

Telford abuse: Victim numbers 'sensationalised' says police chief

Telford MP Lucy Allan [here](#).



Conservative politician Lucy Allan addressed fellow politicians in the wake of reports claiming up to 1,000 children could have been targeted in her Telford constituency. Ms Allan said the cases would not have happened had the victims been from different backgrounds. Ms Allan said the girls were targeted because of their backgrounds.

"It is also why so often they are miscast as bringing it on themselves, they are miscast as indulging in risky behaviour, as being promiscuous, as somehow being to blame for what is happening to them . . . How did it happen that our young girls are being traded for sex in what is becoming a routine way? Whether it's from takeaways or taxis or betting shops, it's happening in our streets."

Meanwhile, the country's top child protection officer said "difficult cultural questions" needed to be asked about the type of abuse seen in Telford. Addressing a Home Affairs

Select Committee, Chief Constable Simon Bailey asked: “What culturally drives this? What culturally permits the type of abuse that we are seeing in that particular offending model?”

But later this morning