

# Safeguarding Newsletter

21<sup>st</sup> September 2020



## See, Hear, Respond

I would like to introduce you to a new service called 'See, Hear, Respond' it is provided across England for children, young people, parents and carers who are experiencing crisis due to Covid19 and is funded by DfE up to October 2020 in partnership with Barnardo's.

The programme has been created to help children and young people in England (up to 18 years of age and those with special educational needs under the age of 25) who are experiencing harm and increased adversity during lockdown by providing support to those who are **NOT** being seen by any key agencies and especially want to invite referrals for families who are most isolated from support due to COVID-19, including:

- Under 5s with a specific focus on under 2s
- Those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and where there are concerns about their welfare e.g. online safety
- Children who maybe at increased risk of abuse, neglect and exploitation inside or outside of the home
- Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugee children who experience barriers to accessing services
- Young carers

Please do not hesitate to contact our Regional Coordinator; Tracey Demers;

[tracey.demers@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:tracey.demers@barnardos.org.uk) OR 07834 106405

For further information and to submit a referral please visit <https://www.barnardos.org.uk/see-hear-respond>



## The snide tactics used by loan sharks (Manchester Evening News)

The Manchester Evening News has a track record of excellent investigative journalism looking at a range of safeguarding topics. One of the recent long articles looked at the tactics of loan sharks. The image that often comes to mind of a loan shark is of 'heavies' threatening violence. This article shows that their methods can be much more emotionally intimidating.

With a likely economic downturn, increased unemployment, evictions and financial hardship may affect many more people. Loan sharks thrive in such circumstances. This article is well-worth a read.

Three things I learned from this newspaper article:

Snapchat and WhatsApp are regularly used to contact vulnerable people and one in five victims met their lender via social media in the first half of 2020.

It takes on average three years for a victim to come forward for help after borrowing from a loan shark.

Some loan sharks make people turn to shoplifting to pay off their debts.

You can report a loan shark, or find out more here: <https://www.stoploansharks.co.uk/>



### Contact us

Dudley Safeguarding People Partnership Board  
3-5 St James's Road, Dudley, West Midlands DY1 1HZ

#### For children

0300 555 0050

#### For adults

0300 555 0055

### Report it

If you are a child or young person or if you have concerns about a child or young person...

#### Office hours 9am - 5pm

0300 555 0050

#### Out of office hours

0300 555 8574 or in an emergency call 999