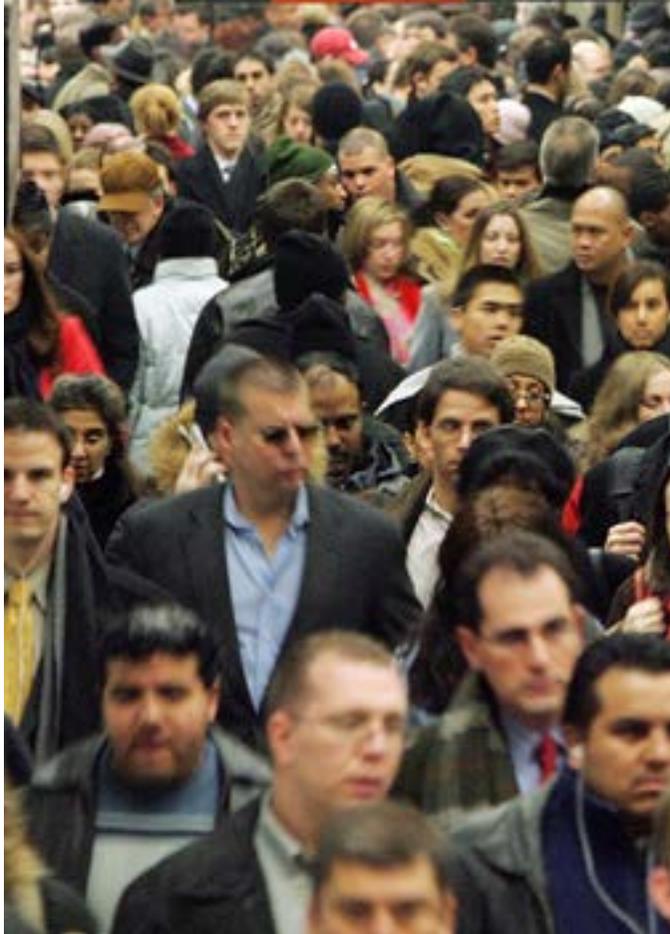


A high risk sex offender moves into your community.

What can you do?

We live in a society where sexual offending provokes powerful responses within our communities. Whatever our thoughts on crime and punishment, it is a fact that many individuals involved with sexual offending are already living among us or will one day be released back into our communities.

So what can we do to protect the public from those who would harm us?



What can we do to help to ensure there are no more victims?

Social isolation and emotional loneliness have been shown to be two key factors in increasing the risk of sexual reoffending. What Sacro's Circles of Support and Accountability do is provide trained volunteers from the local community, who form a "circle" around the offender or Core Member as they are known.



The Circle has a dual purpose. It is a support network, helping meet the social and the practical needs of the core member. But as well as this support, Circle members challenge and confront the core member if they try to minimise or rationalise their behaviour or thoughts. They hold the offender accountable.

By doing so, the Circle helps the core member identify and avoid risky situations or behaviour and so minimise the risk of further offending. If the core member shows signs of reoffending or a circle member has cause for concern, these concerns will be reported to the authorities and acted upon.

It's important to stress that a Circle is not a replacement for statutory supervision. It is complementary to existing public protection arrangements and fulfils a role which statutory supervision alone cannot always address.



But wouldn't we be safer if we just left them alone?

Social isolation has proved to be a major trigger for reoffending. Our neighbourhoods are not safer places when we choose to reject or ignore individuals involved in sexual offending.

A Circle of Support and Accountability serves as a *supportive* 'community' for an offender in the midst of fear, hostility and isolation – and at the same time, it acts as a *responsible* 'community' concerned that safety is not compromised.

Each Inner Circle is made up of volunteers from the community. These volunteers are in direct contact with the core member and are trained and supported by professionals who form the outer circle.

The successful rehabilitation and reintegration of a sex offender requires consideration of *their* needs, the *victim's* needs and those of the *community*.

Sacro's Circles of Support and Accountability Service has at its heart the desire to ensure there are 'no more victims'.

Sacro's Circles of Support and Accountability Service has – at its heart – the desire to ensure there are 'no more victims'.

It does this by:

- > Helping a sex offender to reintegrate responsibly into the community.
- > Acting as a support and safety mechanism for both sex offender and the community.
- > Enhancing public safety when there is a perceived element of risk.

"My gut feeling is that working in this Circle has substantially reduced the likelihood of our offender creating more victims. To me, as a survivor of sexual abuse, that is the greatest reward I can imagine – that other little girls are spared".

A volunteer

"I am so grateful that there are people out there that look beyond my past offending and look at the real me, not the monster that (some people) would like portrayed. I thank God for people who look at our positive aspects and are prepared to build on them".

A Core Member

If you would like a translated version of this leaflet, please phone 0131 624 7270 or e-mail info@sacro.org.uk quoting reference NAT/610.

This leaflet can also be made available in large print or Braille.

In order to make Sacro's services as widely available as possible, we have made every reasonable effort to facilitate easy access to all of our premises for disabled service users. Where this is not possible, we will arrange a suitable, alternative venue.

Bu broşürün çevirisini istiyorsanız, lütfen 0131 624 7270'i telefonla arayın veya info@sacro.org.uk eposta gönderip NAT/610 dosya numarasını söyleyin.

اگر آپ کو اس کتابچے کا ترجمہ درکار ہے تو براہ کرم 0131 624 7270 پر ٹیلیفون کریں یا info@sacro.org.uk پر ای میل بھیجیں اور ریفرنس نمبر NAT/610 کا حوالہ دیں۔

欲索取這單張的翻譯版本，請電 0131 624 7270，或電郵 info@sacro.org.uk，並說明檔案編號 NAT/610。

إذا كنت تريد نسخة مترجمة من هذه المنشورة الرجاء الاتصال برقم الهاتف 0131 624 7270 أو أرسل بريداً إلكترونياً إلى العنوان info@sacro.org.uk واذكر الإشارة رقم NAT/610

Jeśli potrzebne jest tłumaczenie w polskiej wersji językowej, bardzo prosimy o kontakt pod numerem 0131 624 7270 lub drogą e-mailową info@sacro.org.uk podając numer referencyjny NAT/610

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If you are uncertain about anything you have read in this leaflet or require further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Sacro at:

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No More Victims

