

“Hello everyone, my name is Emma Goodley and I am the District Safeguarding Officer for Yorkshire West. I have recently been doing some joint working with the NWG Network, who are keen to link up with faith-based organisations across the UK to grow a faith-based network. The NWG has over 14,500 practitioners that work together to share information and best practice in relation to child exploitation and trafficking in the UK across voluntary and statutory services. They have recently appointed a Faith-based Lead, Pav Kaur, who is looking to build links with faith-based organisations across the UK. She has put out this piece below in hopes of linking with more people across the Methodist Church.”

NWG Network- Safeguarding with Faith Leaders.

Nurturing, respecting, and caring for children are part of the teachings and values of all major faiths. There is a general expectation to care for all life and a duty to support those in society who most need care and protection. We all have a role to play in keeping children safe.

My name is Pav and I work for the **NWG Network** (www.nwgnetwork.org), a national charitable organisation formed as a UK network who disseminate our information down through their services, to professionals working on the issue of child exploitation and trafficking within the UK.

Our team is made up of specialists with a range of skills and are there to offer support and expertise to the network; we proactively engage with Local Safeguarding Children’s Boards and their partner agencies, media, researchers and policy writers promoting child sexual exploitation, training, prevention work, disruption, prosecution and therapeutic care for victims and survivors by sharing effective practice, developing according to need, and actively seeking effective practice from other countries tackling exploitation and trafficking within the UK.

My role has been established to raise awareness and knowledge amongst faith leaders and come together so we can prevent child sexual abuse and exploitation within all faith communities.

We want to connect with faith-based organisations to hear what you are doing in your areas and share practice to support each other. I am sure you will agree, we don’t do this enough and media articles certainly do not help when we constantly see the news and the negative impact this has on communities and faith groups. We want to change this, but we cannot do this alone. Faith-based groups play a vital role in the lives of many children, young people, and adults.

I would be grateful if you could reach out and let’s continue to have those conversations together and support each other to bring change.

Thank you for taking your time and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Pav Kaur
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