

Issue 16• 2026



Summer Newsletter

[CLICK HERE](#)



**The
Maggie Oliver
Foundation**

Transforming pain into power



HELPING SURVIVORS MOVE ON WITH THEIR LIVES



[Message from Maggie](#)

[Media Spotlight](#)

[Judicial Review](#)

[Advocacy Insight](#)

[National Women's Award](#)

[Psychoeducation Workshops](#)

[Staff news](#)

[How To Access Group Support](#)

[Annual Fundraising Ball Blog](#)

[Thank You](#)

[Save The Date](#)

[Northern Power Awards](#)

[Ambassador Focus](#)

[Merchandise](#)

[Support our book](#)

[Ways to Support Our Work](#)

[Urgent Support](#)

[Trauma Awareness Cards](#)

Official Newsletter of The Maggie Oliver Foundation
Charity No. 1185267



A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM MAGGIE

Welcome to Our Summer Newsletter

Every time I write one of these introductions, I find myself asking the same question: are we making a difference?

The answer, without hesitation, is **yes**.

Not because the work is getting easier—it isn't. Not because the challenges are disappearing—they most certainly aren't. But because every single day I see survivors we support finding their voice, rebuilding their confidence and beginning to believe in themselves again. I see a team whose commitment never falters, supporters who stand beside us through every battle, and a movement that continues to grow stronger with every passing month.

That is why, despite the relentless pressures, I have never felt more hopeful.

The past six months have been amongst the busiest and most significant in our history.

Perhaps the most important milestone has been our historic success in the High Court. After fifteen months of determination, preparation and hard work, The Maggie Oliver Foundation secured permission to proceed to a full Judicial Review against the Government over its failure to implement the twenty recommendations made by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

This is about far more than legal process.

It is about promises made to survivors that have still not been honoured. It is about ensuring that the years of evidence heard by IICSA were not simply filed away and forgotten. Most importantly, it is about protecting today's children by making sure yesterday's lessons finally lead to meaningful change for tomorrow's children.

The High Court recognised there is an arguable case that the Government created a legitimate expectation that these recommendations would be implemented before failing to do so. That is a hugely significant decision and one that gives hope not only to survivors of abuse, but to everyone who believes governments must be held accountable for the commitments they make.



Our final hearing now lies ahead in November.

It is a battle we could never have taken on without the extraordinary generosity of supporters who have stepped forward to fund the next stage of this case. We need funding to support our legal team—three solicitors, a barrister and a King’s Counsel—which requires an incredible surge of belief in what we are trying to achieve. To every single person who is helping us raise this money, thank you. You are helping to create legal history.

Away from the courtroom, we enjoyed one of the most uplifting evenings in our Foundation’s history at our Annual Ball. It was our first since 2024, and it reminded me just how far we have come. Looking around the room at survivors, volunteers, trustees, ambassadors, staff, donors and friends of the Foundation was genuinely emotional. What began as my determination to stand up for children has become a remarkable community of people united by one purpose—to ensure survivors are heard, believed and supported.

One moment that will stay with me for a very long time was taking Jade to Venice in April where we spoke at a prestigious international event.

Many of you know Jade’s story and the courage it has taken for her to rebuild her life. Watching her stand confidently before an international audience, speaking with honesty, dignity and strength, filled me with immense pride. Sharing that platform with influential figures, including Lord Toby Young of the Free Speech Union and representatives connected to the European Court of Human Rights, demonstrated something incredibly powerful: survivor voices belong at the very highest levels of debate.

Seeing Jade continue to flourish, and now become one of our treasured Ambassadors, is everything this Foundation stands for. It is living proof that pain really can become power.

Back home, our work has continued to expand at an extraordinary pace. Our peer support groups continue to grow because survivors tell us there is nothing quite like being understood by someone who has walked a similar path.

Our psycho-education workshops are helping survivors understand trauma, regain confidence and begin to reclaim their lives. We are also strengthening our Advocacy Service by recruiting additional members of the team so that we can support even more people through the complexities of the criminal justice system and beyond.

Demand for our services has never been greater.

Neither has our determination to meet that demand.



In just seventeen months, our staff team has grown from four people to nine. That growth reflects the reality that more survivors are finding us, trusting us and asking for our help. It also reflects the incredible commitment of everyone who works within The Maggie Oliver Foundation.

The truth is, this work is not easy.

The hours are long. The emotional toll can be immense. There are always those who seek to distract us, criticise us or create unnecessary obstacles. But we have learned that if you are challenging powerful institutions and demanding accountability, resistance is inevitable.

What keeps us going is knowing that every challenge we overcome means another survivor receives support, another child is better protected, and another voice that was once silenced is finally heard.

Nothing compares to the messages we receive from survivors telling us they finally feel believed, that they have found hope again, or simply that they no longer feel alone. Those moments remind me why this matters.

Over the past six months we have also continued to work closely with outstanding journalists and media organisations from every side of the arguments, ensuring that child sexual abuse, exploitation and institutional failure remain firmly in the national spotlight. Public awareness creates public pressure, and public pressure drives change.

Finally, I want to say a heartfelt thank you.

Thank you to our exceptional staff, whose professionalism and compassion inspire me every single day to keep going. Thank you to our trustees, ambassadors and volunteers who give so much of themselves.

Thank you to our donors and supporters whose generosity allows us to remain fiercely independent. Thank you to our media partners who continue to give survivors the platform they deserve.

And above all, thank you to every survivor who has trusted us enough to walk alongside you.

You are the reason we exist.

We are stronger than we have ever been.

We are reaching more people than ever before.

We are challenging those in power like never before.

And I promise you this: we will continue to fight with every breath in our body until every child is protected, every survivor is heard and those who fail them are finally held CRIMINALLY accountable.

Because together, we are not just changing lives.

We are changing the future.

~
Maggie
✓ X.





IN THE MEDIA SPOTLIGHT



The Maggie Oliver Foundation takes the government to the High Court.

The Maggie Oliver Foundation takes the government to the High Court seeking a Judicial Review for its failure to implement the 20 Recommendations of IICSA more than 3 years after they were published...

You can read more about this groundbreaking case on **page 8** of this newsletter

Watch Maggie's interview with Jeremy Kyle, following the historic victory [here](#)

Rochdale Scandal EXPOSED: 13-Year-Old Victim Breaks Silence

EXPLOSIVE INVESTIGATION: In this explosive, exclusive interview for the Express Report, Zak Garner-Purkis sits down with Ruby, a survivor of the Rochdale grooming gangs, to uncover the horrific, uncensored truth of her ordeal and the devastating failures of the UK justice system.



For years, former Prime Minister Keir Starmer has presented his handling of the Rochdale case during his time at the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) as a resounding success. Today, Ruby sets the record straight. She exposes a shocking reality of ignored evidence, institutional victim-blaming, and the heartbreaking truth behind the charging decisions.

From being ignored by teachers, police, and social services, to the horrific mishandling of vital DNA evidence, Ruby's brave testimony demands accountability from those at the very top.



MAGGIE OLIVER: Burnham had a chance to give a voice to grooming gang victims, and he wasted it



We're going to hear a lot from Andy Burnham– as he returns to Westminster – about his role in rooting out the Asian grooming gangs and getting justice for the countless children who were their victims. He will claim he fought the police and social services to expose their failure to act. And he will imply that the scandal is largely over, thanks to his intervention.

I have no party allegiance. I left my role as a Detective Constable in Rochdale in 2012 in protest at the force's mishandling of two child sex abuse rings. Since then, I've campaigned for the victims of grooming gangs and exposed the failures of institutions – from the police to social services – in preventing group-based child sexual abuse.

I've criticised Tory inaction. I've attacked Labour letdowns. And I'm not afraid to pick a fight with politicians of any creed in my determination to keep a spotlight on police failures to address grooming gangs.

It doesn't matter to me what party Burnham represents. He should not be PM because he does not fulfil his promises. He happily takes the credit for other people's battles, but he lacks the steel to keep fighting when the stakes get high.

Read the full story [here](#)

Survivors Retraumatished by Humberside Police Closing the Investigation Into Their Horrific Abuse for the Second Time, More Than 7 Years After It Was First Opened

Humberside Police has closed a major investigation into child sex grooming gangs in Hull for the second time, bringing no charges.

The first probe called Operation Marksman ran from 2019 to June 2021 when it closed with **no charges** even though 34 people had been arrested.



Read the full story [here](#)





Update on Judicial Review

Our landmark judicial review challenging the Government on its failure to act on child sexual abuse

On 5th March 2026, in the High Court in London, The Maggie Oliver Foundation was granted permission to challenge the Government's continued failure to implement the recommendations of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) in a judicial review.

This is a major step forwards, showing that the Court has accepted that key parts of our case are arguable and deserve full consideration. Our legal team has advised this is 'exceptionally rare'. The case now proceeds to a full judicial review hearing on **10th and 11th November 2026**.

This next stage is critical. It is at this point, that the Court will hear the full legal arguments. It is a moment of real opportunity: to secure **accountability**, to drive long overdue **protections** for children, and to deliver meaningful **change** for survivors and future generations of children.



During his judgement at the permission hearing, Mr. Justice Kimblin described our challenge as a “paradigm example of public law litigation”. We agree with him that a government's most important obligation is to keep its children safe.

We are working hard with our expert legal team to further develop legal arguments and compile supporting evidence and statements, including harrowing accounts from survivors who's sexual abuse as children, and its lifelong consequences, could have been avoided if the recommendations of IICSA had been implemented.



Background

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) was a major seven-year statutory national inquiry to examine how public and private institutions failed to protect children from sexual abuse. It cost the public nearly £200 million and heard testimonies from more than 7,000 survivors, many telling their stories for the first time. In October 2022, IICSA made 20 recommendations to better protect children and improve access to justice.

Despite the scale of the Inquiry, the weight of evidence, and repeated public commitments by successive governments across the political spectrum, most of these recommendations remain unimplemented almost four years later. Survivors who came forward in the hope of change are still waiting.

Based on the Government's own figures, over **1.5 million children have been sexually abused since IICSA made its recommendations in October 2022.**

Key recommendations that remain unimplemented include the introduction of national standards for collecting data on perpetrators of child abuse, including ethnicity, religion and occupation, ensuring that children in care have the same access to justice as other children; and ending the use of pain inducing restraint on children in custody, a practice IICSA described as amounting to torture.



In January 2025, following mounting pressure and receipt of a formal letter from Maggie Oliver warning of legal action, the Home Secretary committed to setting out timelines for implementing of all of IICSA's recommendations. **That commitment has not been honoured.**

As such, we launched our legal challenge in an effort to hold the Government to account in open court on child protection failures and to increase the pressure for implementation of the IICSA recommendations in full.



It is wrong that our small charity must take on this fight in the “David and Goliath” fight against the Government but we see it as a **‘once in a lifetime’ opportunity to drive national systemic change in the protection of children.**

As the Government once again asks victims and survivors of child sexual abuse and exploitation to share their devastating experiences with the recently launched Independent Inquiry into Grooming Gangs, we want to show them that this will not be in vain. That the powerful people who govern us cannot make promises time and again yet fail to act.

The Challenge

The Court granted permission to proceed to a full judicial review on two grounds:

Failure to implement the Inquiry’s recommendations:

While governments are not automatically required to implement recommendations from public inquiries, our case argues that repeated public commitments, from successive governments, have created a ‘legitimate expectation’ that IICSA’s recommendations would be delivered.

Failure to prohibit pain-inducing restraint of children:

The Government has failed to implement IICSA’s recommendation that the Ministry of Justice prohibits the use of pain compliance techniques in custodial settings, including children ‘in care’. IICSA was highly critical of these practices, highlighting the harm they cause and the risk that they deter children from reporting abuse, including sexual abuse. In its findings, the Inquiry did not shy away from describing the treatment of some children in state care as **“akin to torture”**.

While our legal experts are working at significantly reduced rates, this critical legal challenge is still costly. We have established a “Fight Fund” to raise funds towards our work, including this landmark challenge of the government. You can donate using this [link](#). Or with this QR code

If our case is successful, a proportion of legal costs may be recovered. Any funds raised will be applied to support this work and, more broadly, to continue our mission to support survivors and continue to fight for a justice system that properly protects children.





ADVOCACY INSIGHT

The advocacy team continues to see rising demand for our services, reflecting the number of individuals who are still being failed by the criminal justice process. We are also supporting more survivors who need help challenging the outcomes of police complaints. Complaint investigations are taking significantly longer to conclude, leaving many survivors waiting for extended periods before receiving a resolution. This is completely unacceptable, unfair and must change.

Across the policing landscape, many forces are experiencing backlogs in complaint investigations. These delays continue to have a detrimental impact on survivors, prolonging uncertainty and adding to the challenges they already face. This is an area the team will be exploring further so we can better understand the barriers preventing timely complaint investigations.

Survivors contacting us seeking Advocacy support are placed on a waiting list and then contacted for a screening call to ensure that we fully understand their circumstances, and we are able to meet their needs. This is where our innovative thinking really kicks in! This process allows us to monitor the cases that are coming through, what issues survivors are facing and whether those patterns are being replicated across different forces. All of which informs our Force for Change work.

To support the team and respond to growing demand, vacancies for new Advocacy Caseworker role(s) have recently been advertised. Those with specific policing experience in complex investigations were identified as particularly valuable and additional expertise would strengthen the team's resilience and capacity to support survivors through challenging investigative and judicial processes. The interview process is currently underway, and we hope to welcome another valued member to our ever-expanding team here at TMOF soon!

The team continues to build on formalised partnerships established with three large police forces. Our Advocacy work is hugely varied but involves ensuring effective communication between survivors and their investigating force, ensuring respect for victims and survivors and upholding of their rights and challenging actions or decisions where we see failings. We are robust in our approach for accountability to identify poor practice and culture and are tenacious in our work.



There are plans to strengthen police partnership working further, with a focus on developing and sharing good practice across additional forces. This has already started informally with some forces and we hope to expand on our formalised partnership working with other forces.

The feedback we receive for our Advocacy service remains incredibly positive and overwhelming. We have recently introduced the option of survivors accessing the service speaking with a member of staff to provide this over the phone, which many find easier than a “faceless” feedback form. It is a privilege to read some of the words that survivors have used in describing their experience with our team. It can sometimes serve as a reminder, that whilst the outcome of the criminal justice process is not always what we would wish for those we support, we are relentless in our approach in continuing to fight for them and that is something that will never change. Feedback shows that this support and procedural justice can be as important.

On a final note, one significant outcome was the charging of a high-profile individual with non-recent abuse offences. The survivor was supported by advocacy and the whole TMOF team. This shows just how strong and pro-active the team are and how well the team work together in ensuring a survivor remains at the very heart of all that we do.

Here is just a snippet of just two examples of incredible feedback the team have received in response to how their caseworker supported them during their experience:



‘I feel although Mary is an advocate she is more like a friend and someone I can truly trust. If you don’t have that connection, it makes it hard to feel believed. She speaks as though she’s my friend who cares and I can’t praise her enough for helping in the way she has. Comfortable would be such an understatement- I can’t even discuss things with my family in the same way I can with Mary.’



‘Yes, safer and I finally have more autonomy. That’s the word I was looking for earlier, autonomy – this is what Rhonda has reinstalled in me when police and Church of England took it. I needed a safe space and now I know if I’m upset around the goings on in my case I have someone to go to. Her expert opinion is valuable.’





National Women's Award Nomination

Maggie Oliver Nominated for National Women's Award 2026

We are incredibly proud to share that Maggie Oliver, Founder and Chair of The Maggie Oliver Foundation, has been nominated for the prestigious Women's Awards National 2026 in the category of Outstanding Woman with Community Impact.

The Women's Awards National celebrate the achievements of exceptional women from across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland who have made a significant contribution to their communities, professions and society. A nomination is made in recognition of the respect and admiration of peers, acknowledging an individual's impact, dedication and leadership.



This nomination is a testament to Maggie's unwavering commitment to survivors of child sexual abuse and exploitation and her determination to challenge systems that fail to protect the most vulnerable. Following her courageous decision to expose failings in the investigation of child sexual exploitation while serving as a detective with Greater Manchester Police, Maggie has dedicated her life to ensuring survivors are heard, believed and supported.

In 2019, Maggie founded The Maggie Oliver Foundation, creating a survivor-led organisation providing emotional support, advocacy and opportunities for survivors to rebuild their lives.

Since then, the Foundation has directly supported almost 5,000 survivors, helping thousands of people access the support, guidance and justice they deserve.

Alongside her work supporting individual survivors, Maggie has become a nationally recognised voice for change, fighting for greater accountability, safeguarding reform and improvements in the way institutions respond to child sexual abuse and exploitation. More recently, she has been at the forefront of challenging the Government to take action on the recommendations of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA), ensuring that the experiences of survivors remain central to national discussions on reform and protection.

Those who know Maggie understand that her motivation has never been recognition or accolades. Instead, her work has always been driven by a deep belief that every survivor deserves dignity, compassion, justice and the opportunity to heal. This nomination reflects not only Maggie's personal courage and determination, but also the strength and resilience of the many survivors whose voices continue to inspire change.

Everyone at The Maggie Oliver Foundation would like to congratulate Maggie on this well deserved recognition. We are honoured to work alongside a woman whose courage, integrity and commitment continue to make a lasting difference to the lives of survivors across the UK.

Understanding, Connection, and Hope: The Impact of Our Psychoeducation Groups

At The Maggie Oliver Foundation, we understand that healing from trauma is not linear — and that feeling safe, understood, and supported is a vital first step in any recovery journey.

Our Psychoeducation Workshops were created to offer survivors a gentle, structured space to better understand trauma, connect with others, and begin rebuilding a sense of control and self-compassion

What We Offer: Psychoeducation Workshops

Our psychoeducation groups are not therapy, but a trauma-informed, survivor-led space that provides:

- A safe, structured environment to learn about trauma and its impact
- Accessible information on:
 - PTSD and complex trauma
 - Trauma responses (fight, flight, freeze, fawn)
 - Emotional and physiological effects of trauma
- Practical tools and coping strategies to support wellbeing
- Opportunities for peer connection and shared understanding
- Choice in participation — speaking is always optional

Each programme is delivered over a series of group sessions, supported by experienced facilitators who prioritise emotional safety, choice, and non-judgemental listening.

We recognise that everyone is at a different stage in their journey.

As part of our trauma-informed approach, we carefully consider group readiness. Where needed, survivors may be offered alternative or additional support before joining a group.



Who the Groups Are For (Criteria)

Our psychoeducation groups are designed for survivors who:

- Are ready to engage in a group setting alongside others
- Can safely participate without requiring immediate crisis intervention
- Are open to learning about trauma and its impact
- May feel isolated and are looking for connection and understanding

Engagement and Participation

Across our groups, we see:

- Strong and consistent attendance, with participants committing to attend sessions regularly
- High levels of engagement, including open discussion and attendees using forms of communication that best suits them
- Development of trust within the group as well as a sense of safety and belonging being reported by attendees.

Participants often begin cautiously, but over time became more confident in sharing – showing the importance of gentle pacing and consistent support



The Impact: What Participants Tell Us

Feeling Safe and Supported

Participants described the space as:

- “Very safe”
- A place where they felt able to open up without judgement
- A place where they can build trust, boundaries, and shared understanding.

This sense of safety is fundamental – and something we prioritise in every group we deliver.

Reduced Isolation and Connection

One of the most powerful outcomes is that many participants no longer feel alone and report:

- Connecting with others who understood their experiences
- Feeling validated
- Realising that their reactions to trauma were shared.

This helps build a deep sense of belonging and acceptance, which is often missing for survivors who come to us for support.

Increased Understanding and Insight

Participants develop a stronger understanding of:

- Trauma and complex PTSD
- How trauma impacts thoughts, emotions, and behaviour
- Why they feel the way they do.

Many describe this learning as transformative, helping them make sense of their experiences and reducing self-blame.



Hope, Empowerment, and Confidence

Participants report meaningful emotional shifts, including:

- Feeling more hopeful and less alone
- Building confidence to speak over time
- Feeling more able to be authentic.

This reflects a key outcome of the programme: restoring hope and personal agency in recovery.

Practical Coping and Tools

Participants have reported gaining:

- Coping strategies and grounding techniques
- Tools to manage trauma responses
- A better understanding of what support might help them moving forward.

Many described the workshops as impactful and beneficial to their recovery journey.



Learning and Evolving

As with all our services, we continue to learn and adapt, in line with feedback from those accessing our support.

Participants have provided valuable learning which will strengthen future delivery. We're grateful for their candid feedback.

Above all, we learned that safety, choice, and connection must remain at the centre of every session.

Our Ongoing Commitment

At The Maggie Oliver Foundation, our role is to provide emotionally safe, survivor-led spaces where individuals can begin to understand their experiences and feel less alone.

Our priority is to ensure that:

- Survivors are supported within safe and contained environments
- Facilitators are supported to deliver trauma-informed care
- Programmes continue to evolve based on survivor feedback and learning.

A Final Reflection

These groups show that impact is not always measured by quick change.

Sometimes, impact looks like:

- Sitting in a room and feeling safe for the first time
- Hearing "me too"
- Beginning to understand your own story with compassion.

And that is where recovery begins.





Welcome Back Home

We are absolutely thrilled to welcome back our former much missed teammate Jennie back into our ever growing 'TMOF Family' after 15 months away!



So much has happened in that 15 months, and no one was more devastated than I was when for personal reasons Jennie had to 'step back' last year. I would be lying if I said that the stress of building our wonderful charity hasn't been totally overwhelming and draining at times for all of us, as we all give 150% effort and commitment every day. And that takes its toll!

But Jennie had been a key member of our 'inner circle' for 4 years and we missed her desperately when she left, as well as the experience and knowledge she brings to her role as CEO. This is increasingly important as we move to the next level in our development and I feel so much safer knowing we have her 'back in the fold'.

A lot has undoubtedly changed in the time since she left, but she has already hit the ground running as I knew she would, and we are already planning our important next steps with excitement and confidence.

We will continue to go from strength to strength as the work we do supporting victims and survivors of the most horrific abuse becomes even more necessary as we

see our public services virtually collapsing all around us, leaving the most vulnerable amongst us even more isolated, exposed and traumatised to the extent they are.

We're here to help, and with Jennie slotting back in as though she's never been away, that can only make us better at everything we do.

Welcome back Jennie!

You've been missed 💕

Maggie
X.

[Read Jennie's bio here](#)





Promotion for Mary

We are delighted to announce that 'our Mary' has been offered, and accepted, a well deserved promotion to now become Advocacy Manager - Sexual Violence.



During her time with the Foundation, Mary has consistently demonstrated how capable and knowledgeable she is in handling all the complex cases that come to us from victims and survivors who are being/have been failed by our statutory agencies. Mary has guided our clients skilfully through the minefield and given hope and support to so many. Her experience as an ambassador on the emotional support side previously has also undoubtedly helped as she began to see the failures the system constantly repeats.

Mary will be leading our Advocacy service, managing the growing team, building strategic partnerships with police forces and other agencies and supporting our Force for Change work through spotting poor practice trends and gaps in the system for which we can advocate for change and improvements.

Growing our support

As the demand on our small but mighty charity grows, so must our team.

In addition to meeting demand, it's important that we continue to review how we can evolve our service to provide holistic support.

So firstly, introducing Bonnie who started working with us as an Ambassador and is now a full-time member of staff, in the role of our Emotional Support and Outreach Worker. In this role she provides compassionate, trauma-informed support to survivors while helping to connect them with the right services for their needs. She plays a key role in ensuring that anyone accessing support feels informed, supported, and empowered to make choices about their next steps. **Read more about Bonnie, below**

Bonnie

My name is Bonnie, and I am incredibly proud and honored to be part of the inspirational staff team at The Maggie Oliver Foundation as the Emotional Support and Outreach Worker.

I first joined the Foundation as a Volunteer Ambassador on the emotional support phonelines, where I discovered how powerful it is to walk alongside survivors in their healing. From the very beginning, the Foundation, and the incredible team behind it, have supported me to grow, develop, and shape my role in a way that aligns with my values and my lived experience. Being part of this team has been a significant part of my own healing journey. For the first time, I felt truly seen, understood, and valued, and that sense of belonging has allowed me to step into my purpose with confidence and authenticity.

My background includes facilitating music therapy groups and supporting survivors in a rehabilitation centre, which is where I first learned about the Foundation. These experiences strengthened my belief in the importance of creative, trauma-informed, and holistic approaches for survivors of sexual abuse.

As a survivor myself, this work is deeply personal. I have lived the silence, the shame, and the fight to be heard. I know what it feels like to slip through the cracks of systems that were meant to protect me, and I carry that truth with me every day. My lived experience fuels my determination to ensure no survivor ever feels alone, dismissed, or unsupported. I understand the courage it takes to speak out and the importance of being met with belief, compassion, and unwavering support.

A core part of my role is outreach and signposting. Survivors often face complex challenges alongside the trauma of abuse including: housing issues, financial hardship, mental health struggles, physical health needs, safeguarding concerns, and more. It is vital that these wider needs are recognised and addressed. I research and connect survivors to the right avenues of support, tailoring each referral to their personal circumstances. Whether it's linking someone with a GP, social worker, mental health team, hospital service, counselling provider, or specialist organisation, my aim is always the same: if I can do anything to make their lives even a little bit easier, I will.



I also provide direct support-worker intervention, helping bridge the gap between survivors and external services, advocating on their behalf, and preparing supporting documents to ensure their voices are heard. I collect advocacy feedback, which is incredibly rewarding and allows me to see the real-world impact of the Foundation's work. In addition, I co-facilitate our psycho-education workshops alongside our amazing Group Support Coordinator, helping survivors build understanding, resilience, and confidence as they move through their healing journey.

My mission goes beyond support, it is also about justice. Through outreach, advocacy, and education, I am committed to challenging the systemic failures that continue to let survivors down and contributing to the change we urgently need. Working alongside the most incredible and supportive team, our TMOF family, I am proud to stand on the front line of this fight: breaking cycles, building hope, reminding survivors of their strength, and helping turn pain into power.

Secondly, introducing Sadie who is our part-time Group Work Facilitator and Co-ordinator at The Maggie Oliver Foundation, playing a central role in creating and holding safe, trauma-informed group spaces for survivors. She is passionate about ensuring that every person who accesses group support feels heard, respected, and supported at their own pace.

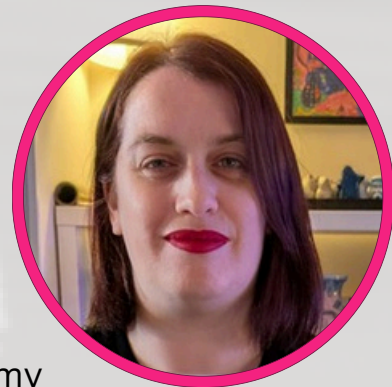
With both academic knowledge in psychology and lived experience, Sadie brings a deeply compassionate and understanding approach to her work. She is committed to providing supportive environments where survivors can connect, feel validated, and begin to rebuild a sense of belonging.

Sadie is also the first point of contact for group work enquiries and works closely with the wider emotional support team to coordinate and deliver psychoeducation workshops and peer-to-peer support programmes, helping to ensure these spaces remain safe, structured, and meaningful for everyone involved. [Read more about Sadie below](#)



Sadie

I am so very proud to be part of this incredible team at TMOF as the group support facilitator and coordinator as of Feb 2026!



I volunteered initially as an ambassador for 3 years after studying psychology at the university of Greater Manchester. It was during my final months of my studies that I came to the foundation as I needed a work placement within an area of psychology, and as my dissertation involved researching the efficacy of group therapy for survivors of sexual abuse I was determined to gain experience here.

Maggie is someone I have admired ever since reading her book and that is where I learnt about the foundation and everything it offers, so to be involved in any capacity was a dream come true.

I am a survivor of historical sexual abuse myself, so I am extremely passionate in ensuring the people that I support personally, and organise support for, are well looked after during their healing journey.

I have accessed peer-to-peer support myself as a survivor of sexual abuse, so I have personal knowledge and experience which makes me even more determined to ensure anyone accessing the services that we offer within group support at TMOF is of a high standard.

I have witnessed first-hand within the sessions I attended personally the positive outcomes that can be achieved by having a safe space to share your inner most personal thoughts and feelings around abuse and trauma. It gives survivors the opportunity to have their feelings validated and to know that you are not alone with what you have been through.

I can bring what I learnt from those sessions to my role as group support facilitator and coordinator, alongside the knowledge gained during studying psychology, and also my experience supporting survivors during emotional support calls since I first joined as an ambassador to ensure that every survivor is well supported. It matters so deeply to me that every single person that comes to TMOF for group support is well cared for at every stage.

We currently offer Psychoeducation workshops, peer-to-peer support and a 12-week intensive group therapy programme which survivors can access after their 8 sessions of emotional support calls.



It is a huge privilege to organise all of this for survivors and to see the progress that they make over the course of these sessions and to help them in any way on their healing journey.

This really is a dream job role for me on both a personal and a professional level and I could not ask for a more wonderful team of work colleagues and ambassadors to work alongside!

How To Access Our Group Support Work

At The Maggie Oliver Foundation, our group programmes are designed to feel safe, supportive and at the right pace for each person's individual journey.

We understand that taking part in a group can feel like a big step. To help make this as safe and beneficial as possible, we offer a structured support pathway to ensure everyone feels ready and supported before joining.

Our Support Pathway

To access our group programmes, we ask that participants have:

- ✓ Completed at least one cycle of emotional support calls with TMOF within the last 12 months

This is an important part of our approach, as it helps to:

- Build trust and connection with our support team
- Ensure you feel supported before joining a group setting
- Give you space to talk through your needs and goals
- Help us understand what support feels right for you

Our emotional support calls are a gentle, one-to-one space where you can speak to a trained ambassador at your own pace.





Annual Fundraising Ball

A Night to Remember: Reflecting on Our 2026 Annual Fundraising Ball

On Saturday 9th May 2026, we were proud to host The Maggie Oliver Foundation's Annual Fundraising Ball at the beautiful Radisson Edwardian Hotel in Manchester—an evening that brought together supporters, partners, and advocates for a truly powerful and purpose-driven night.



Hosted by BBC presenter and sports commentator Gaz Drinkwater, the evening balanced celebration with reflection—creating meaningful moments alongside the joy and excitement of the occasion.

With a three-course meal, live entertainment, and a full programme of activities, the night offered something for everyone while keeping the heart of the event firmly focused on the impact of the Foundation's work.

A Celebration of Community and Purpose

Our Annual Ball is more than a fundraising event—it is a space where compassion, courage, and community come together.

This year's event welcomed a diverse and inspiring group of guests, all united in their commitment to supporting survivors of sexual abuse and exploitation. Throughout the evening, there was a strong sense that every conversation, every shared experience, and every act of generosity was helping to strengthen this collective mission.

An Evening of Entertainment and Inspiration

Guests enjoyed a vibrant programme of entertainment, including an incredible performance by Emelina as a "Tina Turner" tribute act, alongside live music, dancing, and DJ Mitch's set that kept the energy high throughout the night.



Welcoming New Supporters

One of the most powerful aspects of this year's Ball was the number of new supporters joining us for the very first time.

For many guests, this was their introduction to The Maggie Oliver Foundation and the work we do. It was an opportunity to learn more about the realities survivors face, the support we provide, and the difference that collective action can make.

We are so grateful to those who came with open hearts—taking the time to listen, to learn, and to stand alongside survivors. Every new connection strengthens our community and helps us reach further, ensuring that more survivors can access the support they deserve.

Honouring Dedication: The Nicola Gott Long Service Award

A particularly special moment during the evening was the presentation of The Nicola Gott Long Service Award.

This award recognises the exceptional commitment, compassion, and dedication shown by individuals who have gone above and beyond in supporting survivors and contributing to the work of the Foundation over time.

Taking this moment to acknowledge long-standing service was incredibly important. It offered a chance to pause, reflect, remember Nicola and celebrate the people whose ongoing dedication often happens quietly, behind the scenes, but has a profound and lasting impact on the lives of those we support.

The presentation was a powerful reminder that the strength of The Maggie Oliver Foundation lies not only in its mission, but in the people who bring that mission to life every day.

Because we just couldn't provide the service that we do, without these incredible people.



Fundraising That Makes a Real Difference

A central part of the evening was the raffle and silent auction, which brought incredible generosity from supporters and partners alike.

Behind every bid, every ticket, and every donation is a shared belief: that survivors deserve to be heard, supported, and empowered.



These fundraising moments are always a highlight—not only for the excitement they bring, but for the real and lasting impact they create. Every contribution made on the night helps us continue delivering:

- **Trauma-informed emotional support**
- **Advocacy for survivors navigating the criminal justice system**
- **Group programmes and peer support opportunities**
- **Force for Change work to drive systemic change**



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this event possible:

- Our guests, for joining us and standing with survivors
- Our sponsors and donors, for your generosity and belief in our mission
- Those who contributed raffle and auction prizes, helping to make the evening such a success
- Our volunteers and team, whose dedication brought the event to life

And to those who joined us for the first time — **thank you for choosing to learn about our work and for becoming part of this growing community.**

The Power of Collective Support

What stood out most throughout the evening was the strength of the community surrounding The Maggie Oliver Foundation.

Supporters didn't just attend—they showed up with intention, generosity, and a genuine commitment to making a difference. It is that collective energy that allows us to continue providing consistent, compassionate support to those who need it most.

Events like this remind us that we are not alone in this work—and that together, we can create meaningful, lasting change.

Looking Ahead

As we reflect on such a special evening, we also look ahead with renewed energy and determination.

The funds raised and connections built during the 2026 Annual Ball will directly support our work in the months ahead—helping us reach more survivors, expand our services, and continue pushing for change.

**Together, we are creating something powerful.
Together, we are turning pain into power.**





THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the incredible organisations and individuals who supported **The Maggie Oliver Foundation's** 2026 Annual Fundraising Ball as sponsors. Your support played a vital role in bringing this event to life—helping us create an evening that was not only memorable, but truly meaningful.

Through your sponsorship, you have enabled us to continue delivering our work alongside survivors—providing emotional support, advocacy, and life-changing services to those who need them most.

Our Sponsors

We are proud to recognise and thank our sponsors for their generosity and commitment: Thank you to our **Headline Sponsor, Arbour Healthcare**



Your leadership support helped make this event possible at every level—creating space for connection, raising vital awareness, and ensuring we can continue to stand alongside survivors when they need us most.

Switalskis

Your contribution directly supports the delivery of frontline services, helping survivors access the care, advocacy, and guidance they deserve.



Our Gold Sponsors - Switalskis Solicitors



Our Silver Sponsors - The Press Justice Project



Your support helps us continue providing safe, trauma-informed spaces where survivors can begin to rebuild at their own pace.

Our Gold Sponsors - Slater Gordon Solicitors



Your generosity strengthens our ability to reach more survivors and ensures that no one has to navigate their journey alone.





**The
Maggie Oliver
Foundation**

Transforming pain into power



SAVE THE DATE

2027

ANNUAL BALL

SATURDAY, MAY 8TH 2027
AT THE
KIMPTON CLOCKTOWER HOTEL

Join us for an unforgettable evening in a
spectacular venue in the heart of
Manchester

Dance the night away with our live DJ and performances,
indulge in a delicious 3 course meal and take part in our raffle
and exciting auction with fantastic prizes.

Celebrate, connect and support a truly great cause.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES TO FOLLOW SOON

for more details contact Cecile at
cecile@themaggieoliverfoundation.com



NORTHERN POWER AWARDS



We Did It! Micro-Organisation of the Year

We are incredibly proud to share that **The Maggie Oliver Foundation** won Micro-Organisation of the Year at the **2026 Northern PoWER Women Awards**.

This award recognises organisations across the North creating meaningful social impact, and for us, it represents something much deeper. It is recognition of the courage of survivors, the dedication of our staff and ambassadors, trauma-informed, survivor-led support truly changes lives.



✨ A night to remember

The awards ceremony itself was a powerful and uplifting evening, bringing together over a thousand leaders, organisations and changemakers from across the North to celebrate equality, inclusion and social justice. Held during the week of International Women's Day, the atmosphere in the room was one of solidarity, celebration and collective purpose.

When our name was announced as the winner, it was a moment of real pride and emotion for everyone representing TMOF. Standing on that stage was not just about receiving an award — it was about recognising the voices, stories and strength of survivors, and the tireless work of those who walk alongside them every day.

Being surrounded by so many inspiring individuals and organisations reaffirmed the importance of community, collaboration and continuing to challenge systems that fail those most in need.

TMOF was represented on the night by trustees, staff and ambassadors, many of whom have walked alongside the Foundation throughout its creation and growth.



What this award represents

As a small organisation with a national reach, this award reflects the impact of our frontline advocacy, emotional support services, survivor-led work, and fighting for systemic change. It acknowledges the power of listening to survivors, standing alongside them, and refusing to accept systems that continue to cause harm.

We want to say a heartfelt thank you to:

- Every survivor who has trusted us with their story
- Our incredible ambassadors and volunteers
- Our staff team, who show compassion, strength and commitment every single day
- Our supporters, funders and partners who believe in our mission.

This award belongs to all of you.

Looking ahead

Winning Micro-Organisation of the Year has given us a renewed sense of momentum and determination. As we look ahead, our focus remains firmly on strengthening and sustaining the support we offer to survivors, while continuing to challenge the systems that too often fail them.



This award is not a finish line — it's an encouragement to keep going. It strengthens our resolve to listen, to act, and to stand alongside survivors as we work towards a future where they are believed, supported and empowered.

Thank you for walking this journey with us.





Ambassador Focus

Jade

My name is Jade, and I am a proud mum of three amazing children who keep my life beautifully busy. They are my world and my reason to keep moving forward every single day.

I am a survivor of child sexual exploitation. I know what it feels like to be let down by the very systems that are meant to protect you. Surviving those experiences forced me to find strength within myself during some of the darkest times of my life.

Finding the Maggie Oliver Foundation was a turning point in my healing journey.

The support, understanding, and safe space they provided helped me rebuild my confidence, rediscover my voice, and begin to truly heal. For the first time, I felt heard, believed, and supported.

Now, as an ambassador for the Maggie Oliver Foundation, it is my time to give back. I am passionate about raising awareness of this horrific crime, standing up for those who feel unheard, and supporting other survivors in their healing journeys. I want every victim to know that healing is possible, that you are stronger than you realise, and that your voice matters.

If sharing my story helps even one person feel less alone, then it is worth it.



Farrah

Hi, I'm Farrah. I work as a teaching assistant in schools and am currently training as a student counsellor. I have a background in Psychology and Education, and I enjoy supporting children and young people with their learning and wellbeing.

Outside of work and study, I enjoy walking and spending time outdoors. As a mum of four, much of my free time is spent in my unofficial role as an unpaid chef and general organiser!

I'm looking forward to being part of this journey and learning alongside others on the programme.



Alyia

I am a proud mother to two wonderful daughters whom I homeschool, and I love spending quality time with them, my supportive husband and lovely family. Family has always been at the heart of everything I do and has shaped the values of compassion, understanding, and resilience that I bring to my personal life and work.



My professional background has always been in sales and marketing. While I enjoyed helping people and working in those roles, I always felt I had more to give. I knew I wanted to use my ability to listen, understand, support, and guide others, but I had not yet found the right place to put those qualities into practice—until now.

My biggest inspiration to join The Maggie Oliver Foundation is Maggie herself and the changes she and the team have made so far. After watching Three Girls, I knew I had to do something to help create change and support those who have experienced unimaginable challenges. Being from the community who were many guilty of committing these horrendous crimes I was absolutely appalled and angry. That moment reinforced my desire to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

As someone from a multicultural background myself, I believe I can offer valuable understanding and empathy to survivors from diverse communities. I am passionate about helping people on their healing journey, providing support, guidance, and a safe space where they feel heard and understood.

I am absolutely honoured to have been given the opportunity to work alongside such wonderful people who are already doing an incredible job. I am equally honoured to be trusted by vulnerable individuals and victims who simply need someone to listen, believe in them, and support them as they move forward.

Being part of that journey is a privilege that I could never take for granted!

Vicky

I am a married mum of 2 daughters who enjoys spending my spare time with them, and my family and close friends. I enjoy going for walks and keeping physically and mentally fit.



Working in education for nearly 25 years as a teacher, and then as a Deputy Head and Safeguarding Lead for nearly 13 years has meant that the safeguarding of children and adults permeates everything I do.

I strongly believe in being the voice of those, often vulnerable children, who can't always use their own voice; to help protect them from all forms of abuse and provide them with a safe space.



I have long admired Maggie's work and the fight for justice; shining light on systemic failures in protecting vulnerable children and holding perpetrators account. Having been aware of the Maggie Oliver Foundation for a few years, I was drawn to the values the foundation stands for, which align with my own morals, and the determination to make a real difference in the lives of survivors of childhood sexual abuse. To now be part of this fantastic team and advocate for the foundation and everything it represents is the greatest honor. I stand alongside survivors; providing emotional support against the injustice and abuse they have suffered whilst giving them the time, belief, courage, determination and empowerment to live a brighter future.

Rhianna

I am currently studying Criminology at Manchester Metropolitan University, where I am developing a deeper understanding of crime, justice, safeguarding, and victim support. I have always wanted to help people and make a positive difference in the lives of others, which is one of the reasons I chose to pursue this field of study.



Although I am not a survivor myself, I have always been aware of the precautions many women and girls take when going out at night. I have also experienced situations where individuals have felt entitled to act in ways that made me feel uncomfortable or unsafe, which has strengthened my awareness of the challenges many people face and the importance of support, advocacy, and safeguarding.

Through my studies, I have become increasingly aware of the failings that can occur within the criminal justice system, particularly in cases involving abuse, exploitation, and vulnerable individuals. I am interested in understanding how institutions can better protect victims, respond appropriately to disclosures, and build trust with those seeking help. I believe that listening to survivors and learning from past mistakes is essential to creating meaningful change.

I am passionate about supporting initiatives that empower survivors, raise awareness of exploitation and abuse, and promote improvements within the criminal justice system. The work of the Maggie Oliver Foundation strongly aligns with my interests in advocacy, safeguarding, and ensuring that survivors' voices are heard, respected, and supported. Through my studies and personal commitment to these issues, I hope to contribute to creating safer communities and helping those affected by abuse and exploitation access the support they deserve.





Feedback

At The Maggie Oliver Foundation, we are committed to providing compassionate, trauma-informed support to survivors through our emotional support service, advocacy, workshops, and peer support groups. Your feedback helps us understand what is working well and where we can continue to improve.

We sometimes receive feedback, of how our 'whole' service has made a difference to someone's life, so we thought we would share a couple of them.

Thank you for helping us make our services the best they can be.

The foundation shows up consistently after normal working hours we can easily access support with the compassion and openness that has not been provided to often by the state. The Group has been the biggest initiator of change for me, an odd bittersweet situation. I find it sickening that there are so many people that have experienced childhood abuse but there is a lot in being understood by others with similar experiences. The group creates a space that does not exist in our everyday lives, even for those with a wonderful friend group that know we have experienced childhood Abuse. No one will ever know, without personal experience, the impact and pain that abuse wields throughout a survivor's life, the disadvantages it creates, the mental toil that comes with the experience of abuse. After years of dealing with this feeling alone I now feel held and seen.

Thank you for all you do"

"I contacted the group after seeing Maggie Oliver on You Tube, I was/am impressed that Ms Oliver is speaking up about the vast abuse of children in all warps of life and the institutional failings that continue to let vulnerable children and people down, at whatever stage abuse is reported or known to the state. I am held by the fact that Maggie Oliver openly states she is not seeking funding from the government for the organisation. I lack trust in the state on the topic of sexual violence particularly."

"I was a bit of mess when I contacted the foundation so my feedback form could be read negatively, if I didn't have support from the foundation however, I would not be functioning at the level I am right now after one of my abusers was caught for another recent offence. I cannot thank the Organisation enough for the empathy, honesty, and kindness they have shown me since day one. They do not offer fixes that often feel like a rush to shut someone up, few people have the capacity to hear the horrific events that others have experienced. They sit with me when my darkest moments resurface, our truth is scrutinised and caught up in bureaucracy, retraumatised again and again to not gain justice, sadly more often than not."



Fundraising - Thank You

The Maggie Oliver Fight Fund

On 5 March 2026, in the High Court, The Maggie Oliver Foundation was granted permission to challenge key aspects of the Government's continued failure to implement the recommendations of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) in a judicial review.

This is a major step forward, showing that the Court has accepted that key parts of our case are arguable and deserve full consideration. Our legal team has advised this is 'exceptionally rare'. The case now proceeds to a full judicial review hearing. This next stage is critical. It is at this point, at a full hearing, that the Court will hear the full legal arguments.

It is a moment of real opportunity: to secure accountability, to drive long overdue protections for children, and to deliver meaningful change for survivors and future generations of children.

We are working with an expert legal team with extensive experience of judicial reviews and public inquiries, who are working at very significantly reduced rates.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those that have contributed to The Maggie Oliver Foundation Fight Fund to make this a possibility.

Sponsor a Survivor's Place at Our Survivors Ball

Each year, we honour the courage, resilience and achievements of the survivors we support by hosting our annual Survivors Ball. This special event provides an opportunity for survivors to come together in a safe and uplifting environment, build connections, celebrate their progress, and enjoy an evening dedicated to recognising their strength.

You can help make this memorable experience possible by sponsoring a survivor's place. Every contribution helps cover the cost of a ticket, ensuring that more survivors can attend and feel valued, supported and celebrated.

If you would like to support this important event, simply scan the QR code to make a donation. Thank you for helping us create an evening of hope, connection and recognition.





**The
Maggie Oliver
Foundation**

Transforming pain into power



Our new merchandise website is **now live!**

In our February newsletter we shared that our shop was coming soon, and we now wanted to share that it is live!

Take a look at our brand new shop where you can purchase our lovely branded merchandise.

From Hoodies to Pens, Drink Bottles to Gift Cards, we have something for everyone.



Logo Pen



Logo T-shirt



Insulated
Bottle



Gift Card

[Visit our shop](#)



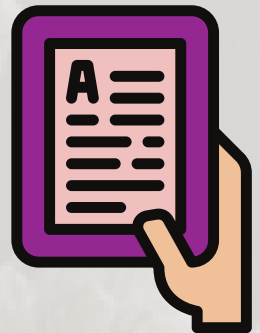
SUPPORT OUR BOOK

Survivors: One Brave Detective's Battle to Expose the Rochdale Child Abuse Scandal

THE SHOCKING TRUE STORY BEHIND THE HIT TV DRAMA THREE GIRLS

When detective Maggie Oliver first discovered that children as young as 10 were being groomed, abused and trafficked for sex by gangs of men in the Rochdale area, she felt like a lonely voice calling for people to act.

This is the heart-breaking and shocking story of how the actions of one determined detective secured convictions in what is now one of the most notorious grooming cases in the UK. Along the way Maggie discovered countless examples of how the authorities were letting down our most vulnerable children. She blew the whistle, losing her job and at times her mind at times, in a bid to stop others from experiencing the same.





WILL YOU SUPPORT US?

A huge part of the funding which keeps our work going comes from like-minded members of the public. We know times are tight right now and are so grateful to everyone who generously donates. Some make one-off donations, and we have a growing group of supporters giving on monthly basis from £2 per month upwards. As a small charity with a BIG mission, every penny counts.



Or scan the QR code



To make a donation please click on the Donate Button or use the QR code above to go straight to our Donate Page. You can make a donation via our Just Giving page, or alternatively you can use the Donations Form on our website to make a one off or reoccurring payment. If you have any questions, please contact supporters@themaggieoliverfoundation.com. We are so grateful for your donation. Thank you!

£38

pays for an hour of advocacy support for a survivor being failed by the criminal justice system

£65

pays for an emotional support call through our Pain into Power phonenumber

£520

sponsors a survivor through a full eight-week course of emotional support through our Pain into Power phonenumber

£1,360

sponsors a survivor through a complete course of emotional support and a complete 12-week course of group therapy





**The
Maggie Oliver
Foundation**

Transforming pain into power



Click on the icons below to view the individual social media links



URGENT SUPPORT

If you are concerned about the immediate safety of yourself or someone else, please contact one of the services listed below. If your email is urgent please respond to this email putting "URGENT" in the subject and we will try to prioritise responding.

For immediate help contact:

The **police on 999** where there is an immediate threat to life or if you have been victim of or witnessed a current crime.

Call 111 and select the 'mental health' option to access support

Your **GP or your local A&E Department** if you need urgent mental health support or are feeling suicidal.

Call the **Samaritans for free on 116 123** or text **SHOUT to 85258** if you are struggling with your mental health or feeling suicidal (or are worried about somebody who is).

Rape Crisis can be contacted through various methods shown here:





**The
Maggie Oliver
Foundation**

Transforming pain into power



TRAUMA AWARENESS CARDS

Do you struggle with appointments, whether that's waiting in a room with a lot of other people, or examinations that are intimate?

Would you rather not attend the appointment, than inform the staff you struggle with those types of situations?

Then please take a look at the Trauma awareness cards that we have available.

You can either download a pdf version of the cards [here](#)
scan the QR code below

or contact charlene@themaggieoliverfoundation.com to request some physical copies

We hope you find these useful, when you are needing support the most.

Just simply hand the card over to the person you have the appointment with, and this will explain how you find situations like this difficult, and how they can assist you





The
Maggie Oliver
Foundation

Transforming pain into power

Template designed by Kanika Phillip
kanikaphillip@gmail.com

