#STOPSO
Tackling Sexual Abuse

20/July 2026

STOPSO TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2026

First, I would like to acknowledge the current Board of trustees:

Gavin Conn, Vice chair, Trudy Hannington John Goss Sue Maxwell Robert Beilen Tom Scott Antonia Morris

I would also like to thank our patrons: **Nina Vaaranen-Valkonen** and **Simon Bayley** QPM for their ongoing support and knowledge and for promoting us both in the UK and Europe as a leading child protection agency.

This has been a great group of committed individuals, and in combination, they are a great board of trustees. Thanks to you all.

Besides the board, I would like to thank **Michael Morris**, our accountant. His number crunching is a wonderful thing, and he has kept us on track.

Thanks to **Kelly Doyle** and **Shane Wheeler** for their admin support.

I am honoured to continue serving as Chair of this dynamic and evolving charity. As this report shows, we are growing and developing, growth that brings its challenges, but these are welcome challenges that reflect our progress. Our work demands energy, adaptability, and foresight, and I am proud that we approach it with all three. I am especially grateful to the dedicated team of trustees and members whose commitment and insight help guide us forward.

Achievements this year

Training – We have delivered an exceptional and well attended schedule of training which has proved a good source of income and skills improvement. We wish to use the ‘Flash Training’, a 2 hour presentation/ workshop on a variety of subjects which has offered members in the first instance with skills practice, awareness of new developments, and support.

We have run 2 pilots of a bespoke training of therapists to work therapeutically with under 18’s representing sexual harms. This is a unique course of which we are most proud and about to launch onto appropriate platforms.

Conference- 07/10/2025. We were delighted with the success of this event. The next conference will be held on 23/04/2027 and will be even bigger and better! These events are crucial to the ongoing and developing reputation of the charity, and in showcasing the forward thinking we encourage and creativity in compiling such

events to reach not only our members, but also others interested in this most sensitive of subject matters.

Alliances - We have continued to benefit from our alliance with Stone King Solicitors. Matthew Graham and his team remain available to you all for free legal advice and guidance. Please check out the website for access. I thank Matthew for his multiple presentations to StopSO's members.

Marketing-We have marketed ourselves by attending conferences, appearing in professional magazines, podcasts, and interviews with national newspapers. We will continue to raise our profile.

Moving forward-Much work has been undertaken to reconsider and rewrite all policies, updating our mission statements and plan going forward. We have commissioned a solicitor to ensure our governance is up to date and reflective of our vision and we can grow productively. We will be seeking to employ, on a part-time basis, a Charity Lead Operations Executive as a fund raiser.

We currently have 180 trained therapists in the UK able to receive referrals. This has grown exponentially and is testament to our reputation and pertinence in this field of work.

Medium Term Vision

We will be selling the training for under 18's as a commercial venture. Our aim is to strengthen the quality of training available and make this opportunity accessible to many more therapists. This is a significant undertaking, but the groundwork is already underway, and we look forward to reporting next year on how many therapists have chosen to extend their practice to under-18s. We are grateful to be working alongside others already established in this field, including Dr Anna Hutchings, whose contribution continues to be outstanding.

We will be seeking opportunities to work collaboratively with other charities and the public sector. This includes Protect Children, IWF, We are Survivors and the Lucy Faithful Foundation.

We continue to plan for new initiatives, such as training at the therapy centers of learning to ensure that all therapists are at least aware of this subject matter which will affect some of their clients, either as perpetrators or victims/survivors. Also, we are looking to offer support to Social Services departments who deal with the immediate aftermath of 'The Knock', and who receive little if any training in this area of work, thereby having few tools to deal with the risk that may be perceived.

Safeguarding- We have received positive feedback about our safeguarding policy. I thank Matthew Graham of Stone King solicitors for their continued support and guidance with this complex work. We are creating a bespoke safeguarding short training for all members to be rolled out early next year.

Long term vision

StopSO has a positive long-term vision, which we understand will be tempered by the ever-changing tide of this work.

We expect the work with under 18's will be profitable, but moreover, will become a vital part of the development of therapeutic services in the UK.

We are also planning to work more collaboratively with other organizations in this field. I have always believed that if we work together, we work smarter.

The trustee board is increasingly multi-skilled. This brings challenges but moreover, a lot of strength, which I am hopeful will strengthen our work going forward,

It is predicted that the new website will support the level of traction we are currently receiving and bolster the current demand for access to, for example, training materials as for referrals to navigate to therapy.

In conclusion

StopSO is morphing into an even more relevant charity with growth with pertinent pillars of focus. To achieve this further, we need the continued support and energy of trustees, and members. Some of the pillars are already in place e.g., training programs and policies around governance. Others will show themselves as needing more work. And we will continue to do the work.

I believe this is the road to organizational success and growth.

Antounette Philippides

StopSO Chair