



This project has received funding from the European Union's Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (2014-2020) under grant agreement 764255 BADEV

First local Stakeholder's meeting

Endla 8, Tallinn Barnahus

Started at 10am on May 9th 2018

Ends 13.00 May 9th 2018

Participants : Ege Ülend (Police and Border Guard Board), Katre Poljakova (Harju county court), Andres Aru (Chancellor of Justice Office), Brit Tammiste (MoJ) Lavly Perling (prosecutor's office), Egon Veermäe (SIB), Ülle Saar (prosecutor's office), Angelyca Vaerand (Police and Border Guard Board), Joanna Karu(MSA), Liia Kilp (PPA), Raul Heido (Prosecutor's Office) , Sirje Merilo (Prosecutor's Office), Kaili Tooming (PPA), Lea Pähkel (Prosecutor's Office), Andra Sild (Prosecutor's Office), Kristi Paron (Chancellor of Justice Office), Marie Tammsaar (Union for Child Welfare), Krstiina Luht (SoM), Cairo Kranich (prosecutor's office), Jako Salla (SIB, Victim Support), Kadri-Ann Lee (SIB), Viola Läänerand (SIB), Kai Hallik (SIB), Anna Frank-Viron (SIB)

Minutes by Kai Hallik and Kadri-Ann Lee, Minutes compiled by Kadri-Ann Lee

Event held by Anna Frank-Estonia

Agenda

- 10 . 00 Coffee and registration
- 10.15 Opening words - Egon Veermäe
- 10.25 Ministry of Social Affairs - Joanna Karu
- 10.35 Ministry of Justice - Brit Tammiste
- 10. 45 Social Insurance Board - Anna Frank-Estonia
- 11.10 Police and Border Guard Board - Ege Ülend and Angelyca Vaerand
- 11.25 Prosecutor's Office - Lavly Perling
- 11.40 Pause
- 11.50 Common discussion
- 12.50 Summary

1. **Opening words (Egon Veermäe)** - The children's house has come to stay. Best possible way for the child to give testimony. Evidence is collected in a children's house .
2. **Ministry of Social Affairs (Joanna Karu)** - children's rights and the topic of prevention of child sexual abuse . Two years ago there was a lot of hesitation. It was necessary to prove seriousness and sustainability. How do I fit the evidence collected here to our legal system and practice? For our country, it is important that our systems work together, and that people would not duplicate the activities, but to act in cooperation. The goal is to find gray



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cases and find soft interventions in case of doubt. Look to the future (social system) and the procedures to retrospective.

3. **Ministry of Justice (Brit Tammiste)** The purpose of a children's house - 1) sexually children will be more aware; 2) Thanks to the pre-interview and this environment, there is better evidence and better statistics on the procedure. 3) how children can benefit from their needs - how to evaluate and evaluate, how to measure? One thing is official statistics, but what is the role of a children's house. There is no clear overview, but it could be given by the Ministry of Justice - not just absolute numbers, but also qualitative information that is related to cases. The Ministry of Justice could offer the design of the analysis - whether it is the number of interrogations, how many people have been in contact, and whether there was a need for different authorities.

- Questions: Can 14-16 year olds turn to? Can you contribute to prevention through telling stories? Information activities. This is due to a study where children do not talk about their cases of sexual abuse to adults. The spread is significantly higher than the statistics show.
- Practitioner Reminder - For professionals who come into contact with the child in the proceedings to be child-friendly.
- There was just a competition to train professionals who are directly exposed to the victim.
- Minor Himself With Abusive Behavior - Does the Children's House Take That Role?

4. **Social Insurance Board (Anna Frank-Viron)** - The latest standard of the **Children's House** is in progress. The Standard has been pointed out that every country can adapt this model, but it is very basic. When the children's house came to Estonia, the aim was to conduct pre-interviews. This is not the only important thing. The year showed that the cases are very different. Through the victim support, children have been receiving help for years. It is not known whether all the children received help. Under the Child Protection Act, the LG is now obliged to provide assistance. It is possible to manage it through the children's house. We appreciate the child's need for help and the situation - is he already involved in the procedure or not, what does he need? There are also cases where parents break the baby. We appreciate the situation and see if there is a need to listen to the child or find other help.

- Collaboration - We want the police to always be in the children's house. Even if the child does not need to do any more to be heard, but the child in the house, it should be the police immediately to carry out the interrogation here. Nowadays it is a children's house doctor of sexual health clinic with whom is good cooperation. Well, when kids go there, people in the clinic know the kid is coming from children's house, and use especially child-friendly communication with him.
- The Role of Counseling in Childhood - is anonymously revolving. people with children also have little knowledge of the child's sexual behavior (including normality). Can't react.
- In the children's house with teenagers, it is a glamor that children are ready to talk after our friendly persuasion.
- Customers - s research problem is minors among themselves. Also siblings. Usually, they had first been abused children themselves. Adult toys must not be accessible to children. Children from foster homes - cases are complex because of their normality is another. Last year my biggest worry was about sharing custody rights.
- Our job is to provide later long-term therapy.
- Victim Support Services and Childcare Services - Overlapping and Services.

5. **Police and Border Guard Board (Angelyca Vaerand and Ege Ülemend)** - We are pleased that the North Prefecture was selected as a pilot project for a children's home. The first time Anna introduced it, it seemed like a place we didn't want to come by. There seemed a lot of bureaucracy. The reality was that the North Prefecture was happy to use the premises with the forensic doctor. Cooperation went very well.

Glad to receive all the children. The victim support service is only available to those who have been subject to the proceedings and have had to consent. Often, parents did not agree to

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victim support, and when we got the consent, the parents disappeared. In the case of a children's house, we can send all the children here, for whom we see the need for help. If we see the need for help right away, then it will get immediate (ie 1 hour) help. Good exchange of information between the two institutions.

- There is no crime every time. In many cases, it has become clear that the other party is also a non-subject.
- From January 1, 2017, everyone will not have to have a procedure.
- The problem – child protection and victim support is SIB - we have to complete several applications. We would like us to send only one referral, for example, to a children's house, which will then act on its own. Less document formatting.
Representative of the Eastern Prefecture - we always say that it is part of the procedure and brings together victim support.
- We should also consider reporting cases of physical abuse.

6. **Prosecutor's Office (Lavly Perling)** - Respect for anyone who deals with the most difficult area in the world. Tell me what is not good.

- Today's meeting has 3 goals for me :
 1. Describe how the Prosecutor's Office is thinking (investigator action)
 2. To dream with you, what could be a beautifully designed country for every child after 10 years, no longer noticing what the system is doing.
 3. Specific suggestions for improving practice
- The child is important and there should be no doubt. There is no case where we cannot do anything. There is common sense and our duty is to proceed from simple things. You can always handle it, but it should not be a goal. By commencing the procedure, we give the person a message - we believe in you. There is a clear perception in the country that children are a priority, but would agree that it is not only in words, but also in actions, for example. Helps us, as prosecutors, as policemen, to give this child a social system where there is a person who understands what we are facing. We want to reduce crime in the long run. We know that the file has ever been a sufferer, 0-15 years later the accused, s t victims need help. Common priorities must be.
- Guide to Treatment of Juveniles - It is formed among people who come into contact with these people. What kind of treatment a child receives is so important. The stories we sometimes see in court — the court is something formal, but they can't sometimes be guessed when you turn to them in your form, but you talk to him. He doesn't distinguish the chains who is who.
- Concern about children's house to me reached with regard to the practice. We have a children's house and a dream that we have better ones... was a training where it was said that the material for the children's house is not enough proof. All children who get into a children's house and who are told by specialists that they may be a victim of a crime - for them, make a crime report and always start the procedure. Here you can't tell Anna that nothing can be done here. The respondent cannot be told that there is no procedure. If the children's house announces, it can not be that there is no procedure, e t check and then look. The law in force and according to the principle of legality can not be discussed without intervention, the child's control.
- We can dream that we can offer these children a beautiful world, but we cannot all times. What we can have is to give them the knowledge that the state is by them, we always help them.
- Nowadays, the practice is that we are expecting the children to speak and this is evidence. We dream that the child would come and tell us everything and then we would gather evidence. Practice should become such that evidence is gathered - we put it on the track. We can even put cameras in our homes. Of course, it must not be easy, but if it is to assess the seriousness of the crimes committed against children, then it is possible. Our own hands are what and how to do. I call for the law to be implemented. If the judge says no - then I'll introduce him to the evidence he has heard - hearing, interrogating a childcare worker, questioning a teacher, etc. After that, we listen to the child because we



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have gathered evidence. The child's second interrogation does not take place. This change of practice is inevitable. The recordings can be used, and the position of the Public Prosecutor's Office will be finalized in the future. He is not proof of the interrogation, it is not a testimony, but a record, and it can be a proof.

- It cannot be that we send the child away and say, the state cannot do anything. Sometimes we do not show off, but we've ethylpropyl d ber and have given their best. The practice of not initiating the procedure must end. The child must know that people around him are there for him. If any thing is left behind the analysis, we are able to answer the question why, and think about what to do differently next time.

- Networking meetings on a case-by-case basis! Wherever you go, it is the duty of every state official to help him in the right place. Post- analysis of round tables. 1x year review over childcare service - what we've done specifically. What we might be ashamed of.

- The Prosecutor's Office and the PPA have set up criminal priorities this time, and there are several important goals for children: 1. The number of sexual crimes against children that must reach the court must increase 2. The number of restraining orders must increase 3. The number of fast (weekly) proceedings must increase. All of these goals are designed to provide better protection for the victims and give the victims a message that the country is there for them and to inject courage into the country.

JOINT DEBATE -

Katre Poljakova - our top manager is an idealist. I doubt as a judge if I agree. As far as free evidence is concerned, I am not so sure in practice when they (judges of the state) speak in a free conversation. As far as the evidence is concerned, we are arguing at a legal level in another place. Practice is very positive in private conversations, and friendly, if the case is in court, it may be easy to quarrel. As far as children are concerned, there could be a specialization in the judiciary in order to stop the person who needs special treatment. Being a mother or father to teach the child to treat the child in a child-friendly way must learn. Preliminary interview as evidence? A record is an equal proof of every other proof. Is it a saying?

Lavly Perling - we don't argue, we'll do it. The child usually speaks once. That's the problem. If we do not get testimony after questioning. Is there a need to make a difference in the law? I don't believe in amending the legislation, if not change the attitude. The argument that when a child already speaks and then stop and call the police, it's traumatic than once off speaking. Formalities should not be closed, if there is proof or no proof. If today people in the House of the Children perceive that it is good to interrupt and the child speaks, then we do, but the question is if we perceive that the interruption also interrupts the child's talk, then we have to think about alternatives in the procedure how to use the child in the proceedings and to prove the offender's guilt.

Joanna Karu - At the time of its creation it was a question of proof.

Legal Chancellor's Office: In order for child interviews to be taken as evidence, the Prosecutor's Office and the Children's House must cooperate and train each other. The police should provide the skills, the prosecution knowledge and the child-friendly attitude towards the children's home.

Anna Frank-Viron - we should educate each other - one side, how soft and a child-friendly, and the other half, how to properly, without breaking the evidence.

Lavly Perling - The law came to have to be juvenile judges. January 1st. You know, formally, but through thought, who is suitable for children. The police can handle anyone, even though they are specialized. So juvenile judges come to law. Otherwise, there is no point in prosecutors and investigators for minors. We all know that we have specialists who don't send children. This is one area that needs to be willing to do.

Jako Salla - This law is already in force.

Liia Kilp - I have the impression that we have specialized investigators, but in fact everything can be processed. In practice, there are people who have not really received training. M in a



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country like the other, you can't work with the children before you have been trained. This experience actually comes in several years. If there is sufficient competence and then you rotate, there is no point in collecting competence, but it is important to look at how to keep yourself.

Lavly Perling - so sad (that is, Elmar Vaher), that we are dealing with a topic that was in 2004. How does the researcher work and come when there are not so many things. It was not a resource issue, but a matter of work organization. It makes no sense for us to put the resource on training if these specialists do not actually do these things. There should be a person in every department who knows how to talk to the young person. And the second level is that the researcher who knows ALL about this topic.

Ege Ülend - These children get victimized 24/7, so there should also be a basic training for the patrol police. Has anyone made a proposal to the Academy of Public Security? Should it be in the mainstream police training?

Viola Läänerand - We have helped train the police in the western area of child protection. We can help with the interaction with children and families. What is this reminder or checklist of what to do. We cannot train everyone, but we can train in-house trainers.

Kaili Tooming - we would process and track. If you have 4 in the south, 4 in the East, then, in fact, everyone will understand that we will not reach. Somewhere, this border is sticking.

Brit Tammiste - How are you online?

Lavly Perling - That's the subject of the same competence. To make it one place. In addition, it is the creation of common software. There are systems in the world that make this "human handicraft" part. Elmar (Vaher, Ed.) Has also spoken and promised it

Lea Pähkel - enormous prevention work for teenagers, these cases are "a little bit just wanted a little bit did not want to", and they are all so miserable there. Also, these guys, whether maybe is the victim the a boy instead? Educating young people today when you are almost an adult and in a "gray zone" where things have happened since then. This should be about how to behave, what is ok or not.

Prevention programs've talked about how you drunk at the party nothing happens. Not to talk about it, but do not drink, but how you act and what happens if someone is sex with you when you are intoxicated.

Lavly Perling - prevention side, we also have to be improved, if not a crime. You have to start, but with the "gray zone" it is not worth going to fool. So they are directed to the people who can help them. The prosecutor's office must forward these cases. ----- Children's House or Victim Support.

Anna Frank-Viron - If the subject of sexual abuse comes to us, but physical abuse turns out, then we take the case, but we do not take pure cases of physical abuse. When talking about prevention, it should actually start from birth. The Children's House is also dealing with its preventive side, but not everything.

Viola Läänerand - one part of the work of the Child Protection Department is prevention. Let us know what you believe is a bottleneck in the K's, so we can raise the competence of child protection workers.

Brit Tammiste - The public should also be better informed about what is sexual abuse, eg through stories, how to distinguish. What this abuse is, otherwise, is very abstract.

Lavly Perling - one thing you have to do is to have one message from us. That we're talking about good stories. One message: get anywhere, get help. There is a lot of talk about bad examples that make people feel that they really do not get help. Through good stories, you reach the professionals, the victim. I believe in the influence of positive examples. Sufferers who have received the dignified treatment of the state are also positive about this, and they will dare to turn to the state in the future.

What to do with these physically abused children? --- Victim Support?



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Lea Pähkel - I have one story with which I am totally demanded. The case. If the victims refuse any help? Obviously, they have seriously damaged their psyche. No one can motivate them. They don't accept help.

Jako Salla - we call the victim support worker and they come to the prosecutor's office. It may not be helpful, but it is something we can try.

Lavly Perling - I believe in a volunteer support system. I have ever received criticism in this respect, because only specialists can say that the aid can be provided. But there are often stories where help can be given by someone else, because the help that the victims need quickly is simple and human support

Viola Läänerand - I would like to add that this is a classic case of child protection. Local government! Every child has somebody somewhere - this person has to be found! Be it a coach or whatever. If the prosecutor's office will get stuck KOV- each communication, then contact the LCO – ask.

Liia Kilp - For years my own question is in the aftercare of our abused children. How targeted it is ... we have a number of cases where they come again as a victim or as a criminal.

Lavly Perling - maybe now it's the case that you can contact child protection. They do not need a procedure other than I'd help. There are some procedures in place at all costs ahead of it is not necessary to find a person guilty, but to give help. And NO offender can say, however, that it is not okay the way you act, you have no evidence, even then.

Jako Salla - all the doors are open for minors. The part of the procedure should not be feared.

Liia Kilp - 10-17 year olds can have sex by law

Andres Aru - one thing is whether it is or not in the law, but the other thing is that it is not normal.

Prosecutor's Office: As a rule, a child who is not abused does not.

Raul Heido - Are we still in the process or are we going to get help right now? It takes an enormous amount of time for this procedure.

Lavly Perling - what's going on? The purpose of my procedure is to give them a message that this is not ok. Ie play bad cop. If I don't want to go to court, then some actions.

Joanna Karu- I would like to focus on the fact that the after-care and follow-up services. What is it that comes from a child? We have all the doors open. But we do not know how they come out of the doors there. No one knows what therapies these psychologists are offering. In fact, there is only a pinch of evidence-based therapies in the world that fit. Cognitive behavioral therapy is not suitable for any one. We spend money and resources, but we do not know if the child will actually get the help out of it. We must not stick to the services, but we have to look at what the child needs.

Prosecutor's Office - For the victims, we have very little “norm” for the child. There are also SEN children. If we have this documentation, what do you need to know - how does it know? No therapist has asked me for it.

Liia Kilp - we have the same experience as therapists do not know what has happened in the past with a child

Anna Frank-Viron - it can be through a children's house.

Lavly Perling - one more thought. It is possible to terminate our criminal proceedings on a number of grounds. We have such a good criminal procedure, we are so good to end it. We have so many solutions. But these solutions don't happen when we don't.

Office of the Chancellor of Justice - our house has also been approached because no proceedings have been initiated.

Lavly Perling - but we communicate!

Event conductor
Anna Frank-Estonia
Protocols



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