



House of Commons
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SW1A 0AA

Sarah Champion
Member of Parliament for Rotherham

Immediate release
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Sarah Champion MP pledges her support to Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day

Sarah Champion, Member of Parliament for Rotherham, says it's important that as many people as possible support National Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day. The first day of its kind will be on Wednesday 18th March, with the country being urged to come together and show their support for victims and survivors.

The day aims to raise awareness among the public and develop a zero tolerance attitude to inappropriate relationships involving children. People are being encouraged to discuss the issue in any way they can, whether that be on social media, by holding events or simply talking to friends and family. It's also about educating people to be able to spot and speak out against abuse.

One of the ways Sarah is getting involved is to take part in the Helping Hands pledge. Along with many others, Sarah will write on her hand a pledge on what she will do in the fight against child sexual exploitation. A photo of Sarah's hand will then be posted onto Twitter with the #helpinghands; other social media users are being encouraged to do exactly the same and get the issue trending.

Young victims are also being advised to visit <http://www.youandco.org.uk/>. A new website designed to help young people cope with the impact and effects of crime.

Discussing Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day, Sarah said:

"I hope everyone can show support for Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day. It's vital that we highlight this horrific crime and get more people engaged in preventing it. We need to tackle child sexual exploitation head on and the only way to do that is make as much noise as we can and encourage others to do the same."

"This crime has had a huge impact on Rotherham but it is not an issue specific to this town. Across the country, thousands and thousands of victims and survivors have suffered and continue to do so. The time has arrived for us to come together and stand up for these people who desperately deserve our support and to get them justice."

"For me, education is the best way to fight child sexual exploitation. People need to understand more about the crime, how they can spot the signs and ultimately what they can do to stop it. The aim is to develop a zero tolerance approach to inappropriate relationships, whether that is between adults and children or between children and other children. I hope that everyone will join me in making a pledge to put a stop to this horrendous crime."

ENDS

NOTES FOR EDITOR

Photos of Sarah #helpinghands pledge attached.

Audio of Sarah discussing CSE Awareness Day attached available for broadcast.

For more information please contact:

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If you would like to receive Sarah's E-newsletter to learn more about her work representing Rotherham - please click [here](#) to subscribe