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For immediate release

News Release

Leading London youth violence charity appoints new CEO

Safer London is delighted to announce the appointment of Rosemary Watt-Wyness as its new Chief Executive Officer. A highly experienced and respected leader in the third sector, Rosemary will officially step into the role on 12th May.

Rosemary brings a wealth of experience spanning service delivery, policy development and strategic leadership. Over the past two decades, she has held senior roles in some of the UK's most impactful charities, championing causes focused on mental health, homelessness and community support.

Prior to joining Safer London, Rosemary served as CEO at London Youth for eight years, leading London's largest network of youth organisations. Her career has also included leadership positions at the MS Society as Director of Services and Support, and six years with The King's Trust, where she held roles including Director of Strategy and Director for the South of England.

Rosemary was also CEO of PACE, a former LGBTQIA+ mental health and wellbeing charity, and was Deputy Director at Safe in the City. Earlier in her career, she worked directly with young people as a youth worker, supporting those at risk of exclusion from school.

Rosemary Watt-Wyness, CEO Safer London said: "I am honoured to join Safer London and to lead an organisation with such a crucial mission. I've long admired Safer London's commitment to improving the lives of young Londoners and families impacted by violence and exploitation, and I look forward to working alongside the team, partners and young Londoners themselves to build on this important work."

Janine McDowell, Chair Board of Trustees Safer London said "I am really looking forward to working with Rosemary in her new role, having joined Safer London on an interim basis as COO we are excited that Rosemary will now bring her warm, inspiring and engaging leadership style to the team as CEO. I look forward to seeing what she can achieve in building on the success of Safer London in impacting the lives of young Londoners".

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Notes to Editor:

For further information or interview requests
please contact Helen Green at helengreen@saferlondon.org.uk

About Safer London

Safer London works alongside young Londoners and their families whose lives have already been impacted by violence and exploitation. Through specialist, trauma-informed one-to-one intervention, we support young Londoners to recover, rebuild and move toward the positive futures they deserve.

Last year we reached **1094** young Londoners and families through all our programmes and support. Safer London caseworkers worked alongside **590** young Londoners, providing specialist and intensive one to one support. Safer London's family caseworkers worked with **61** parents/carers, supporting their wellbeing and increasing their resilience and ability to keep their children safe from harm.

Our work includes:

- **Specialist services for girls and young women**, including those involved in the criminal justice system (CJS), providing tailored support to address the specific challenges they face.
- **Specialist support for girls and young women impacted by sexual violence**, with dedicated workers offering expert support to those who have experienced sexual violence.
- **Specialist support around harmful sexual behaviours**, delivered through a distinct service that works with all genders, providing targeted intervention for those exhibiting lower to medium levels of harmful sexual behaviours.
- **Specialist workers experienced in supporting neurodiverse children and young people**, providing tailored interventions to address their unique needs and challenges.
- **Delivery of the Mayor of London's VESS London: The Safe Place service**, supporting young Londoners and families impacted by violence and exploitation.
- **Award-winning programmes**, including **Beyond the Banter**, recognised for their innovative approaches.

Website www.saferlondon.org.uk