



**Project to join Voluntary Groups and Voluntary Organisations in
strengthening the shared ambition: Challenging and Defeating False
Allegations of Abuse**

(Known as the “UNFOUNDED Justice Family: Consultation”)



**UNFOUNDED Draft Proposal for Full Consultation:
Consultation Period Phase One: from 1 November 2019 to 22 November 2019**

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INTRODUCTION TO THE CONSULTATION: (False Allegations of Abuse)

These are exciting times for Change, and within which times, a growing body of people are expressing a range of dissatisfaction with various aspects of United Kingdom Justice. This Consultation Document concerns specific aspects of Law that allow the Criminal Investigation and Criminal Conviction of accused people, and without any proper level of evidence. Sometimes these investigations are on the word of a single uncorroborated accuser, or with no evidence at all. In cases of sexual assault, murder or other serious crime the Government has drafted and re-drafted copious forms of legislation in order to calm the disquiet of the General Public. This would appear to be particularly when such Public Feeling demonstrates fear and dread and of an inability to protect themselves or others for whom they care, from these seemingly horrendous crimes.

However, while departing from the usual and highly held principles of UK Law, and in order for the relevant Authorities to appear to calm this disquiet of the Nation, lower thresholds seem to be an accepted norm in a number of areas of Justice. The Criminal Conviction of any person of a Crime, as opposed to the Conviction of the correct person who committed the offence, (or convicting a person of a crime that may not even have been committed), clearly causes serious and unimaginable unnecessary hurt and harm to that individual, to families, and to the wider community. This also ultimately damages the Values and Standards of the United Kingdom. Not content with this hurt, the Legislation and associated Services and Authorities then seek to bully and coerce affected people and their families into silence; with an ever present threat that these same Authorities will alert the local community of the endangering allegations or convictions and should the Subject not conform to this bullish pressure. The cost of this façade in terms of wasted resource



in unsupported convictions is astronomical, and the cost to the people involved is just immeasurable in its damage.

Despite this myriad of wrongs, inflicted on innocent people and without proper basis, these really are exciting times. Many Groups, Organisations and Individuals are standing up for Truth and true Justice and providing support for those unfortunate people who are falsely accused of abuse, and maybe also falsely convicted, but without any fair or timely process of Appeal. This growing body of Strength is beginning to find new ways of working and in order to challenge and rectify these completely unacceptable scenarios.

My thanks go especially to Vicki, UNFOUNDED Project Leader, and who has worked tirelessly to develop UNFOUNDED through partnerships with associated Groups and friends. Vicki has kindly allowed me to occupy the Project Leader role. It is now possible therefore to utilise UNFOUNDED as the Consultation vehicle and to explore a new way of working. Vicki is currently taking a Sabbatical, and I am sure that we all look forward to Vicki's return to UNFOUNDED as soon possible, and when her current Projects complete.

Together we can make the changes that are required to address these wrongs. I look forward to working with all relevant Groups and Individuals who wish to take part. Together we will work to find the Strength that we all need in order to challenge all things Unfounded.

In the words of Sir William Blackstone, Jurist and writer from 1760:

“It is better that ten guilty persons escape than that one innocent suffer.”

(Blackstone's ratio: 1760)

I undertake to do my very best to ensure that this Project delivers the Objectives that come from the UNFOUNDED Consultation. We are each purely tiny drops in this large, seething Ocean if we continue working in isolation. I hope that you will join this exciting Project and contribute in any way you can. Through true partnership working, I believe we can actually form that Ocean together: that is, the Ocean of Real Change.

With all Best Wishes and Intentions,

Mike

Mike Smith Bsc(Hons) CIM CertMed
Unfounded Consultation Project Leader

Consultation November 1st 2019



CONSULTATION – Proposal to set up the UNFOUNDED Justice Family

Consultation Process (false allegations of abuse)

1. The Consultation Period (Phase One) for this Project will commence on Friday 1st November 2019 and end on 22nd November 2019 (Three weeks).
2. All Consultation comments should be made by e-mail contact only, during the Consultation period to secretary@unfounded.org.uk
3. If you need to talk to the Project Leader to discuss any important aspects, then please use mikefasohelp@gmail.com contact address for these enquiries.
4. The Project Leader is also available for brief help and discussion on the Project via Twitter: **Mikey** @MikeyUNFOUNDED However, this TWITTER method cannot be used for formal consultation feedback.
5. Following this Consultation Period (Phase One) the Justice Family Project may commence, or a further Consultation Period Phase Two may then be arranged, or both.
6. The Project operates under Data Protection Principles and no specific or identifying data or information will be released outside of the Consultation Team within UNFOUNDED without prior, and specific permission.

General Principles

7. This is a Consultation exercise, so while this Proposal sets out a starting point, all suggestions will be gladly received in relation to providing voluntary help and support in relation to False Allegations of abuse. Final decisions will only be made following the Consultation Period, and utilising all feedback and comments.
8. No one person or Group will be in charge of developments, instead the UNFOUNDED co-operative will be led by a Steering Group to represent the needs and wants of all Members.
9. This Project sets out the coordination of various streams of voluntary activity related to challenging all false allegations of abuse. All contributions, suggestions and work will be gladly received and no person or Group will be expected to do any more than they are happy to do. It is also understood that commitment to this Project can change over time, so clear communication to the Project Leader is appreciated.
10. Where a particular party agrees to undertake specific activity within the UNFOUNDED Project Plan, progress and Actions will be expected to be made as undertaken by that party. If an individual project faces difficulty with progression, these issues should be communicated immediately to the Project Leader, and so that adjustments can be made and support offered.



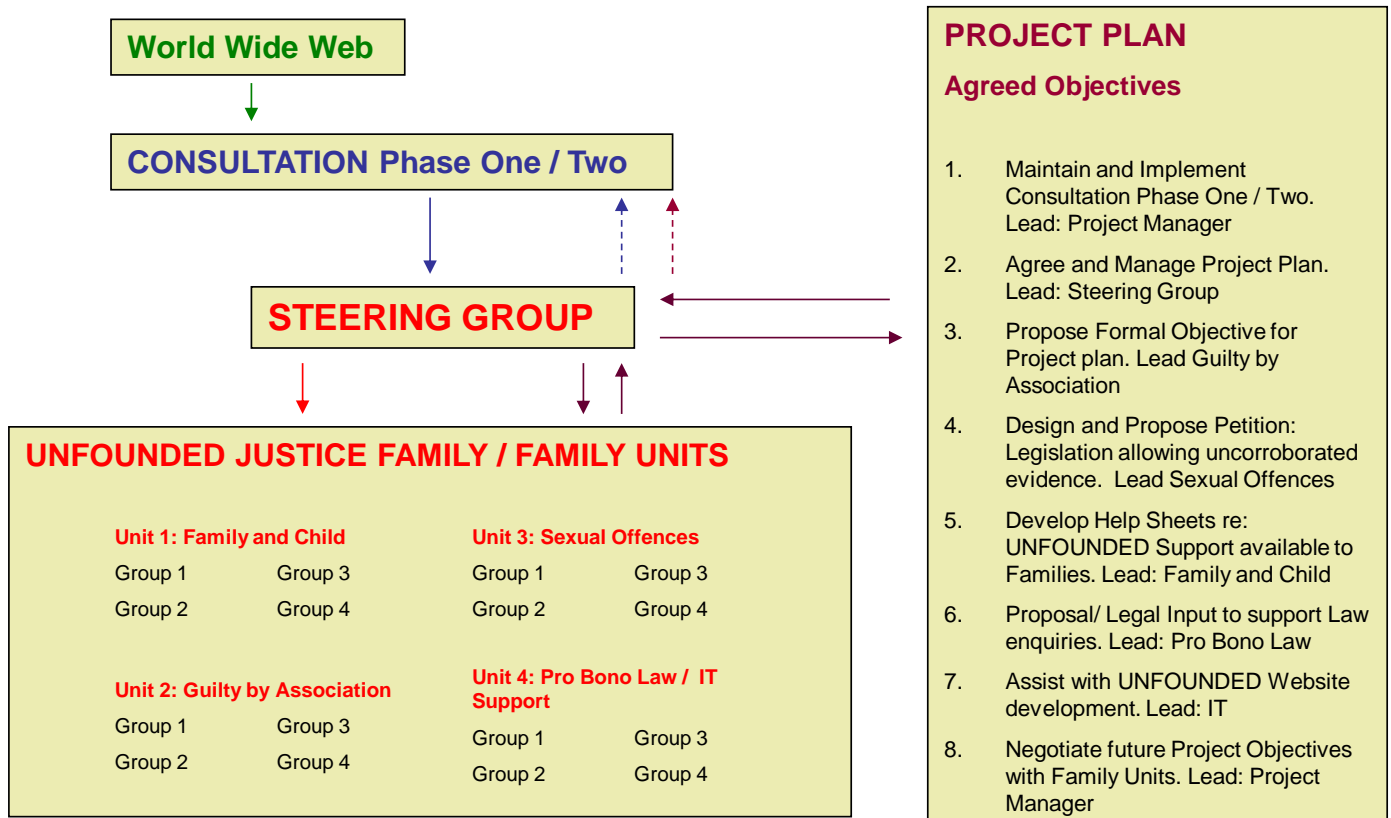
11. Membership to the UNFOUNDED Justice Family Alliance will be controlled, with a set of Rules for Application. Current UNFOUNDED Members will automatically be included when they state the intention to remain in the developing Project. The initial Steering Group will be formed from a Nominated Representative, and a Nominated Deputy Representative from each group, if possible.
12. While members of our Justice Family may have suffered terrible wrongs, and may have deep seated unhappiness, it is vital that we act professionally and courteously at all times. A large part of our argument is that our Members provide support to people who have been treated appallingly. We cannot safeguard that notion if any of our Members act badly in return.
13. It is important to remember that children and young people may use our services and support network, and contribute to our shared work. For this reason, but in any case: bad language, swearing, inappropriate postings, petty arguments or general unhelpfulness will not be tolerated, as this could jeopardise the whole Project. This expectation of professional behaviour will extend to the activity within any Member or Group that operates within the UNFOUNDED Umbrella.
14. The UNFOUNDED Project Manager reserves the right to immediately but temporarily remove any person or Group from UNFOUNDED membership should this continuation be considered threatening to the Shared Principles. In this case, a final decision will be made by the Steering Group as soon as possible, but within 14 days of the threat being identified.
15. The UNFOUNDED Project Manager will aim to act impartially, and with a view to representing the views of all Members or allied Groups, and will be monitored to this end by the Steering Group. Any complaints regarding any aspect of the Consultation should be addressed in the first instance to the Project Manager, or to the UNFOUNDED Secretary using the contact details in this document.

UNFOUNDED JUSTICE FAMILY CONSULTATION PROCESS

16. It is vital that the inception of the UNFOUNDED Justice Family is kept as simple as possible. It is better to start small and succeed, rather than to fail due to too many, or unrealistic objectives.
17. Two main areas are proposed as a starting point. Those are: **OBJECTIVE ONE: Forming The UNFOUNDED Justice Family:** and **OBJECTIVE TWO: Setting up a Shared Project Plan via the Steering Group.**
18. **Please see Diagram One,** and which seeks to simply set out the Proposed Project Parameters, subject to Consultation.



Diagram One: November 2019



19. It would seem that inevitably, the various participants may vary dramatically in their Objectives: Some Groups may be concerned with False Sexual Allegations or False Allegations incorporating Guilt by Association. Other groups may be concerned with Justice for Families and Children. There will surely be many other interests from a wide range of service delivery, and this will become clearer through this Consultation.

20. Proposals are expected from a plethora of Justice Groups, and this Project needs to develop a way of supporting each Group in its own goals, while also agreeing Overarching Principles and Objectives that link these objectives together through the shared Project Plan.

MAIN OBJECTIVE ONE: Forming the UNFOUNDED (allegations of abuse) Justice Family

21. Applications to join, or support the UNFOUNDED Justice Family will be welcomed from all voluntary Justice Groups or Individuals concerned with false allegations of abuse. Membership is subject to meeting the stated Criteria, and Subject to adhering to acceptable rules of Conduct. These applications to join the Project as a Member are welcome to commence immediately using secretary@unfounded.org.uk



22. Each Group will, in time, need to provide a Statement of the Group Purpose and an intention of that groups current Objectives and Goals. It is Proposed that we then allocate FAMILY UNITS that share similar Objectives, and within our UNFOUNDED JUSTICE FAMILY. We can then potentially move representation on the Justice Family Steering Group to the FAMILY UNITS, (rather than from each Family Group) and which may encourage working together, and shared support.
23. The UNFOUNDED Project Leader will be responsible for processing both Group and Individual applications, and in conjunction with the UNFOUNDED Justice Family Steering Group. This will include responsibility for obtaining and coordinating the Objectives of each Applicant. The Project Leader will organise, unify, and propose Membership to the Scheme, confirm Membership and propose allocated Family Units.

Pro bono Legal Help and other Allied Service Provider support

24. While at this stage the Project is expecting to work with established Groups, suggestions for inclusion of suitable individuals will be considered. It may be that the Project will accept individuals, subject to affiliation with at least one of the affiliated Groups, but this is open to alternative suggestions via Consultation.
25. Potential Service Providers, such as pro bono legal advisers, Information technology experts, researchers, office management and other allied voluntary skill providers will be encouraged to join the UNFOUNDED Justice Family. The UNFOUNDED Project Leader will develop a process to obtain requests where such expertise is required to support agreed Group Objectives from the Family Groups. These requests for specialised help may then be published, and for acceptance by a relevant service provider who has such capacity. The Project Manager will work at all times to ensure that no person within the Scheme is pressured to do more than they are comfortably able to offer, nor inundated by requests for help.
26. This process will then allow for Groups and Individuals to apply and be accepted onto the Scheme, and for each to be allocated to a suitable Family Unit. A Directory of Groups will be developed from this, to show each Group and Individual set of particular interests and objectives. This Directory may then allow visitors to the UNFOUNDED website to quickly identify any groups that may offer them the support that they require. This piece of work will also inform the entire Project Development and Project Plan. Additionally each Group will be able to refer on, any of their service-users / clients, and who may need either re-direction, or additional service provision from allied Justice Family Members with differing skills.



MAIN OBJECTIVE TWO: Setting up a Shared Project Plan via the Steering Group

27. The responsibility for developing and maintaining the Full UNFOUNDED Project Plan will remain with the UNFOUNDED Justice Family Project Leader. Following the Consultation Period, the Project Plan will be implemented with regard to the issues and ideas that are raised and agreed both within, and as a result of the Consultation Process. The Project Plan will be updated over time and will be published in an agreed format in order to clearly demonstrate the progress of the whole Project.

CONCLUSION

These **are** exciting times, and as we find a way to harness our efforts in order to effect the real changes that we all seek through our individual quest. This Project is an attempt to find a workable, cost effective and uniting way to pool resources, share ideas, form relationships and friendships and move together in shared objectives and goals, while offering our strengths and concern to each other. While I am delighted to have this opportunity to lead the Project, no one person or Group is in Charge. This is a co-operative of like-minded people, forming strength in numbers in a helpful collaboration.

In the same way that you offer your time in a voluntary manner to help others, my time is also offered voluntarily, but more importantly freely. This is in order to make real lasting change, and within this exciting Project to address false allegations of abuse. My undertaking is to do my very best and work in the interests of real Justice, and this approach will treat all contributors with value, dignity and respect. In return my respectful wish is that you interact with me in this same manner, that you offer me your Trust and while contributing whatever and whenever you are comfortably able to give to the Project.

This Consultation document is purely a starting point for discussion as nothing is certain, and all ideas are welcome in order to shape the developments. I do not know what will come out of this Joint Work, or whether this approach will be highly successful. Success however depends on the goals that we all set, and whether we can all find that special way of working together. Outstretch your arms, open up your hearts. Let's work hard together, within a climate of openness and in order to nurture and define our new and forming UNFOUNDED Justice Family.

Yours sincerely,

Mike

Mike Smith
UNFOUNDED Justice Family Consultation Project Leader.