Film “The Changing Dance”
Tabletop exercise

Task: Quick table top discussion about women subject to recurrent removal of children from their care in your local area

• What do you know about how many women this may be?
• What services/ support exist in your area to currently support them?
• What are the gaps in provision?
• What works well in your local area
• Feedback
A case for early intervention

65,000 women appeared in care proceedings between 2007/08 and 2015/16

1 in 4 women will return to family court having previously lost a child through a court order

This figure rises to 1 in 3 for women who were teenagers at the time of their first child being removed

Between 2007/8 and 2016/17, 16,849 babies were born into care

Women who have repeatedly had children removed into care will return to the family court in an average of 17 months of proceedings concluding

40% of women were looked after children

66% of women experienced childhood neglect

67% of women experienced emotional abuse as a child

52% of women experienced physical abuse as a child

53% of women experienced sexual abuse as a child

Broadhurst et al 2015, Nuffield Family Justice Observatory 2018
What is Pause?

**Our aim**
To prevent the damaging consequences of thousands of children being taken into care each year.

**What we do**
We work with women who have experienced - or are at risk of - repeated pregnancies that result in children needing to be removed from their care.

**How we do it**
Through Pause Practices working together with local authorities and other partners.
Pause evolution

Initial tracking of repeat removals in Hackney

2005-11

Pause pilot begins in Hackney

2012-13

Practices open in Hull, Newham, Doncaster, Southwark, Greenwich and Islington

2015

Practice opens in Newcastle

2016

Practices open in Derby, Wiltshire, Bristol, NE Lincolnshire, Barking & Dagenham, West Sussex, Slough, Cumbria, St Helens and Blackpool

2017

Development into Scotland, and Northern Ireland begins. Practices to open in Wigan, Rotherham, Plymouth, Nottingham and Bexley

2018

We will be operating in 40 LA areas across England, Scotland and Northern Ireland

By 2021

2005-11

Hackney funds feasibility study

2012-13

Department for Education Innovation Fund award

2015

Additional Innovation Fund award

2016

Big Lottery Fund award

2017

2018

By 2021
Initial feasibility study in Hackney 2013

49 Women

205 Children removed into care

Hackney Feasibility Study 2013
The integrated model

Therapeutic Counselling Drug & alcohol support

Practical Housing Benefits

Loss & grief Past trauma Own childhood

Self reflective Taking control Taking responsibility

Systemic Personal (e.g. partners) Professional contacts

Activities Fitness Group work

Education & employment Literacy & numeracy Ambition

Health needs Sexual health GP & dental

Sexual health & relationship needs

Taking control & taking responsibility

Group work & activities

Self reflection & personal growth

Therapeutic & practical support

Systemic & education

Health & education needs

Past trauma & own childhood

Loss & grief & self reflective

Personal growth & self reflection

Taking control & taking responsibility

Group work & activities

Self reflection & personal growth

Therapeutic & practical support

Systemic & education

Health & education needs

Past trauma & own childhood

Loss & grief & self reflective

Taking control & taking responsibility
CONTACT ACTIVITY
(Around 8 weeks)

Contraception in place

ONGOING INTERVENTION
(Around 10 months)

TRANSITIONAL WORK
(Around 4 months)

INITIAL CONTACT

AGREEMENT

COMMENCE TRANSITIONAL WORK

TRANSITION OUT OF PAUSE

PAUSE Timeline of Support
Pause Practice model

- **Integrated, intensive and systemic model of support** for 18 months tailored to their needs
- Predicated upon the vital importance of **assertive outreach and relationship based practice**.
- **Voluntary programme** based upon what the women want to focus on during this period of support
- Practice draws upon the ideas from **systemic practice, attachment and trauma, grief and loss, strength based and evidence informed interventions**.
- Helps **set in place strong foundations** on which they can build a more positive future for themselves
- Women agree to take **the most effective form of reversible contraception** so they have the opportunity to reflect and focus on their own needs often for the first time in their lives.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What Pause does</th>
<th>What Pause does not do</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Requires the women to use the most effective form of reversible contraception</td>
<td>Reflects on their responsibility to previous children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helps build their resilience and self-esteem</td>
<td>Addresses negative issues, like drug use and domestic violence, when the women are ready</td>
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<tr>
<td>Offers bespoke education/career plans</td>
<td>Supports the women into stable accomodation and helps them sustain it</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helps build healthy boundaries</td>
<td>Develops aspirations for the future</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helps women learn ways to avoid adversarial interactions</td>
<td>Supports the women to reflect on the past and face trauma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Works closely with partners and others in their system</td>
<td>Conduct parenting assessments</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rescue women and run their lives for them</td>
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Getting the balance right

Flexibility
- Enabling innovation
- Making it fit locally

Control
- Model fidelity
- Applying lessons learnt
- Looks & feels like Pause
Developments in Scotland

• Development of a Pause Scotland Board chaired by our founder Sophie with a range of partner agency members
• Scoping undertaken in Dundee, East Ayrshire and currently in Aberdeen
• Development of relationships and awareness across a number of agencies
• First practice to go live in Scotland in Dundee in June
Pause in Dundee
Developed by The Robertson Trust, Social Bridging Finance aims to:

• support third sector delivery of services;
• ensure the long-term sustainability of those services which evidence success.

It does this through the development of a **contract with the public sector**.

The model aims to bring in new funding from independent sources to support the move to preventative services.

A working partnership is formed between a public sector agency, a third sector organization and an independent funder to replicate an existing evidence-based model which has been trialed successfully elsewhere or at a small-scale in the existing geography. This service should enable a move from reactive to preventative services and meet an identified need which the public sector body is prepared to fund longer term. The partners need to agree success criteria in advance.

A simple, binding contract is signed between the partners to commit the public sector organization to sustaining funding for the service for a specified period of time, if the agreed success criteria are met.

After an allowance for an initial set-up phase the service is delivered for an agreed period of time, usually 2 to 3 years. During this trial stage, which will be grant funded (this can be from a range of sources, including Trusts and Foundations, public sector, individual philanthropists etc...), partners can adjust how the interventions are delivered, in order to ensure the best chance of meeting the agreed success criteria. A Project Board is established with senior representatives from all the partners to ensure strategic level oversight of progress.

An audit is commissioned by the partnership and paid for by the independent funder at the outset of the trial period. This evaluation will make an informed judgement as to whether or not the agreed success criteria have been met at the end of the trial.

If the external evaluator determines that the agreed success criteria have been met, then the contract determines the length of time for which the public sector organization will sustain the service. If the trial period has not been successful, all partners ensure that they take learning from the process and walk away, thus the public sector commissioner faces no risk from the trial as this is carried by the grant funders.
Collaboration and Partnerships

Relationships underpin everything we do - How we work with women, engaging partner agencies, working with the women’s system

• **Pause Dundee** will be delivered by **Tayside Council on Alcohol (TCA)** and will be licensed to deliver the programme and have operational management of Pause locally

• **Dundee City Council** will commission the service and will chair the Local Pause Board. Agreement to fund the programme in the future if successful
Collaborative Partnerships

• **Pause National** safeguards the fidelity and quality of the programme, ensure delivered with integrity and achieves the best outcomes for the women supported on the programme.

• **The Robertson Trust** provide funding through Social Bridging finance which they have developed to support third sector delivery of services.

• Pause, TCA and Dundee City Council will work collaboratively with the Robertson Trust to generate learning about what works and why, by establishing and testing how the model works in Scotland.
What does this mean for you locally?

What does/could the work of Pause- supporting women who have had repeated removals of children from their care-mean to you locally?

Table top exercise – 10 minutes

- What could be the opportunities?
- What would be the challenges?
- How would this fit into your current service delivery/area priorities?
Any questions