

# APPG Statement

## IOPC Report on Operation Linden

First, I would like to once again share my sympathy to the victims in this case. These crimes are unconscionable, and I hope that the victims get all the support they need to move forward and live their full lives.

The Independent Office of Police Conduct's (IOPC) report into the failings of the South Yorkshire Police's handling of child sexual exploitation and abuse (CSEA) crimes between 1999 and 2011 is incredibly difficult to read. It makes clear that there were multiple opportunities missed by frontline officers, officers responsible for investigating CSEA offences, and senior leadership within the force.

In what is a similar pattern to many other organisations, people within the workforce were unclear about how they were able to raise concerns.

It is thanks, in no small part, to people like Jayne Senior MBE, who took it upon themselves to blow the whistle on the lack of attention South Yorkshire Police were giving to CSEA offences and their lack of recognition of the growing issue. I commend Jayne's bravery in speaking up.

Every organisation must ensure that when things are going wrong people are able to speak out with confidence that their concerns will be heard and acted upon. Without proper whistleblowing mechanisms scandal after scandal will continue to come to light, often after multiple opportunities for preventative action have been missed.

The APPG for Whistleblowing will continue to work towards reform of rights and protections for people to call out crime, corruption, and cover up.



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