

### **More than 2500 calls to ChildLine from Norfolk last year**

The NSPCC is asking local people to support its ChildLine service after the latest figures show that 2600 landline calls were received from children and young people in Norfolk last year.

Calls from landlines only represent a quarter of the actual number of calls ChildLine receives nationally. The majority of calls are made using mobile phones but the charity is unable to record them by geographical area. ChildLine also runs an online service that has more than 100,000 users nationally.

In addition to calls from children and young people themselves, the NSPCC also runs a helpline for adults where they are concerned about the welfare of a child. Last year, the NSPCC made 297 referrals to the police and social services in Norfolk as a direct result of these calls. Following the release of these figures, the charity is urging local people to get involved and volunteer some time to help raise much needed funds.

Local fundraising manager, Christian Morris, said: "We all like to think that the abuse and neglect is something that doesn't happen in our local towns and villages but sadly these figures show that our services are needed. ChildLine is here for every child 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year. We have some wonderful supporters fundraising for us in this region and we hope more people will read this and offer to help us make a real difference to vulnerable local children."

The top reasons for children calling Childline last year included problems with family relationships, bullying, physical abuse and sexual abuse.

Christian Morris, continued: "Our volunteers are at the heart of our fundraising events and we are always looking for more supporters, whether it is helping at an existing event or developing a new fundraising opportunity with friends and forming a new local NSPCC support group.

"We actually have less supporters in Norfolk than we have in a lot of other local counties but as these figures show, we receive a large number of calls from local children. Any help people can offer us will be very gratefully received."

"NSPCC support groups are a great way of getting involved in your community whilst helping to do your bit for a charitable cause." says Christian, "we are always looking for new members to lead a small event such as hosting afternoon tea, putting on a sponsored dog walk or running a golf challenge, whilst helping to promote the NSPCC messages at a local level. Please do get in touch if this is something you and your friends would like to be a part of."

For more information about the NSPCC or to discuss opportunities with local support groups in your area, contact Christian Morris, Community Fundraising Manager via email at [cmorris1@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:cmorris1@nspcc.org.uk) or calling 01353 699745.

-ends-

**Notes to Editors:**

- **Please note the ChildLine number of calls represents only 24% of all calls made to ChildLine as 76% are made using mobile phones.**
- **NSPCC flyer attached**

**About the NSPCC and ChildLine**

The NSPCC is the UK's leading children's charity specialising in child protection. Our vision is to end cruelty to children in the UK and we make a difference for all children by standing up for their rights, listening to them, helping them when they need us and by making them safe. The NSPCC runs projects and services across the United Kingdom and Channel Islands to help vulnerable children. We also provide ChildLine, the UK's free, confidential 24-hour helpline and online service for children and young people and a helpline for adults who are worried about a child or want advice.

If you have concerns about a child or young person, you can call the NSPCC on 0800 800 5000, text 88858 or visit [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

For more information about the NSPCC visit [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)