

Confidential

**CHILD AND ADOLESCENT EXPERT WITNESS REPORT
FOR
SOUTHPORT INQUIRY
ADDENDUM**

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Consultant Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatrist

Instructed By:

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Assistant Solicitor to the Inquiry

on behalf of the Chair to the Southport Inquiry (“**the Inquiry**”),
Sir Adrian Fulford

Date of report: 14th October 2025

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1.0 **ADDENDUM**

1.1 This addendum is to be read in conjunction with the original CHILD AND ADOLESCENT EXPERT WITNESS REPORT FOR SOUTHPORT INQUIRY, by Dr Tina Irani, dated 14th October 2025. This report will only address the question around monitoring what young people view online and the risk and challenges that poses.

1.2 Currently there is no legislative framework that supports professionals monitoring what young people view online, in their homes, unless a young person has been charged and this is part of either their bail conditions or sentencing conditions or it is part of safeguarding requirements as part of child protection concerns. In most instances it is mainly the parents that this is relied on.

1.3 Young people, in particular adolescence, are far more savvy with internet use than most adults. They can access sites that adults are unlikely to know off or know how to access. They are also adept at clearing their browser history and using hidden apps or other functions. Further, with older adolescents, who are more challenging, it can be difficult for parents to physically monitor and supervise their internet access.

1.4 In my opinion, there needs to be specific training identified nationally that is deliverable to all parents. In cases where there are specific safeguarding or risk concerns then the chair might want to consider what legal framework could support professionals monitoring and supervising internet access by young people in their homes.

1.5 Ideally, if a young person withdraws from education and as a result has regular welfare checks, could this be something that would fit within their role and what framework could be used to support them with this?

1.6 Where a young person, has a diagnosis of Autism and has shown a special interest that involves the internet and this is of a nature that is a safeguarding or risk

concern, then all professionals involved should have a healthy curiosity of their internet use and have training on how they might challenge and address it.

- 1.7 The chair might want to consider the above with the lead agencies that are likely to be working with young people, to ensure there is a standardised training package created and delivered.

2.0 **DECLARATION**

- 2.1 “I Dr Tina Irani, confirm that:

I have made clear which facts and matters referred to in this report are within my knowledge and which are not.

Those that are within my knowledge I confirm to be true.

The opinions I have expressed represent my true and complete professional opinions on the matters to which they refer.”

Signature

Dr Tina Irani MBBS MRC Psych

Consultant Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatrist

Approved under Section 12 (2) Mental Health Act 1983(amended 2007)