



Child protection training taking place in the West Midlands

A one-day training day organised by the child protection charity, The Lucy Faithfull Foundation and the Stop it Now! England campaign, is being held in Birmingham next week. The event called '*Preventing Child Sexual Abuse – Making it Everybody's Business*' is for all those who work across the region with children and families.

The event follows the recent case of Paul Wilson, a nursery worker from Birmingham who pleaded guilty to two counts of raping a toddler and admitted more than 40 offences related to grooming young girls on the internet and distributing indecent images.

Those attending will complete a series of specialist workshops to consider Internet offending, children and young people who display worrying sexual behaviour and female sexual abusers. They will also complete a workshop which aims to show how individual job roles fit into the prevention agenda.

The event is open to all those who work with children and families, including early years workers, children's service providers, police officers, foster carers, youth workers, child care staff, psychologists, those who work in education settings and volunteers in the wider children's workforce.

Stop it Now! England, which is based in Alvechurch, works to reduce the risk of children being sexually abused by working with parents, carers, communities and professionals.

Donald Findlater, Director of Stop it Now! said: "We believe that child sexual abuse is preventable and that all adults have a role to play in protecting children. We cannot expect or allow one agency alone to tackle this problem, which is why our event is open to all those who have an interest in taking care of children.

"The court case of Paul Wilson has brought home just how important it is for all adults to be aware of worrying signs of behaviour in others. This young man did not have any previous convictions, so he passed the vetting process. We all need to know how abusers and potential abusers operate and the warning signs to look out for so we can do the best we can to protect children."

The event will take place at the Priory Rooms Meeting and Conference Centre, Birmingham on June 14th. Interested parties can find out more at www.stopitnow.org.uk or calling 01527 598184. Information for parents and carers on how to protect children can be found at www.parentsprotect.co.uk.

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Notes to Editors

For further information and interview opportunities please contact Deborah Denis on 01372 847160, 07540 690 315 or ddenis@lucyfaithfull.org.uk.

This event is not open to the general public.

1. Named after its founder, Baroness Lucy Faithfull of Wolvercote, the Foundation is a child protection charity operating UK-wide and specialising in safeguarding children from sexual abuse. The Foundation's policy is to collaborate with individuals and agencies internationally to develop a more child sensitive and offender aware culture in our societies. The Foundation contributes to legislation and to policy and procedure reviews concerned with safeguarding children in faith communities, in schools, in leisure facilities, on the Internet and living away from home.

www.lucyfaithfull.org.uk

2. Stop it Now! UK and Ireland aims to prevent child sexual abuse by increasing public awareness and empowering people to act responsibly to protect children. Stop it Now! believes that it is the responsibility of all adults to take positive action to prevent the sexual abuse of children. Stop it Now! is an alliance of leading children's charities, working with the government and child protection agencies, to promote public education and prevent child sexual abuse. The Stop it Now! helpline has been operating since 2002 and aims to prevent child abuse by encouraging abusers and potential abusers to seek help and by giving adults the information they need to protect children safely. The helpline is funded by the Ministry of Justice and the Lucy Faithfull Foundation. The England campaign is supported by the Department of Children, Schools and Families. The Stop it Now! campaigns in Wales and Scotland are supported by the Welsh Assembly Government and the Scottish Government respectively. www.stopitnow.org.uk.