK Government is working with partner organisations including the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) and the Marie Collins Foundation to ensure everyone knows the law. *The Home Office Guidance Indecent images of children: guidance for young people (updated 21 November 2019)*, explains the law in simple language for young people, so that everyone understands that:

- looking at sexual images or videos of any child under 18 is illegal, even if the viewer thought they looked older
- these are images of real children and young people, and viewing the images causes children further harm

- if a person stumbles across sexual images or videos online, of someone who could be under 18, they should report it to the [Internet Watch Foundation \(IWF\)](#) – reporting is easy, anonymous and could help to save a child from ongoing harm.

The Coroners and Justice Act 2009 includes an additional offence of possession of a pornographic image of a child, defined as 'one which must reasonably be assumed to have been produced solely or principally for the purpose of sexual arousal' and possession of images of children that are 'Grossly offensive, disgusting or otherwise of an obscene character' (Section 62(2)(c)).

For more details see the CPS guidance *Indecent and Prohibited Images of Children (revised 30 June 2020)* at www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/indecent-and-prohibited-images-children.

1.3 Legal defences

In the therapy room, clients may offer various reasons to explain their involvement in indecent images of children. However, it is important that the practitioner understands the legal defences because this may affect the ethical and legal issues to be considered in response to a disclosure.

The statutory defences to the offences in Section 1 of the *Protection of Children Act 1978* are in sections 1(4), 1A and 1B of that Act. They are:

- Legitimate reason
- Lack of awareness
- Marriage and other relationships.

Legitimate reason is not formally defined, but for the courts to decide. Public authorities, police, courts, and medical staff acting in the guidelines of their clinical work, etc, may for example view and retain prohibited images for the legitimate purpose of prevention, investigation or prosecution of crimes, or the health treatment of victims or offenders.

In cases where the conduct is stated to be legitimate research, the central question will be whether the defendant was essentially a person with an unhealthy interest in indecent images, acting under the pretence of undertaking research or was a genuine researcher who had no alternative but to have such unpleasant material in their possession. The courts may well be rather sceptical in assessing the defence evidence – see cases such as *Atkins v DPP*; *Goodland v DPP* [2000] 2 Cr. App. R. 248. See also section 2.5.

Lack of awareness may be a defence if the defendant had not themselves seen the photographs in question and did not know or have any cause to suspect them to be indecent, and/or that the subject of the image was a child, see (*R v Collier* [2005] 1 Cr. App. R. 9), in which the defendant knew that a CD he possessed contained adult pornography but was not aware that a trailer at the end advertised material containing indecent images of children.

Marriage and other relationships

- The defendant has to prove in law that (a) the photograph was of a child aged 16 or 17 and (b) at the time of the conduct in question they and the child were married or civil partners or lived together in an 'enduring family relationship'.
- The photograph showed the child alone or with the defendant but with nobody else.

The consent of the child is required, and also proof that the image was not distributed in any way or shown to others. Case law has firmly established that a 'one night stand' is not an enduring family relationship in the terms of this defence.

There is a fourth defence under section 160 of the *Criminal Justice Act 1988*: that of 'Unsolicited photographs'. In this case, the defendant must prove that the photograph in question was sent to them without any prior request by them or on their behalf, and that they did not keep it for an unreasonable time (before deleting it). It is not clear whether time runs from when the image was received by the computer, or from when it was known by a defendant to have been received (see also section 2.5).

In cases involving live-streaming, once an image or video has been viewed, there may be no forensic trace left on the device used to view that image or video. A person who has merely viewed an image or video may not have retained any copy of it on their device. Nonetheless, in law, they may be held to have 'made' an image by causing it to be displayed on that device or shown on a computer or phone screen.

In cases involving child sexual abuse, there are generally three types of methods used in which video may be live-streamed or show pre-recorded abuse. These may include overseas pay-per-view, 'chat rooms' and images self-produced by children.

1.4 Law and live-streaming of images of children: either self-produced by children, or produced by adults

Offenders are often able to exploit children who stream images between their peers in order to gain 'likes.'

They may contact these children and direct forms of abuse or obtain and distribute these images to other offenders. The CPS suggests that live-streaming will almost always constitute the offence of 'making' the images, provided that the other elements of the offence can also be proved. Viewing live-streaming may also encompass other offences, including 'encouraging' the criminal actions of others. Consciously providing an audience for sexual offending may amount to encouragement – for example, a viewer of live-streaming might be encouraging by sharing conversation or pictures of themselves reacting to the material. A live-streaming viewer might in law also be considered to be assisting in 'publishing' or 'distributing' indecent images, etc, see sections 44 and 45 of the *Serious Crime Act 2007* (doing an act, intentionally encouraging or assisting the offence).

Disclosures made by clients may generate ethical and legal dilemmas for the practitioner. As the law is often complex, and can frequently change, it is important that counselling practitioners are aware of the current law relevant to their work (as well as BACP's *Ethical Framework*).

2 Ethical issues in practice

Practitioners may encounter ethical dilemmas in their therapeutic practice, which may be challenging, particularly in this area of law. The considerations in 2.1-2.5 may help practitioners think through these ethical dilemmas.

2.1 What information might be disclosed in therapy, how, when and by whom?

Clients may tell the practitioner that they currently view indecent images of children or that it is past behaviour, which has now been abandoned. However, it may also be just a thought the client has at the moment, with no intention to follow it through. Alternatively they may say that they witnessed someone else viewing these images.

It may be useful to reflect upon questions such as 'Why is the client telling me this?' and 'Why now?' (as the timing of the client's disclosure may be relevant to the therapy).

Viewing indecent images may be a presenting issue in a first session or disclosed sometime after the therapeutic alliance has been built, – for example, after the client has entered therapy for a different reason. The disclosure may be made between sessions, just as the client is leaving their final session or even after the therapy has ended. A client may reveal that they view pornographic images of adults but then, when they have perhaps gauged your response, say they also look at indecent images of children. Disclosures may be made in person or by email, phone call, letter or social media. They may come from clients who have not been expected to be involved with such activities and thus, practitioners must be prepared to 'expect the unexpected'. It may be useful to think through in advance how we might respond if a client tells us that they have been viewing indecent images of children.

Some children and young people may admit in therapy that they have participated or been pressured into 'sexting', and the age of the client, and the issues of consent, confidentiality and safeguarding will have to be considered. For the law on legal defences and live-streaming, please refer to 1.3 and 1.4.

2.2 Personal responses that practitioners may have to such disclosures

Personal responses that practitioners may experience to major disclosures made by clients (particularly around child sex abuse) can be significant and may involve complex physical and cognitive reactions. For example, there might be feelings of shock, trauma, disbelief, disgust, anger or numbness. As in other areas of practice, practitioners have an ethical responsibility to attend to self-care, particularly if they have a personal abuse history (Good Practice, point 91 and GPiA 088 Fact Sheet: *Self-care for the counselling professions*). Good supervision and access to personal therapy (if appropriate) are vital (Good Practice, points 60, 61, 91).

2.3 What might a practitioner do about a client's disclosure?

We may have both ethical and legal issues to decide, based on the nature, seriousness, accuracy and reliability of the information given by our client. The client or others may have broken the law and risk criminal trial or imprisonment.

Children may be at imminent risk of serious harm. Alternatively, the client may be just fantasising or making false accusations against others.

Careful consideration is required that involves thinking through the nature and context of client disclosures and the possible practitioner responses. This may be best done in consultation with a supervisor, colleague or legal advisor who has appropriate experience and expertise.

Each case has to be decided on its own circumstances, so there is no 'one size fits all' response. The timing of the disclosure may affect the path of any ongoing therapy but would not affect the ethical and legal responsibilities of the practitioner regarding the information disclosed to them. If therapy continues, then they may be able to persuade the client to self-refer to a specialist or other agency, and/or support them through any aftermath of disclosure, and any other action that may need to be taken such as police investigation or child protection procedures.

Whilst we are under a general ethical and legal duty of confidentiality to protect our clients' personal data, there are situations where we may need to breach their confidence, and it is ethical and lawful when:

1. the client consents to and/or requires disclosure, or
2. law requires disclosure, or
3. law permits disclosure (if disclosed in public interest and ethically justifiable).

We may be able to work with the client to make an appropriate disclosure with their full consent and co-operation (which is usually the best way forward in preserving the therapeutic relationship and supporting the client). If the client refuses consent, then our decision on whether and how to breach the client's confidentiality may be governed by the contract we agreed with them, our contractual responsibilities to any agency for which we work, by the requirements of the law, and by the likely outcome of disclosure not only for the client, but as a priority the safeguarding issues for any of the children involved.

Decisions may be influenced by considerations such as the seriousness of the client's disclosures, the likelihood and imminence of harm to a child or children, the likely impact on our client and others of our disclosure to an appropriate person or agency, and the need for protection of a child or children in the public interest.

The decision to disclose should be ethically and legally justifiable, based on the relevant law, professional guidance and the *Ethical Framework*, agency policies and rules, and the practitioner's discernment and professional judgment. We have to stand by our decisions and deal with the consequences of our actions, including any legal consequences for our clients or others. If the law regards the decision as being justifiable in the public interest, then the practitioner is protected. For guidance on confidentiality and disclosures, see the *Ethical Framework for the Counselling Professions* (BACP 2018); GPiA 014 Legal Resource: *Managing confidentiality within the counselling professions*; GPiA 031 Legal Resource: *Safeguarding children and young people*; Reeves and Bond (2021); Mitchels and Bond (2021); DfE 2015a; DfE 2015b; and DfE 2018.

If you have any reasonably founded suspicion or concerns that a child may be at risk of serious harm, the CPS advice is to always contact the police. If a child is in immediate danger, dial 999 as soon as practicably possible and ask to speak to the police. The local authority should also have a child safeguarding officer on duty, with responsibility to answer enquiries and to take referrals where a child is at risk. See the section on Useful resources for other sources of advice, information and help.

2.4 If a practitioner decides to disclose information about their client – what should they do next?

If a decision is made to disclose the client's information, the practitioner should make a clear record of:

- the date the information was provided
- to whom the information was given
- the content of the information shared
- the method of disclosure or referral
- whether consent was given to make the disclosure (and by whom)
- if consent was not given, the reason(s) for this.

Client records of the therapy sessions must be accurate, concise and carefully retained. The practitioner may be required to give evidence in any future court proceedings. The client may also be a witness or defendant in criminal proceedings, and if therapy continues, the practitioner should comply with the *Crown Prosecution Service guidance on pre-trial therapy for children and vulnerable adult witnesses* (CPS 2005a, 2005b; 2021). See also GPiA 070; GPiA 098. A court may order the records to be produced in evidence and the client will need to understand the psychological and practical impact of their therapy records being shared in evidence. They may need support in therapy, or possibly from other agencies.

Practitioners wherever possible, should try to act with the knowledge and consent of the client, within the agreed boundaries of confidentiality. However, sometimes, a disclosure needs to be made in the public interest without the consent of the client, or against the client's direct wishes; or sometimes, to avoid compromising an investigation or to protect the safety of others, the client is not informed in advance of the therapist's disclosure. These situations may pose a risk to the therapeutic relationship, but that risk cannot always be avoided, and hopefully any potential rupture in the therapeutic relationship might be addressed and worked through in any future sessions.

2.5 What happens if a practitioner unintentionally accesses or comes into possession of an indecent image of a child?

In the course of their work, counselling professionals may be handed or sent indecent images of a child by a client or others. For example, a client may wish to 'confess' or symbolically rid themselves of the responsibility of having such an image. Practitioners may receive:

- an email from a client containing an embedded image, attachment or link that is seen to have (or suspected to have) an indecent image of a child
- an indecent image of a child through the post
- an indecent image of a child during a session.

In these and any other circumstances where an indecent image of a child is received or viewed, the practitioner should address the ethical and legal considerations and responses outlined in 2.2-2.4.

Practitioners often carry out research into topics that are of purely professional interest. If in the course of research on the internet, a practitioner stumbles across sexual images or videos of someone who could be under 18, they should report it to the [Internet Watch Foundation \(IWF\)](#). Reporting is easy, anonymous and could help save a child from ongoing harm.

Please note that if a child is identified or identifiable from the images, there are appropriate child protection and safeguarding procedures, which should be followed. For details see GPiA 031 *Safeguarding children and young people; Working together to safeguard children (DoH 2018); DfE 2015; DfE 2015a*, and see 2.2– 2.4.

Conclusion

The UK Government is working with partner organisations to ensure everyone knows the law and understands that looking at sexual images or videos of under-18s is illegal, even if the person in the image looks older. These are images of real children and young people and viewing them causes further harm. When a practitioner is faced with the idea that their client has involvement with these images, they may feel shocked and possibly traumatised. It is important to remain calm, think professionally, and where necessary, consult with their supervisor or with another appropriately qualified or experienced person.

Practitioners need to assess the ethical and legal issues involved and act appropriately, bearing in mind that accurate records may be required in evidence. The client may need ongoing therapeutic help and support to consider and face the consequences of their actions, and both client and practitioner may need to co-operate where necessary with the authorities in taking appropriate action to safeguard the children concerned.

About the author

Dr Barbara Mitchels, PhD, LL.B, BACP Registered (Snr Accred), is a Fellow of BACP and has a counselling and supervision practice in Devon. Also a retired solicitor, Barbara provides professional consultancy, resources and online CPD workshops in ethics, law and therapy related professional issues. See www.therapylaw.co.uk.

Glossary

The definitions in this glossary are taken from statute, and the CPS guidance *Indecent and Prohibited Images of Children* (revised 30 June 2020) at www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/indecent-and-prohibited-images-children (accessed 17 October 2022); and the Home Office Guidance *Indecent images of children: guidance for young people* (updated 21 November 2019), see www.gov.uk/government/publications/indecent-images-of-children-guidance-for-young-people/indecent-images-of-children-guidance-for-young-people (accessed 17 October 2022).

Child – A person under the age of 18. See the *Protection of Children Act 1978*, s 7 (6). A person is taken to have been a child at any material time “if it appears from the evidence as a whole that he was then under the age of 18” (s.2(3) of the *Protection of Children Act 1978*; s160(4) of the *Criminal Justice Act 1988*).

Distributing – A person is to be regarded as distributing indecent photographs or pseudo-photographs if he parts with possession of it to, or exposes or offers it for acquisition by, another person. See (s1(2) of the *Protection of Children Act 1978*).

Indecent – This is an issue of fact to be decided by the courts in line with standards of propriety. An indecent image may include penetrative and/or non-penetrative sexual activity. This definition is not restricted by the specific categories of image defined for sentencing purposes.

Live-streaming – A series of images which are intended to be viewed online, in real time, as the events depicted are actually occurring.

Making – (an indecent image) has been defined in case law as ‘...to cause to exist, to produce by action, or to bring about’ (*R v Bowden* [2000] 1 Cr App R. 438).

Making can therefore include opening, accessing, downloading and storing online content, and could also include:

- opening an attachment to an email containing an image
- downloading an image from a website onto a computer screen
- storing an image in a directory on a computer
- accessing a website in which images appear by way of an automatic ‘pop up’ mechanism
- Live-streaming (see definition in *Glossary*).

Pornographic image of a child – Section 62 of the *Coroners and Justice Act 2009* created the offence of possession of a prohibited image of a child. This includes a pornographic image, defined in that Act as 'one which must reasonably be assumed to have been produced solely or principally for the purpose of sexual arousal.'

Possession of indecent photographs or pseudo-photographs – The definition of 'possession' has been created through case law. The test in *R v Okoro* (No. 3) [2018] EWCA Crim 19 determined that:

1. The images must be in the custody or control of the suspect i.e. so that they are capable of accessing, or in a position to retrieve the image(s)
2. The suspect must have known that they possessed an image or group of images on the relevant device/devices. Knowledge of the content of those images is not required – the statutory defences deal with that.

If images have been deleted from a device, it is relevant to consider:

1. Where the photos are stored on the device
2. The means by which they could be retrieved in the sense set out above
3. Whether the suspect has the wherewithal to retrieve them i.e. the technical knowledge/software/equipment required to do so; see (*R v Porter* [2006] 1 Cr. App. R. 25; *R v Leonard* [2012] 2 Cr. App. R. 12):

Section 160 of the *Criminal Justice Act 1988* makes the simple possession of indecent photographs or pseudo-photographs of children an offence and carries a maximum sentence of five years' imprisonment.

A person does not necessarily have to be in possession of images to distribute them or show them, see *R v Price* [2006] EWCA Crim 3363.

Prohibited images of children – Section 62 of the *Coroners and Justice Act 2009* created the offence of possession of a prohibited image of a child. It is triable in the magistrates' courts or crown court on indictment and punishable on indictment with a maximum of three years' imprisonment. This offence is targeted at non-photographic images; this includes computer-generated images (CGIs), cartoons, manga images and drawings.

Pornographic images of children – included in the *Coroners and Justice Act 2009*, this is defined as 'one which must reasonably be assumed to have been produced solely or principally for the purpose of sexual arousal' and possession of images of children that are 'Grossly offensive, disgusting or otherwise of an obscene character' (Section 62(2)(c)).

Publish – The term ‘publishing’ implies and includes distribution of an image. A person is to be regarded as distributing indecent photographs or pseudo-photographs if he parts with possession of it to, or exposes or offers it for acquisition by, another person (s1(2) of the Protection of Children Act 1978).

Pseudo-photograph – See the *Protection of Children Act 1978, s 7*. A pseudo-photograph is an image made by computer-graphics or otherwise which appears to be a photograph. This can include: photos, videos, tracings and derivatives of a photograph, and data that can be converted into a photograph.

Sharing – (an indecent image) can include sending on an email, offering on a file sharing platform, uploading to a site that other people have access to, and possessing with a view to distribute the image(s).

Taking a photograph or pseudo-photograph – Under the Protection of Children Act 1978 (as amended), the UK has a strict prohibition on the taking, making, circulation, and possession with a view to distribution of any indecent photograph or pseudo-photograph of a child and such offences carry a maximum sentence of 10 years’ imprisonment.

References and further reading

Note:

- *UK Government* publications available from the Stationery Office (TSO, www.tsoshop.co.uk), PO Box 29, Norwich NR3 1GN. Tel: 0870 600 5522; Email: customer.services@tso.co.uk.
- *The Department for Education* (www.education.gov.uk), formerly Department for Children Schools and Families, publishes policy regarding children’s services in England.
- *The Ministry of Justice* (www.justice.gov.uk) publishes policy regarding the courts and tribunals in England and Wales.
- *Northern Ireland Government* publications are available from the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (www.dhsspsni.gov.uk).
- *Welsh Government* publications, see (<https://gov.wales/publications>).

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Resources for information, help and advice

If you have any suspicion or concerns that a child may be at risk, always contact the police. If a child is in immediate danger, dial 999 and ask to speak to the police.

Get more information and support from:

Internet Watch Foundation – an independent charity that aims to help victims of child sexual abuse worldwide by identifying and removing online sexual imagery of under-18s, offering a place for the public to report suspected indecent images of children anonymously.
www.iwf.org.uk

Marie Collins Foundation – a charity enabling children who have suffered sexual abuse and exploitation online to recover and live safe, fulfilling lives.
www.mariecollinsfoundation.org.uk

National Crime Agency CEOP – a command of the NCA working with child protection partners across the UK to identify and eradicate threats to children.
www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre

NSPCC – a charity working to protect children and prevent abuse.
www.nspcc.org.uk

Stop It Now! – a child abuse prevention campaign and anonymous helpline for individuals worried about their own sexual thoughts or behaviour towards children or that of others.
www.stopitnow.org.uk/helpline