



**Legal Services Agency**  
Doing the Right Thing,  
the Right Way



**Freedom from Torture**  
Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture

## **Good practice when engaging with and interviewing children and young people who have experienced trauma**

Talking with children and young people who have been affected by trauma can be a difficult and anxiety-provoking process for both the practitioner and the child/young person.

Research has shown that talking to children and young people about traumatic experiences can trigger traumatic memories and cause re-traumatisation and that autobiographical memory is significantly affected by emotional and traumatic relationships.

However, such disclosure is vital to safeguarding procedures and many legal processes. Often, the disclosure must be made quickly, yet be as detailed and accurate as possible, as it may be relied on by courts and other statutory authorities in making decisions with significant and lasting consequences.

This workshop aims to recognise the challenges to both the interviewer and the child/young person inherit in this process and to demonstrate how to improve the reliability and usefulness of such evidence, while minimising the risks of re-traumatisation and re-victimisation.

**Date: Thursday, 17 October 2013**

**Time: 9.00am registration - workshop 9.30am-1.00pm**

**Venue: Adelphi Centre**

**Cost: £40.00**

**Lunch: There will be a buffet lunch provided at the end of the training**

### **Objectives**

By the end of the training programme, participants will be able to:

- Understand the role of vicarious trauma
- Recognise the principal signs and symptoms of trauma
- Understand the psychological process behind trauma
- Identify when a young person may be being re-traumatised during interview
- Demonstrate how to build a safe relationship with the interviewee
- Respond confidently and appropriately when an interviewee becomes distressed
- Describe the impact of trauma on autobiographical memory and cite to relevant research to put the disclosure in context for decision makers

## Participants

This workshop is aimed at practitioners who are involved in talking with young people about their traumatic experiences.

We anticipate it will be of particular interest to: social workers, solicitors, police, residential care workers, advocacy workers, and healthcare and other professionals working with children and young people.

## Facilitators

The workshop will be delivered by **Roy Farquharson**, Children and Young Persons Clinician and Trainer, Freedom from Torture Scotland, and **Jennifer Ang**, Solicitor, Young Persons' Project at the Legal Services Agency.

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## BOOKING FORM FOR:

### Good practice when engaging with and interviewing children and young people who have experienced trauma

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANISATION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ POSTCODE: \_\_\_\_\_

TEL. NO.: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose £ \_\_\_\_\_/Please invoice me.

### Email/Post/Fax to:

Freedom from Torture Scotland, Room 27, The Adelphi Centre, 12 Commercial Road, Glasgow G5 0PQ

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Fax: 0141 420 6578

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