



**GREATER DANDENONG YOUTH NETWORK MEETING MINUTES**  
**Meeting 6 | Sexual Extortion – Child Exploitation**

Wednesday 29 November  
 Online via Zoom

ITEMS	MEETING NOTES
<p><b>WELCOME</b></p>	<p>All attendees welcomed            Traditional Owners acknowledged</p>
<p><b>PRESENTATION 1</b></p> <p><b>Guest Speaker</b>            Danielle Broster            Australian Federal Police</p>	<p><b>Danielle Broster   Senior Prevention Officer   Australian Federal Police</b></p> <p>This presentation covered an introduction to the Australian Federal Police and online child sexual exploitation, suitable for members of the community. Danielle Broster is a Senior Prevention Officer in the Australian Federal Police Online Child Safety Team.</p> <p><b>What is Sexual extortion?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sexual extortion or sextortion, is a serious form of image-based abuse which can be in the form of online blackmail where a perpetrator threatens to reveal explicit images of a person unless they give in to their demands.</li> </ul> <p><b>How does it work?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initial friending via social media</li> <li>- Rapid movement to encrypted chat platforms</li> <li>- Highly sexualised conversations that escalate very quickly</li> <li>- Coerced into sending self-generated child abuse material</li> <li>- Chat progresses to extortion or blackmail unless the victim complies with demands to pay</li> <li>- Minors being targeted for sextortion isn't new, however being blackmailed for money was previously rare</li> </ul> <p><b>Scale and impact</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The primary group currently targeting Australia is offshore</li> <li>- Average amount paid by victims is \$300AUD before reporting to police as 'last resort'</li> <li>- Suicide and self-harm risks have been attributed</li> <li>- Australian and international law enforcement data show that child sextortion suicides typically occur within <b>four hours</b> of first contact</li> <li>- Offenders are targeting entire online social groups</li> </ul> <p><b>Tips for staying safe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If a young person receives a personal sexual image from someone, they should delete it straight away and not share or store it</li> <li>- Talk young people about how they use their social media accounts; ensure they use strong privacy settings if they are sharing content with others</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Find out who the young person is talking to online, encourage them to avoid unknown random ‘friend’ or ‘follower’ requests</li> <li>- Download and use the apps or games themselves so you have a good understanding of how they work</li> <li>- Collect as much evidence as you can including screenshots, URL’s, usernames or any other records to make a report to police.</li> <li>- Be open and non-judgemental if a young person comes to you for help. If you react negatively they might avoid coming to you for help with future issues.</li> </ul> <p><b>Resources:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="https://www.thinkuknow.org.au/resources-tab">https://www.thinkuknow.org.au/resources-tab</a> (includes factsheets in some community languages)</li> <li>- <a href="https://www.thinkuknow.org.au/find-advice/sexual-extortion#resources">https://www.thinkuknow.org.au/find-advice/sexual-extortion#resources</a></li> <li>- School and Parent carer presentations available to book via the website</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Please see accompanying link for access to Danielle’s presentation slides.</u></b></p>
<p><b>2023 GDYN REVIEW</b></p>	<p>Facilitator presented a brief review of the 2023 network meetings.</p> <p><b>Topics requested in 2023:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School refusal – Completed April 2023</li> <li>- Homelessness / housing/ rental stress</li> <li>- Cost of living</li> <li>- Alcohol and Other Drugs/Vaping - Completed February 2023</li> <li>- Engaging young people in advocacy</li> <li>- Promoting healthy relationships – Completed July 2023</li> <li>- Disordered eating – Completed August 2023</li> <li>- Healthy masculinities - 2024</li> <li>- Pornography – Completed June 2023</li> <li>- Service Tours - 2024</li> </ul> <p><b>2023 Feedback Summary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 95 per cent of participants agreed that they learned new ideas and information</li> <li>- 93 per cent of participants agreed that the meeting increased their knowledge of services and supports available for young people</li> <li>- 12 GDYN eNewsletters have been sent in 2023</li> </ul>
<p><b>BREAKOUT ROOM DISCUSSION</b></p>	<p>Members had the opportunity to provide their feedback about the network, provide insight into the key issues they are seeing in their work; and share what learning areas they would like to the network cover in 2024.</p> <p>This occurred in small break out rooms, facilitated by Youth and Family staff.</p>

**Summary of discussions in the breakout rooms:**

**What is the most valuable part of the GDYN for you?**

- One stop shop
- Networking
- Service literacy
- Information and resource sharing
- Referral information
- Free for agencies with limited resources
- Relevant training and topics

**What are the current key trends / issues are occurring in your work with young people?**

- Mental health, both young people and family members
- Stigma of mental health with CALD community
- School refusal (including primary school)
- Vaping
- Cost of living/housing affordability/access
- Bullying and support
- Sibling conflict at home
- Dual diagnosis and complexity of cases
- Using of technology (eg: on phones at school)

**What topics / learning areas / professional development would you like to see in 2024?**

- Study stress and cultural awareness
- Youth mental health and self-harm
- Respectful relationships from a multicultural perspective
- Family violence in the 16-17 year age group
- Legal aid and lawyers for 16 -17 year old group
- Engaging with youth
- Housing
- Gambling
- Accessible courses for newly arrived students
- AOD and vaping
- Technology and young people
- Pornography

**Meeting preferences**

- Mix of online and in person

- Mix of Wednesday and Thursday
- Hybrid model of delivery works well – balance of face-to-face and online
- Enjoy face to face and the opportunity to network
- Check in with Casey and Cardinia re meeting time clashes



GDYN 2023 review survey open until Friday 15 December 2023

<https://www.menti.com/alpy9nfdt6fp>

### INFORMATION SHARING

The following attendees shared program/service updates

#### Greg K - SHINE - Family Life

Case manager from an early intervention program called Shine. Working with children from 0-18 with mental health issues.

Contact: [gkavarnos@familylife.com.au](mailto:gkavarnos@familylife.com.au)

#### Anwar Afzali – Southern Migrant Resource Centre

We are running homework club 3 days a week at SMRC and online. We also assist the students with career support such as writing resumes, cover letters, job and scholarship applications. We have end of year celebration on the 21/12/2023 - Lunch will be provided.

Contact: **Anwar: 0408327192 or Samira: 0458090958.**

#### Masooda Osmani - Foundation House

School support officer at Foundation House. We work with schools for 2 year cycles to build capacity of school staff to work with refugee students/families. We work provide PDs and work on whole school areas (family engagement, transitions to school, school climate, teaching and learning and Partnerships with agencies). We are starting another cycle 2024-25 and applications are open for Casey and CGD schools. Please contact me if you know of any suitable schools.

Contact: [osmanim@foundationhouse.org.au](mailto:osmanim@foundationhouse.org.au)


#### Yanni Voliotis - Wayss Dandenong housing and homelessness support service

- THM program - transitioning housing of a 12-month lease, will be allocated case manager if accepted into THM program, work with case manager to be referred and linked to relevant support services and engage in exit plan.
- Community case management - works with young people aged between 16-25 years experiencing housing instability or at risk of homelessness in the Casey, Dandenong and Cardinia areas. We have a team of Youth Development Workers that support young people to address their housing need, work towards their identified goals and develop independent living skills.

Contact: [servicesforyoungpeople@wayss.org.au](mailto:servicesforyoungpeople@wayss.org.au)

#### Abuzar Mazoori – Foundation House

- Art and Wellbeing program – Wednesday 3.30 – 5.30
- Girls Volleyball group Tuesday and Thursday 6.30pm

	<p>Contact: <a href="mailto:mazooria@foundationhouse.org.au">mazooria@foundationhouse.org.au</a></p> <p><b>Emma Levit – Dandenong Youth and Family Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School holiday registrations open now for young people aged 12 -25 with a connection to CGD. These activities are free or low cost. Activities include Bonbeach Day Trip, Archery, Gumbuya World and more. <a href="http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au">Holiday Activities   Youth (greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au)</a></li> <li>- Get ready to bump, set, and spike your way to success in our free Volleyball Tournament. Open to young people aged 12-25 years who have a significant connection to Greater Dandenong. <a href="http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au">Volleyball Tournament   Youth (greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au)</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Elvis Tran - Dandenong Youth and Family Services - Impact Volunteering</b> Find out what it's like to volunteer at an animal shelter and develop skills caring for rescued animals in this one-day, taster session. Open to young people aged 18 -25 years. <a href="http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au">IMPACT Youth Volunteering - Animal Shelter Experience   Youth (greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au)</a></p>
<p><b>NOVEMBER MEETING EVALUATION POLL</b></p>	<p>Each meeting we take a poll to ask members to rate their satisfaction with the meeting, including the guest speaker. Findings from this meeting show that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100% agreed that the presentation by the Australia Federal Police was informative and relevant</li> <li>• 100% agreed they learned new ideas and information</li> <li>• 100% increased knowledge of services and supports</li> </ul>
<p><b>YOUTH POSITIVE PATHWAYS</b></p>  <p><b>Youth Positive PATHWAYS</b> <small>GREATER DANDENONG • CASEY • CARDINIA</small></p>	<p><b>Greater Dandenong - Casey - Cardinia Online Youth Services Directory</b> There are many services for young people and families within the City of Greater Dandenong, the City of Casey, and Cardinia Shire. This directory brings local service information together in the one place. It aims to assist young people, families, schools, and agencies by improving awareness of and accessibility to services available to young people and their families across the City of Greater Dandenong, the City of Casey, and Cardinia Shire.</p> <p>Please <b>routinely check</b> your service and program information on the website to maintain its accuracy and currency. Also, if your service is not yet listed, please visit the website, and log your service information. <a href="http://www.youthpositivepathways.com.au/about">www.youthpositivepathways.com.au/about</a></p>
<p><b>GDYN E-NEWS</b></p>	<p>Reminder to network members to promote programs/service updates in the monthly GDYN eNewsletter. <b>January edition: submissions due 8 December COB.</b> <b>February edition: submissions due 19 January COB.</b> Please send a blurb to <a href="mailto:Bethany.Roche@cgd.vic.gov.au">Bethany.Roche@cgd.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>NEXT MEETING</b></p>	<p><b>Thursday 22 February</b> In person</p>

Greater Dandenong Council Civic Centre  
25 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong  
Time: 9.30am – 11.30am

**Meeting Dates 2024**

- Thursday 22 February - Face to face
- Wednesday 18 April - Online
- Wednesday 19 June - Face to face
- Thursday 22 August - Online
- Wednesday 16 October - Face to face
- Thursday 21 November - Online

For further information, please contact Bethany Roche, Youth Planner and Engagement Officer by phone 9793 2155 or email [Bethany.Roche@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:Bethany.Roche@cgd.vic.gov.au)