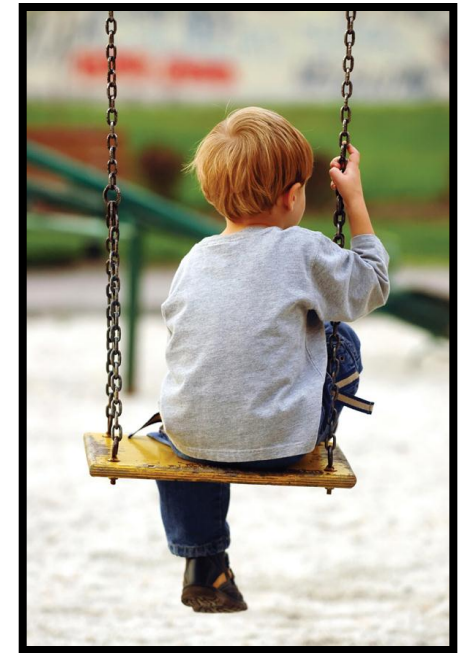


Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme: 18 months on



Detective Sergeant Louise Wall
**Strategic Lead for the Management of Sexual Offenders
and Violent Offenders, West Mercia Police**

Events Leading up to the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme

Tragic death of Sarah Payne in July 2000

Review of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offenders in June 2007

Created 20 actions of which 1 and 4 are of particular importance to the process

Action 4 Pilot a process where members of the public can register their child protection interest in a named individual. Where this individual has convictions for child sex offences and is considered a risk, there will be a presumption that this information will be disclosed to the relevant member of the public.

Insertion into the Criminal Justice Act 2003



Sarah Payne

'Sarah's Law' in the national media

Disclosure Pilot Trials – 2008

- 1. September 2008 – trials began in Cambridgeshire, Cleveland, Hampshire and Warwickshire Police areas;**
- 2. Ran for 12 months and independent evaluation completed**
- 3. March 2010 Home Secretary expressed his desire for the process to be rolled out nationally**
- 4. What is new?**
- 5. What is the same?**

The Process

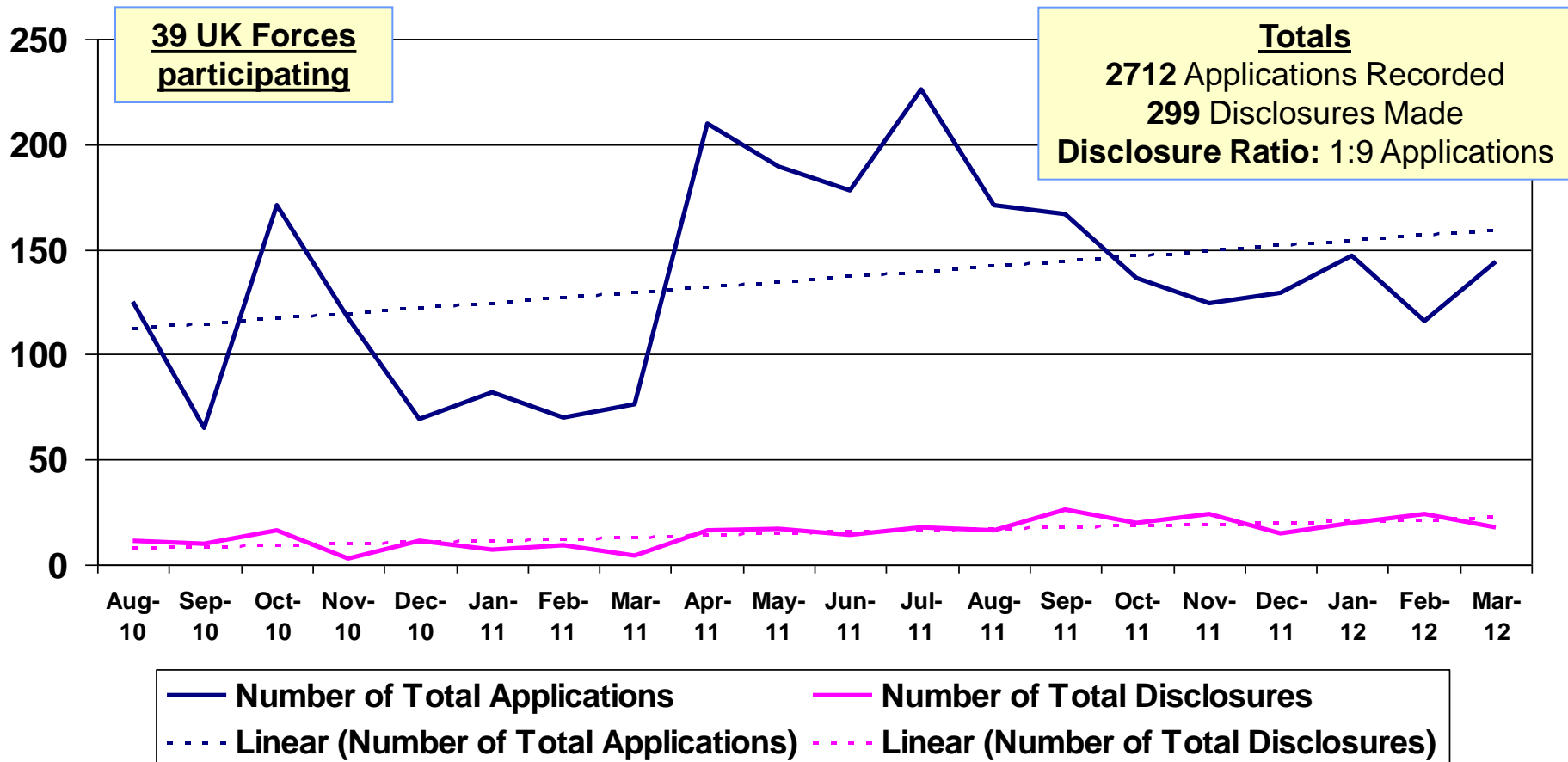
- **Initial Contact**
- **Face to Face Application**
- **Empowerment / Information**
- **Full Risk Assessment**
- **Decision Making on Disclosure**
- **Outcome and Closure**

Deviations from the process

- Consideration of no face to face in all applications;
- If a written request is received then no initial contact form is completed;
- No face to face in certain applications;
- In certain circumstances no joint visit with Children's Social Services in cases of disclosure
- Consistently different approaches to officers completing the face to face

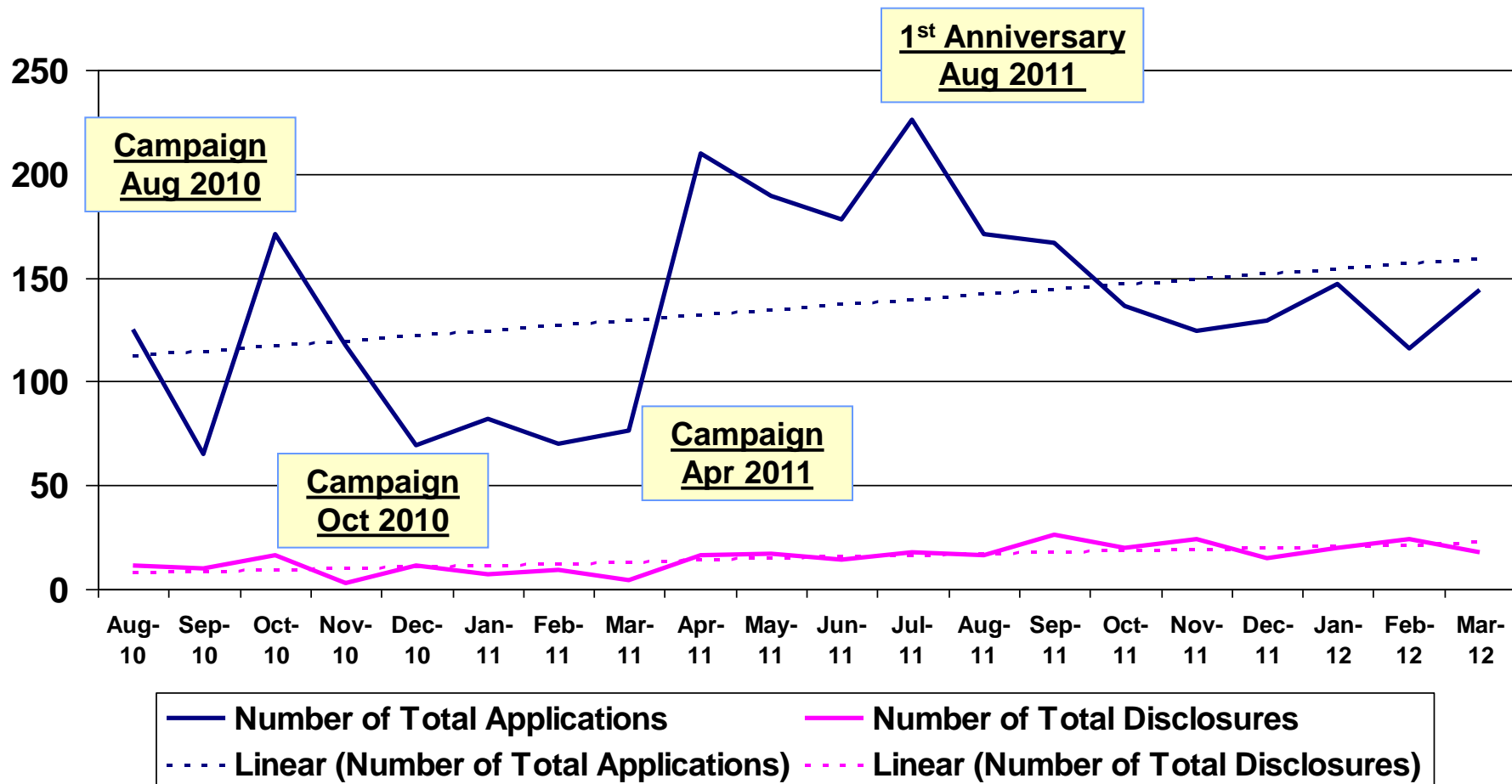
No. of Applications Recorded & Disclosures Made in the UK

August 2010 - March 2012

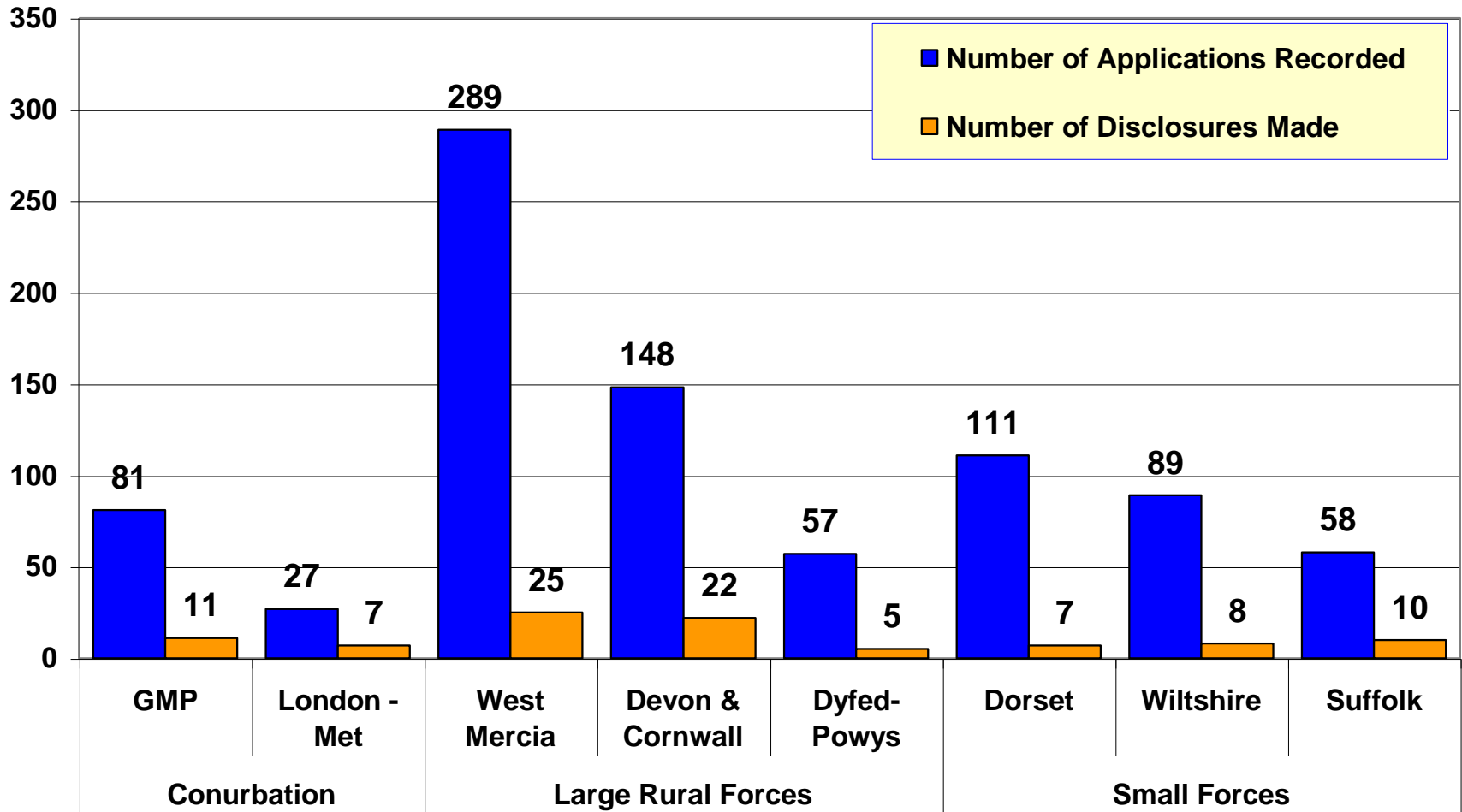


Publicity Impact

August 2010 - March 2012



Force Profiles

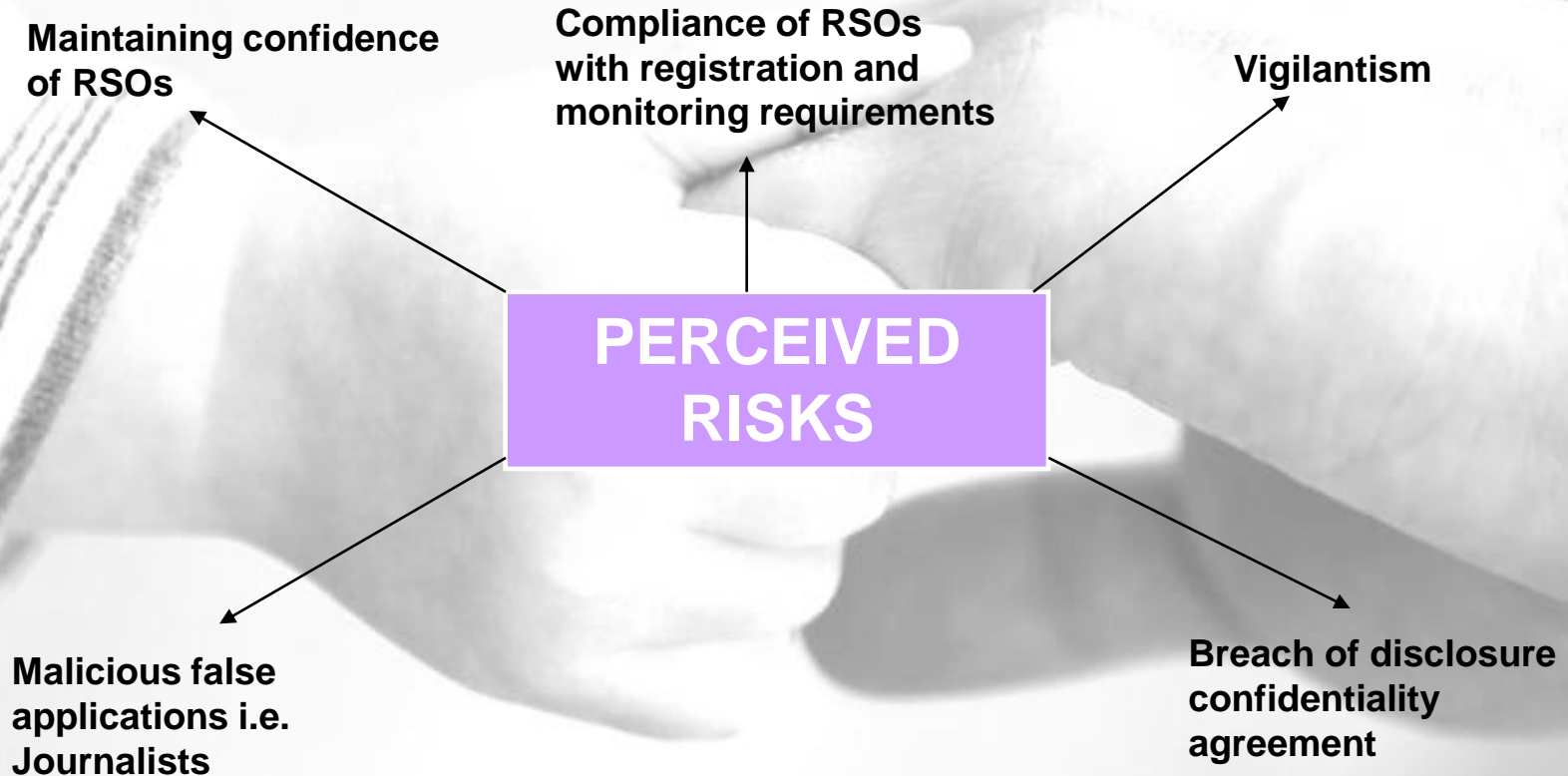


Force Profiles

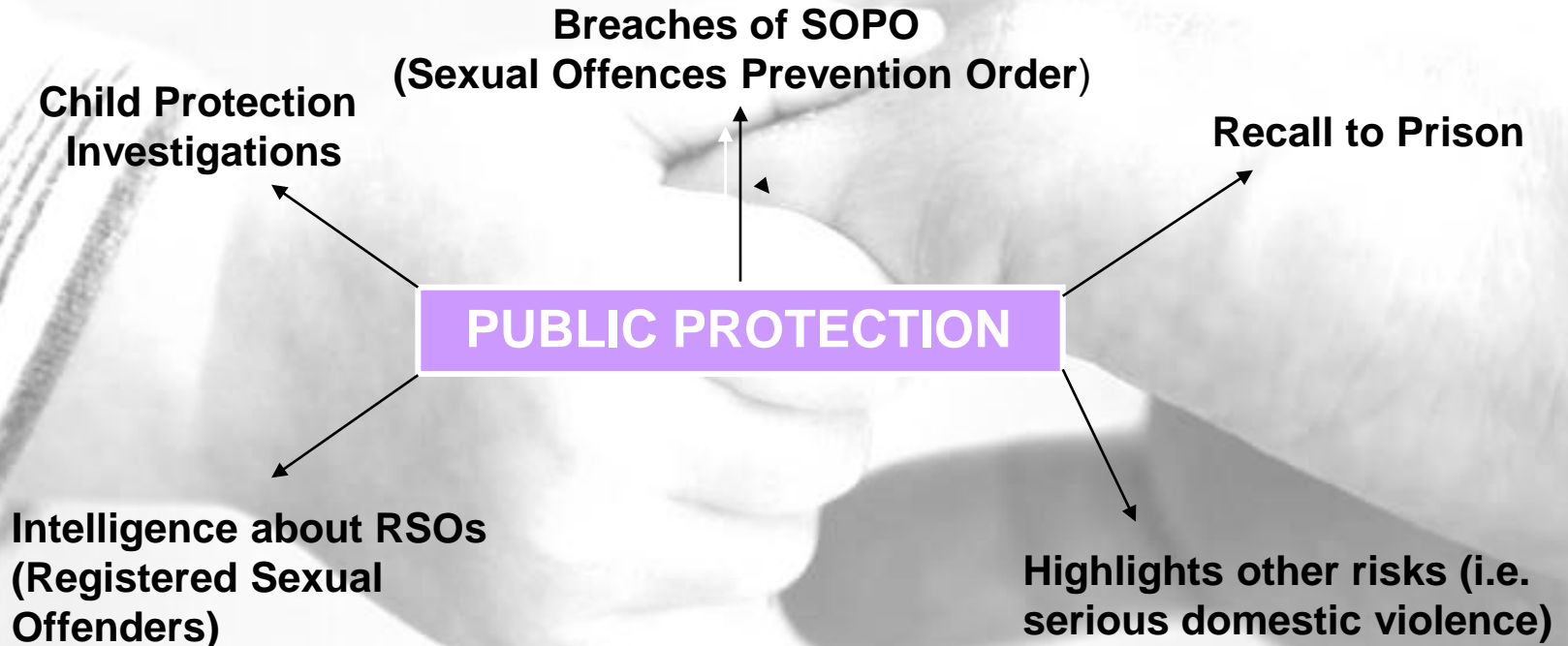
Force Type	Force	Number of Applications Recorded	Months in Scheme	Average Applications per Month	Population of Force Area	Ratio of Enquiries per Head of Population	Number of Disclosures Made	Disclosure to Application Ratio
Conurbation	GMP	81	12	7	2,629,388	1: 32,462	11	1: 7
	London - Met	27	12	2	7,813,500	1: 289,389	7	1: 4
Large Rural Forces	West Mercia	289	20	14	1,192,714	1: 4,127	25	1: 12
	Devon & Cornwall	148	12	12	1,680,370	1: 11,354	22	1: 7
	Dyfed-Powys	57	12	5	506,054	1: 8,878	5	1: 11
Small Forces	Dorset	111	14	8	715,042	1: 6,442	7	1: 16
	Wiltshire	89	18	5	661,592	1: 7,434	8	1: 11
	Suffolk	58	20	3	719,511	1: 12,405	10	1: 6

- Metropolitan Police – London
 - Low number of Applications recorded.
 - However, 25% of all applications have resulted in a disclosure
 - Large pop. – 7.8M people
 - Lower Community confidence
 - Transient population

Negative Outcomes?



Positive Outcomes



CASE STUDY EXAMPLES WHERE REFERRAL ABOUT A NEW PARTNER

Force A

- 3rd party applicant about a new partner
- Believed acting strangely around child and evasive about background
- Disclosure as CSO with extensive history

Force B

- Mother concerned about a male who had befriended her and her son after hearing rumours
- Heard rumours that on the Sex Offenders Register
- Disclosure as RSO and arrested as in breach of SOPO and received 26 weeks custodial sentence

CASE STUDY EXAMPLES ABOUT EMPLOYEES WHERE THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT FOR CRB CHECKS

Force C

- Applicant was the nanny of two children; subject was the gardener who was also employed by the family
- Gardner had made comments that caused concern
- Disclosure given as CSO and dismissed from employment

Force D

- Application was about a nanny who was associating with a 3rd party
- Rumours about the 3rd party
- Disclosure made as CSO and referral to OFSTED as nanny was aware of the conviction

CASE STUDY EXAMPLE THAT HAS RESULTED IN SIGNIFICANT VALUE ADDED TO CHILD PROTECTION

Force E

- Applicant current partner of subject
- Motivation was regaining custody of child in care because of previous risky relationship
- Disclosure made about previous allegations of CSO's

Force F

- Simple CSO Disclosure Scheme application sparked a 17 month investigation
- 30 year criminal history relating to CSO but no convictions
- 16 charges ranging from indecent assault against a child to possession of IIOC

CASE STUDY EXAMPLE THAT HAS RESULTED IN SIGNIFICANT VALUE ADDED TO MAPPA

Force G

- CSO Disclosure Scheme application that did not fit the criteria
- Contact with applicant and further information obtained
- Children Services referral made as pregnant 17 year old girlfriend
- Referral to MAPPA (L2) as subject was under investigation for CSO's
- CIA as community aware and concern over safety
- Child placed into care as mother chose to remain with subject after disclosure
- Awaiting outcome of investigation into rape of a child and possession of IIOC

Judicial Review

- June 2011 a judicial review was instigated against the Home Secretary and S.Yorkshire Police
- Challenged the CSO Disclosure Scheme on:
 - i) Offender not given an opportunity to make representations about disclosure prior to it being made;
 - ii) Misrepresentation of the 'test' for disclosure
- Judicial Review outcome was that CSO Disclosure Scheme is lawful subject to the necessary amendments being made to the guidance

policing
west mercia



Any Questions?