

ESTHER RANTZEN ENCOURAGES WILTSHIRE TO KEEP CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SAFE

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Childline founder Esther Rantzen received a warm welcome in Wiltshire last week when she presented a keynote speech at the Care Skills Partnership's 'Keeping Children and Young People safe' conference held at Longleat Forest Centre Parcs on Thursday 18th January.

Ms Rantzen detailed 'The Childline experience' and shared her knowledge on how best communities can help to safeguard children and young people.

Over 200 leaders and managers attended the conference from private, voluntary, independent and statutory childcare sectors, such as: social care, foster carers and the police.

The day explored the key theme that everyone in the community has a responsibility towards safeguarding children and young people. Speakers also included: Carolyn Godfrey, Director of Children's Services at Wiltshire County Council and Jackie Beech, Regional Manager at Shelter.

Attendees were given the opportunity to attend workshops, share their experiences and network with other people within Wiltshire and Swindon who are involved in working with children and young people.

The conference was organised by the Care Skills Partnership, which is an employer led partnership for Wiltshire and Swindon representing the private, voluntary and independent adult social care and child care sectors and has a specific focus on workforce development. Members of the Care Skills Partnership include: the Learning and Skills Council, Wiltshire County Council, Swindon

Borough Council, Jobcentre Plus, Skills for Care, Children's Workforce
Development Council, Barnardos as well as employers.

- Ends -

Note to Editors:

The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for planning and funding high-quality vocational education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world-class standards. Our vision is that by 2010, young people and adults in England have the knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. Established in 2001, we work nationally, regionally and locally from a network of offices across the country.

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