

**TARIAN REGIONAL ORGANISED CRIME UNIT (ROCU)
CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE/EXPLOITATION (CSAE) THREAT UPDATE**

Date: January 2020

Reporting Period: 01/01/2020 – 31/01/2020

Introduction

Data used within report has been taken from South Wales Police, Gwent Police, Dyfed Powys Police and North Wales Police crime and intelligence systems, as well as from the national network of regional CSAE Analysts.

Data for South Wales and Gwent has been extracted from NEXUS. Crime data contains all crimes recorded under the stats classification by specific child sexual offence Home Office codes. All intelligence data for South Wales and Gwent is extracted from NEXUS and run through a macro which searches by keyword identifying the relevant logs for perusal. Dyfed-Powys and North Wales data is extracted by the force and submitted to the region for analysis. Accuracy of this information may be subject to interpretation and may contain discrepancies. This area is currently under review with ongoing analysis in order to improve data quality.

The process by which the CSAE update is completed is still in review; which may lead to slight changes to the format used and the data contained within the report. All feedback on the report is gratefully accepted and this, along with any other queries should be directed in the first instance to Regional CSAE Coordinator – Hannah Dicks.

Report Authors:

Hannah Dicks (Regional CSAE Coordinator) Hannah.Dicks@south-wales.pnn.police.uk

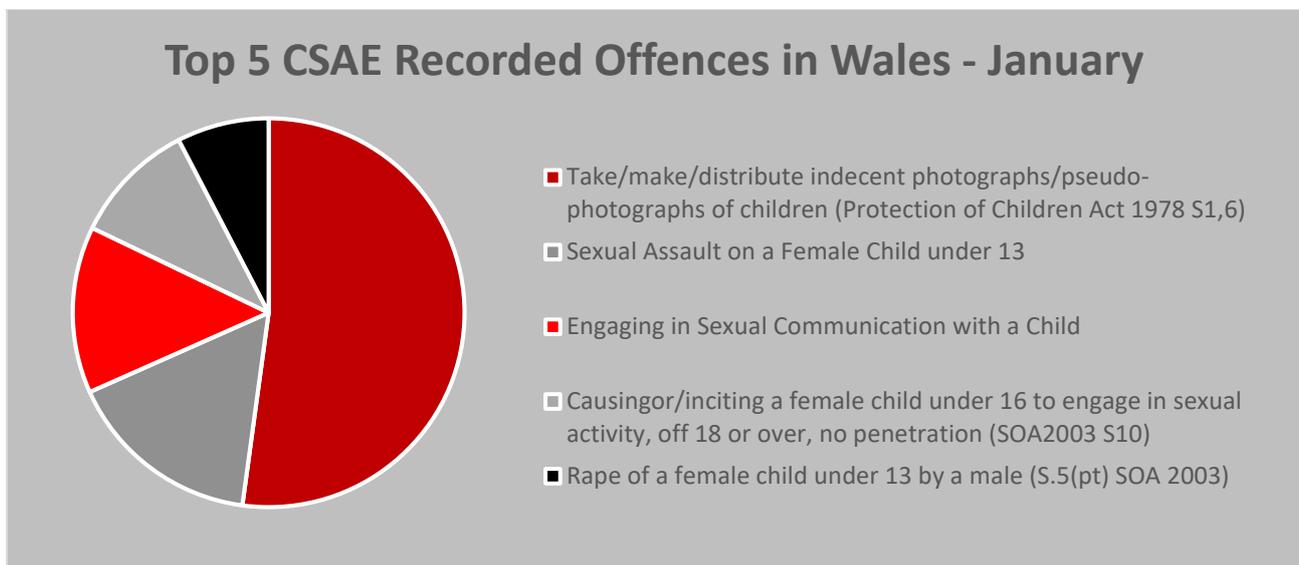
Lynette Salt (CSAE Analyst) Lynette.Salt@south-wales.pnn.police.uk

All-Wales CSAE Data Research:

During January, TARIAN documented **585** sexual offence crimes against children¹ (under 18) that were recorded by the 4 Welsh Forces. These crimes incorporate all forms of CSA including; CSE, intra-familial, harmful sexual behaviour (HSB), institutional abuse, online sexual abuse, self-generated indecent images of children (IIOC) ("sexting") etc.

These crimes and the information provided have been researched and analysed by TARIAN and demonstrate the following statistics for January;

Crimes:



- The most common offence against children across Wales for January (27%) was take/make/distribute/ indecent photographs/pseudo-photographs of children (Home office code 86/2).

Victims:

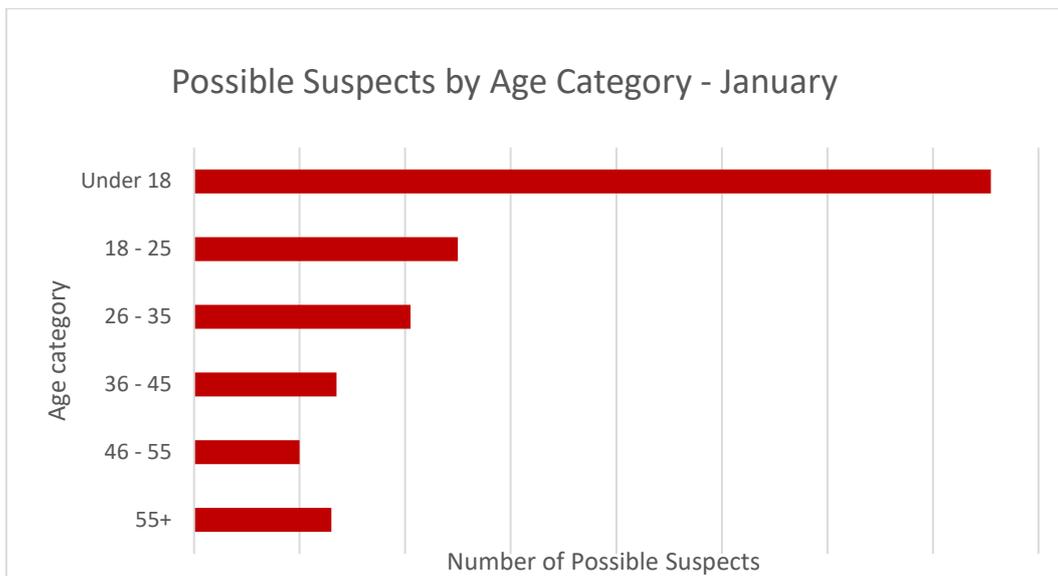
- **76%** of possible victims were recorded as being female.
- Age was recorded for 96% of victims.
- Age of victims at the time of the offence is demonstrated in the below chart:

¹ Crimes for South Wales and Gwent - this includes all crimes that fall under child sexual offence Home Office codes. North Wales and Dyfed-Powys data is extracted by the force and submitted to TARIAN for analysis.



Possible suspects/suspects (all ages):

- Where recorded, **71%** of possible suspects/suspects identified were Male.
- Where age was recorded, **45%** were under 18 at the time of the offence. This reflects a slight increase from December where 40% of subjects were under 18 at the time of offence.
- The below chart highlights the ages of possible suspects.



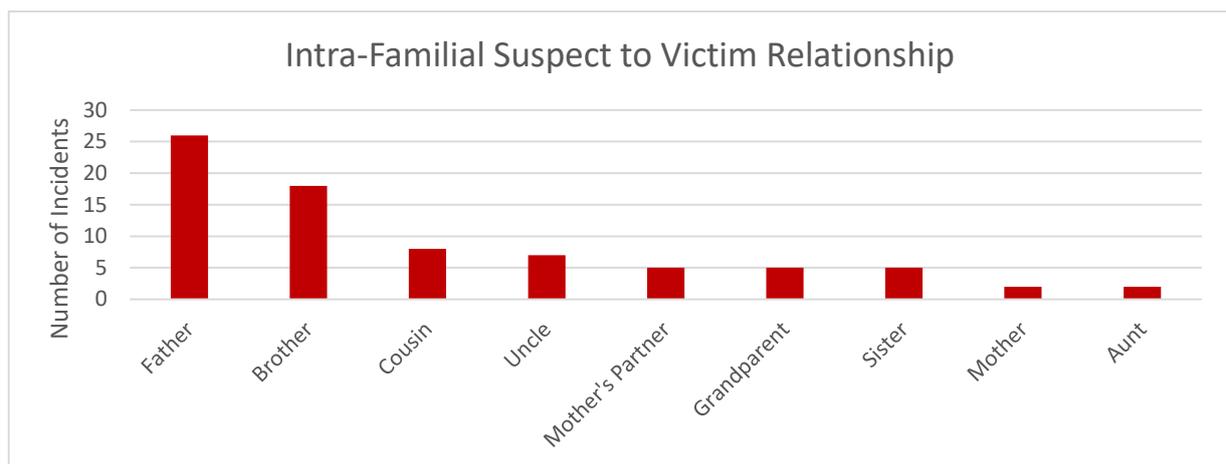
Possible suspect/suspects (under 18):

- As demonstrated in the table above, the number of children under 18 identified as a being a suspect/possible suspect for January is high. This volume is considerably higher than December. Reasons for this are unknown. However, this may relate to a seasonal trend whilst children are off school during holidays. This is an area that requires further research.
- **45%** of these under 18's were in relation to "take/make/distribute IIOC" or "possessing prohibited images of children", which could also be referred to as "sexting".

- These “sexting” incidents range in severity. Some incidents appear to be consensual, however the majority would be argued as demonstrating HSB and/or result in an IIOC of a child being distributed to large groups (e.g. the victim’s school). Although some ‘sexting’ incidents may be age-related sexual experimentation, it also immediately self-victimizes the child and may put them at risk of further abuse or exploitation. Sexting may also form part of other abuse which may be taking place offline, such as bullying or grooming.

Intra-Familial CSAE (abuse committed by a family member):

- **14%** of CSAE crimes recorded and analysed for January are known to involve intra-familial abuse. This figure remains consistent with December which was 15%.
- **32%** of intra-familial abuse was recorded as being committed by the father/step-father of the victim and **22%** as being committed by a brother/step-brother of the victim.
- **53%** of intra-familial abuse reported was non-recent. This is slightly higher than December which saw 45%.



Non-recent CSAE (taking place 1 year or more after the reporting period):

- **15%** of total CSAE crimes recorded and analysed for January involved non-recent abuse. This figure remains stable – where December also reflected 15%.

Online CSAE:

- **52%** of CSAE crimes recorded and analysed for January involved an online application/platform.
- The application/platform involved was recorded for **47%** of these crimes, consistent with last month, which was 32%. The most prevalent applications/platforms seen for January include;

1. Instagram (49)
2. Snapchat (43)
3. Facebook (13)

Social media platforms/apps and websites of note (January):



Roblox – “This **App** is based on the physical logic game “**RoadBlock**” from SmartGames, and includes 130 new challenges and 4 levels of difficulty. Play 8 free challenges and then upgrade to play the other 130 all-new challenges!” This app was used by an adult to chat inappropriately to an 8 year old child.