

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN  
INFORMATION UPDATE - 174  
1<sup>st</sup> November 2010**

**Scrutiny of vetting and barring scheme gets under way (22/10/10)**

The Government has outlined the terms of a review of the VBS which will re-examine whether it is the most appropriate mechanism to protect children and vulnerable people and, if so, how many roles should be covered by it. The final recommendations will be announced early in the New Year.

HO Minister Lynne Featherstone said:

"While it is vital that we protect the vulnerable, this scheme as it stands is not a proportionate response. There should be a presumption that people wishing to work or volunteer with children and vulnerable adults are safe to do so unless it can be shown otherwise."

"We are also announcing a review of the criminal records regime which has developed piecemeal for years and is due for an overhaul to ensure that we strike a balance between protecting civil liberties and protecting the public."

The terms of reference will set out how the review will consider the fundamental principles and objectives behind the vetting and barring regime, including:

- evaluating the scope of the scheme's coverage;
- the most appropriate function, role and structures of any relevant safeguarding bodies and appropriate governance arrangements; and
- recommending what, if any, scheme is needed now; taking into account how to raise awareness and understanding of risk and responsibility for safeguarding in society more generally.



The review will consider whether the disclosure of minor offences and police intelligence to prospective employers within the criminal records check should still form part of this process.

Registration with the VBS was scheduled to begin in July this year for anyone starting a new job, or moving job who would be working with children or vulnerable adults, but this was halted after the Government announced its intention to fundamentally redraw the system.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?ReleaseID=416144&NewsAreaID=2&HUserID=895,779,891,848,780,867,710,705,765,674,677,767,684,762,718,674,708,683,706,718,674&ClientID=-1>

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/crime/vbs-review-terms>

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/campaigns/Vetting/index.htm>

<http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/layer?topicId=1084537481&furlname=vbs&furlparam=vbs&ref=&domain=www.businesslink.gov.uk>

[www.businesslink.gov.uk/vbs](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/vbs)

**YMCA Insync 2010 standard (26/10/10)**

The Charity Commission has endorsed the Insync 2010 Quality Standards of the National Council of YMCAs.

YMCA England is the umbrella body for 135 independent YMCAs working to support young people, especially in times of need or crisis. The 2010 standards define best practice and will be used to accredit individual YMCAs achieving the standards.

[http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/RSS/News/pr\\_ymca.aspx](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/RSS/News/pr_ymca.aspx)

**Learning lessons from serious case reviews 2009-2010 (28/10/10)**

Ofsted's latest report looks at 147 SCRs evaluated between 01/04/09 AND 31/03/10. SCRs are local enquiries into the death or serious injury of a child where abuse or neglect is known or suspected to be a factor.

Overall, the quality of the reviews themselves continues a strong trend of improvement, with 42% judged good, 42% adequate and 16% judged inadequate. However, many of the cases reviewed reveal the persistence of some key issues in practice which have contributed to shortcomings in the protection of the children involved.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Documents-by-type/Statistics/Other-statistics/Learning-lessons-from-serious-case-reviews-2009-2010>  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/11643/136464/file/Learning%20lessons%20from%20serious%20case%20reviews%2009-2010.pdf>  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/11645/136474/file/Summary%20-%20Learning%20lessons%20from%20serious%20case%20reviews%202009-2010.pdf>

**Family Group Conferencing in Youth Inclusion and Support Panels - Empowering families and preventing crime and anti-social behaviour?**

An evaluation in 5 areas of England and Wales in which the Youth Inclusion and Support Panels had successfully bid to pilot the integration of family group conferencing within YISP processes.

<http://www.yjb.gov.uk/publications/Scripts/rodView.asp?idproduct=486&eP=>  
<http://www.yjb.gov.uk/publications/Resources/Downloads/Family%20Group%20Conferencing%20in%20Youth%20Inclusion%20and%20Support%20Panels.pdf>

**Peter Connelly Serious Case Review reports (26/10/10)**

The Government has published the Serious Case Review reports into the death of Peter Connelly. The reports have been redacted and anonymised to protect the privacy and welfare of vulnerable children and their families. An explanation of the redactions is in the beginning of each report.

Children's Minister Tim Loughton wants today's publication to help enable:

- genuine lessons to be learned
- transparency, to restore public confidence
- the identification of everyone's roles and shared responsibilities.

The SCR overview reports were written by independent authors commissioned by the Haringey LSCB.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/inthenews/pres-ntices/a0065565/peter-connelly-serious-case-review-reports-published>

**First SCR Nov 2008**

<http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/s/first%20serious%20case%20review%20overview%20report%20relating%20to%20peter%20connelly%20dated%20november%202008.pdf>

**2<sup>nd</sup> SCR March 2009**

<http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/s/second%20serious%20case%20overview%20report%20relating%20to%20peter%20connelly%20dated%20march%202009.pdf>

**1<sup>st</sup> SCR Executive Summary**

<http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/e/executive%20summary%20-%20first%20serious%20case%20review%20overview%20report%20-%20november%202008.pdf>

**2<sup>nd</sup> SCR Executive Summary**


[http://www.haringeylscb.org/executive\\_summary\\_peter\\_final.pdf](http://www.haringeylscb.org/executive_summary_peter_final.pdf)

**'Community Budgets' to help the vulnerable** (22/10/10)

From April next year this first phase of 16 areas covering 31 councils and their partners will be put in charge of 'Community Budgets' that pool various strands of Whitehall funding into a single 'local bank account' for tackling social problems around families with complex needs.

Around £8b a year is spent on around 120,000 families that have multiple problems, with funding only getting to local areas via hundreds of separate schemes and agencies. Despite this investment, these families' problems continue. Services need to join up and intervene earlier so that families are given the chance to turn their lives around. This integrated, early intervention approach will also drive down costs. Community Budgets, which the Government intends to roll out nationally by 2013-14, will put councils and their partners in the driving seat by pooling funds for tackling these families' needs into one budget so communities can develop local solutions to local problems.

Already the Government will be freeing up a further £7b of council funding from red tape and bureaucracy from 2011-12, but Ministers believe even more can be achieved with Community Budgets. By having one budget wrapping money and services around the needs of the vulnerable, councils and partners will be able to directly support those that need help with education, health, anti-social behaviour and housing – instead of maintaining the service organisations.

Ministers believe Community Budgets will also help drive down overhead costs by removing the bureaucratic financial restrictions that have created barriers, generated waste and duplication in public 

spending stifling local innovation. They will be able to redesign and integrate frontline services across organisations and share management functions to reduce running costs for the best local outcomes.

The Government believes all 16 areas have demonstrated that they have strong local relationships involving communities, voluntary sector and public sector players which put them in a strong position to operate the first Community Budgets from 2011-12.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1748111>

**LSCB Lay Members**

The Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 amends the Children Act 2004 to provide for the appointment of two representatives of the local community to each LSCB in England. This requirement came into force from April 2010.

Chapter 3 of Working Together explains that the LA must take reasonable steps to ensure that the LSCB includes two lay members from the local community. The role for lay members should in particular relate to:

- supporting stronger public engagement in local child safety issues and contribute to an improved understanding of the LSCB's child protection work in the wider community; and,
- challenging the LSCB on the accessibility by the public and children and young people of its plans and procedures.

The London Board has developed a set of resources for use by LSCBs when recruiting locally. This includes a sample job description, person specification and confidentiality agreement.

<http://www.londonscb.gov.uk/>

**Criminal Records (Public Access) Bill 2010-11 (22/10/10)**

This is a Private Member's Bill to facilitate access by members of the public to the registers of the Criminal Records Office.  
<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/criminalrecordspublicaccess.html>

**Activity Centres (Young Persons' Safety) (Amendment) Bill 2010-11 (22/10/10)**

This is a Private Member's Bill to abolish the Adventure Activities Licensing Authority; and for connected purposes.  
<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/activitycentresyoungpersonssafetyamendment.html>

**Lords debate on special educational needs (22/10/10)**

A debate on SEN policy, following the Ofsted SEN and disability review, took place in the House of Lords on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2010.

The debate was opened by Baroness Warnock (Crossbench) who is President of the British Dyslexia Association and a former Chair of the Committee of Inquiry into Special Education.  
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/news/2010/10/special-educational-needs-debate/>

4,200 new health visitors to boost young children's and families' health and wellbeing  
<http://www.info4local.gov.uk/filter/?item=1747673>

**Risk of Harm Inspection Report - Getting There Now (26/10/10)**

Follow-up inquiry into the management of offenders' Risk of Harm to others by London Probation Trust  
<http://www.justice.gov.uk/inspectorates/hmi-probation/docs/london-roh-inspection-2010-report-final-rps.pdf>

**Proposed new law to protect the rights of the child needs to go further (26/10/10)**

The National Assembly for Wales's Legislation Committee No. 5 has backed, in principle, the Welsh Government's proposed Rights of Children and Young Persons Measure.

The proposed Measure aims to place the rights of the child firmly at the centre of government decision making by compelling Welsh Ministers to have due regard to the UNCRC when implementing policy.

However, the proposed Measure specifies that Welsh Ministers would only need to apply the due regard duty when making 'relevant decisions', which are decisions of a 'strategic nature'.

The committee believes the proposed Measure should be strengthened and Welsh Ministers should have due regard 'when exercising their functions'.

As well as imposing a duty on Welsh Ministers to pay due regard to the UNCRC, it will also make provision about:

- the preparation of a Children's Scheme to ensure compliance with the proposed Measure;
- the Welsh Government being required to report about its compliance with the duty;
- promoting knowledge and understanding of UNCRC;
- amending legislation to give further or better effect to the UNCRC;
- consultation on the possible application of the proposed Measure to persons who have reached 18 but are not yet 25.

<http://www.assemblywales.org/newhome/new-news-third-assembly.htm?act=dis&id=200801&ds=10/2010>

### **The Care Leavers (England) Regulations 2010 (SI 2571)**

These Regulations revoke, and in part replace with amendment, the Children (Leaving Care) (England) Regulations 2001 (the 2001 Regulations)

They make provision about the advice, assistance and support LAs provide to children and young people aged 16 and over who are no longer “looked after”.

The Regulations include provision for LAs’ assessment of the needs of these young people, about the preparation of the LAs’ plan to provide them with advice, assistance and support, and prescribe the functions of the personal advisers appointed for the young people.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/2571/contents/made>

[http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/2571/pdfs/ukxi\\_20102571\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/2571/pdfs/ukxi_20102571_en.pdf)

[http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/2571/pdfs/ukxiem\\_20102571\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/2571/pdfs/ukxiem_20102571_en.pdf)

### **(C.119)The Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 (Commencement No. 1) (Wales) Order 2010 (SI 2426) (W.208)**

This Order brings into force on 31 October 2010 sections 45 and 46 of the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 in relation to Wales.

Section 45 of that Act inserts a new section 550AA into the Education Act 1996 relating to the power of members of staff to search pupils for weapons.

Section 46 of that Act inserts a new section 85B into the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 relating to the power to search further education students for weapons.

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/wales/wsi/2010/wsi\\_20102426\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/wales/wsi/2010/wsi_20102426_en_1)

[http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2010/2426/pdfs/wsi\\_20102426\\_mi.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2010/2426/pdfs/wsi_20102426_mi.pdf)

### **C4EO Publications (October 2010)**

<http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/default.aspx?themeid=4&accesstypeid=1&tab=publications>

#### **The Family, Parents and Carers summary**

A concise and accessible overview of C4EO’s current work in this theme for DCSs  
[http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/files/family\\_parents\\_and\\_carers\\_directors\\_summary.pdf](http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/files/family_parents_and_carers_directors_summary.pdf)

#### **Improving the safety, health and wellbeing of children through improving the physical and mental health of mothers, fathers and carers**

[http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/physicalmentalhealth/files/physical\\_mental\\_health\\_research\\_review.pdf](http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/physicalmentalhealth/files/physical_mental_health_research_review.pdf)

[http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/physicalmentalhealth/files/physical\\_mental\\_health\\_research\\_summary.pdf](http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/physicalmentalhealth/files/physical_mental_health_research_summary.pdf)

#### **Improving children’s outcomes by supporting parental and carer-couple relationships and reducing conflict within families, including domestic violence**

[http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/reducingconflict/files/reducing\\_conflict\\_research\\_review.pdf](http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/reducingconflict/files/reducing_conflict_research_review.pdf)

[http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/reducingconflict/files/reducing\\_conflict\\_research\\_summary.pdf](http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/reducingconflict/files/reducing_conflict_research_summary.pdf)

#### **Improving children’s and young people’s outcomes through support for mothers, fathers, and carers**

[http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/effectivesupport/files/effective\\_support\\_research\\_review.pdf](http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/effectivesupport/files/effective_support_research_review.pdf)

[http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/effectivesupport/files/effective\\_support\\_research\\_summary.pdf](http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/families/effectivesupport/files/effective_support_research_summary.pdf)

**Omalizumab for the treatment of severe persistent allergic asthma in children aged 6-11 (27/10/10)**

Omalizumab is not recommended as a treatment for severely asthmatic children under the age of 12, according to this guidance. Although it is recommended in specific circumstances for people aged 12 and over with this type of asthma, the evidence for this younger age group showed the drug offered limited benefits compared with currently available treatments, meaning the extra cost of the drug does not represent good value for money for the NHS.

However, the guidance does state that children currently receiving omalizumab should be able to continue with the treatment until it is considered appropriate to stop.

<http://guidance.nice.org.uk/TA201>  
<http://guidance.nice.org.uk/TA201/Guidance/pdf/English>  
<http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/pressreleases/AsthmaForUnder12s.jsp>

**Nocturnal enuresis - the management of bedwetting in children and young people (27/10/10)**

For the first time, national guidance has been published on how to treat children and young people who wet the bed.

While bedwetting is an extremely common condition, children are generally expected to no longer wet the bed (to be “dry”) by a developmental age of five. Historically it has been common practice to only consider treating children for their bedwetting when they reach seven years.

However, in a change to current clinical practice, NICE has not specified a minimum age limit in its new clinical guideline on the assessment and management of this condition. This means that healthcare



professionals are now more likely to consider whether children under 7 may benefit from appropriate advice and treatments currently available on the NHS.

Among the recommendations, NICE advises NHS healthcare professionals involved in the treatment of bedwetting (known clinically as nocturnal enuresis) to:

- Not exclude under-7s from the management of bedwetting on the basis of age alone.
- Inform the child and their parents or carers that bedwetting is not the child's fault, so punitive measures should not be used.
- Encourage parents to reward their children for agreed behaviour rather than for dry nights, e.g. for drinking the recommended levels during the day, going to the toilet before sleep, taking medication, or for helping to change the sheets.
- Discuss with the child's parents or carers whether they need support, particularly if they are having difficulty coping with the bedwetting, or if they are expressing anger, negativity or blame towards the child.
- Address excessive or insufficient fluid intake or abnormal toileting patterns before starting other treatment for bedwetting in children.
- Refer children who have not responded to courses of treatment with an alarm and/or desmopressin (a medication that slows down urine production at night) to a relevant specialist, so that they can be assessed for factors that may be associated with a poor response, e.g. an overactive bladder, an underlying disease, or social and emotional factors.

<http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/pressreleases/nocturnalenuresisguidancelaunched.jsp>  
<http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/index.jsp?action=byID&o=13246>

**Evaluation schedule for the inspection of LA private fostering services (25/10/10)**

This sets out the judgements that inspectors will make and report on when inspecting LA private fostering services from Nov 2010.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/Other/General/Evaluation-schedule-for-the-inspection-of-local-authority-private-fostering-services>  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/11621/136254/file/Evaluation%20schedule%20for%20private%20fostering.pdf>

**Framework for the inspection of LA private fostering services (25/10/10)**

This sets out the statutory basis for inspection and summarises the main features of these inspections carried out under Education and Inspections Act 2006.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/Other/General/Framework-for-the-inspection-of-local-authority-private-fostering-services>  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/11619/136244/file/Framework%20for%20private%20fostering.pdf>

**Inspections of safeguarding and looked after children services: framework for inspection and guidance for local authorities and partners (28/10/10)**

This sets out the framework and guidance for inspections of safeguarding and looked after children.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/Other/General/Inspections-of-safeguarding-and-looked-after-children-services-framework-for-inspection-and-guidance-for-local-authorities-and-partners>  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/11657/136564/file/Framework%20for%20inspections%20of%20safeguarding%20and%20>

**Inspections of safeguarding and looked after children services: evaluation schedule and grade descriptors (28/10/10)**

This evaluation schedule set out the areas of safeguarding and looked after children's services to be inspected from Nov 2010.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/Other/General/Inspections-of-safeguarding-and-looked-after-children-services-evaluation-schedule-and-grade-descriptors>  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/11655/136554/file/Evaluation%20schedule%20and%20grade%20descriptors%20for%20safeguarding%20and%20looked%20after%20children.pdf>

**Conducting safeguarding and looked after children inspections (28/10/10)**

This guidance is designed to assist inspectors when conducting inspections of safeguarding and looked after children services in LAs.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/Other/General/Conducting-safeguarding-and-looked-after-children-inspections>  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/11653/136544/file/Conducting%20safeguarding%20and%20looked%20after%20children%20inspections.pdf>

**Schools and inspection digest (25/10/10)**

This lists key articles in *Schools and inspection* (previously *Inspection Matters*).

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Documents-by-type/Newsletters/Back-issues/Schools-and-inspection-aka-Inspection-Matters/Schools-and-inspection-digest>  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/9257/102061/file/Schools%20and%20inspection-Inspection%20Matters%20digest.pdf>

### **Schools and inspection: October 2010**

This newsletter provides inspectors and stakeholders with information and guidance about Ofsted's inspection work in schools.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Documents-by-type/Newsletters/Back-issues/Schools-and-inspection-aka-Inspection-Matters/Schools-and-inspection-October-2010>

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/11616/136214/file/Schools%20and%20Inspection%20Oct%202010.pdf>

### **Registered childcare providers and places in England – Dec 08 onwards (28/10/10)**

Ofsted has a database of registered childcare providers in England, including the maximum number of places a provider may offer at any one time.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Documents-by-type/Statistics/Childcare-and-early-years/Childcare-providers-and-places/Registered-childcare-providers-and-places-in-England-December-2008-onwards>

### **Early years registered providers inspections outcomes (28/10/10)**

This page has statistics for inspection of registered providers in England since the introduction of the EYFS on 01/09/08. The EYFS is the regulatory and quality framework for the provision of learning, development and care for children 0-5.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Documents-by-type/Statistics/Childcare-and-early-years/Early-years-inspection-outcomes/Early-years-registered-providers-inspections-outcomes>

### **Portability of CRB Checks (20/10/10)**

As part of the Government Spending Review, the CRB will be adopting an idea suggested by the public through the Spending Challenge process. The department will make it possible for employers to share CRB checks, reducing the need for multiple checks. The Government aims to introduce legislation in the Freedom Bill once detailed proposals have been modelled, developed and tested.

Today's announcement does not pre-empt the criminal records and vetting and barring regime review.

<http://www.crb.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

### **Working together to safeguard children - change to statutory guidance (21/10/10)**

On 22/09/10 Tim Loughton, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families, wrote to DCSs and LSCB chairs to inform them of a change to the statutory guidance set out in *WT 2010* insofar as it relates to Government offices from 01/10/10. You can download a copy of:

- Tim Loughton's letter
  - the letter sent to DCSs and LSCB chairs by Jeanette Pugh, Director of the Safeguarding Group, to confirm arrangements for the gathering of information on serious child care incidents and handling of CP related correspondence
- <http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/safeguardingandsocialworkreform/a0064974/working-together-to-safeguard-children-change-to-statutory-guidance>
- <http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/t/tim%20loughton%20letter%20to%20dcss%20and%20lscb%20chairs%20%20%2022%20september%202010.pdf>
- <http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/j/jeanette%20pugh%20letter%20to%20dcss%20and%20lscb%20chairs%20%20%2028%20september%202010.pdf>

**THINK! reminds children to be bright to be seen** (27/10/10)

Children are today being urged to 'be bright and be seen' ahead of the clocks going back this weekend.

The DT's THINK! road safety campaign is reminding children of some top tips to help them be seen when out and about on the roads:

1. Wear brightly coloured or fluorescent clothing which shows up well in daylight and at dusk.
2. If you're out and about when it's dark, wear reflective gear to make sure you can be seen in car headlights. Reflective vests, sashes or wristbands work well. Remember, fluorescent clothing doesn't work after dark.
3. Use accessories - even small items such as clip-on reflectors, fluorescent arm bands and stickers on your school bag are a great way to improve your visibility.
4. If you like to cycle, remember that it's the law to have clean and working lights at night (white at the front and red at the back) as well as a rear reflector.
5. Being bright isn't the only way to stay safer. If you're out at night, choose routes and crossing places that are well lit and remember to always use the Green Cross Code.

The THINK! Tales of the Road website has interactive games and exercises explaining the importance of being visible on the road. Children can visit:

<http://talesoftheroad.direct.gov.uk/be-bright.php>.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/clientmicrosite/Content/Detail.aspx?ClientId=202&NewsAreaId=2&ReleaseID=416212&SubjectId=36>

**More Help for Disadvantaged Families** (28/10/10)

Twice as many disadvantaged families and new mums and dads will get help from a programme which provides intensive support and home visits from early pregnancy until a child is 2 years old, Health Secretary Andrew Lansley has announced.

So far, around 6,000 families in England have benefitted from Family Nurse Partnerships. The Government is committed to doubling that number by 2015.

FNPs complement and support the work of health visitors, providing the "intensive care" end of prevention for families who need more help to care well for their children and themselves.

Family nurses build close, supportive relationships with families and guide first-time teenage parents so that they adopt healthier lifestyles for themselves and their babies, provide good care for their babies and plan their futures. Dads are also involved in many visits and are enthusiastic about the programme.

Early evidence suggests that parents involved in the scheme:

- are reducing smoking in pregnancy and are more likely to breastfeed;
- have aspirations for the future and are taking up employment and education opportunities; and
- are more confident as parents and are learning how to care well for their babies.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?ReleaseID=416243&NewsAreaID=2&HUserID=895,779,891,848,780,867,710,705,765,674,677,767,684,762,718,674,708,683,706,718,674&ClientID=-1>

### **4,200 New Health Visitors to Boost Young Children's and Families' Health and Wellbeing (21/10/10)**

A national recruitment drive to create 4,200 new HVs and build a rejuvenated profession, means the numbers of HVs working closely with families in the community will increase by almost 50%. There will also be:

- new improved training programme;
- focus on recruiting and retaining workers;
- new vision and identity for the profession.

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/MediaCentre/PressReleases/DH\\_120742](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/MediaCentre/PressReleases/DH_120742)

### **Recruiting Safely National Training Programme (19/10/10)**

The RSNTTP is a new face-to-face national training programme designed to equip anyone recruiting into the children's workforce with the knowledge and skills to recruit staff and volunteers safely. This is part of a wider suite of CWDC training and resources, including 'Recruiting Safely; guidance to help keep children and young people safe' (CWDC, 2009) and the Recruiting Safely Online Training.

Action for Children is leading a consortium including The Lucy Faithfull Foundation and Manchester Metropolitan University to deliver the programme on behalf of CWDC. The courses, available from Nov 2010, will be interactive and multimodal addressing a range of learning styles. Participants will develop and demonstrate competence through trainer-led discussion, presentation, learning and case studies. Successful completion is recognised through a certificate by CWDC valid for 5 years.

<http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/news/509/Recruiting-safely-national-training-programme>

[http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/news/4255\\_recruiting-safely-national-training-programme](http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/news/4255_recruiting-safely-national-training-programme)

### **Response to comments and recommendations from the Lambert Report (22/10/10)**

This action plan provides an update of the Government response to the comments and recommendations from David Lambert's review of the operational procedures for the identification, placement and safeguarding of vulnerable young people in custody, which was first published in 2006. It provides an update of the progress made against each of the recommendations.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/13924.htm>

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/docs/lambert-report-response.pdf>

### **Response to coroners' recommendations from Gareth Myatt and Adam Rickwood inquests (26/10/10)**

This is an updated version of the action plan outlining the government's response to coroners' recommendations in the inquests into the deaths of two teenagers in secure training centres. It provides an update of the progress made against each of the recommendations since the document was first published in March 2008.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/latest-updates/response-myatt-rickwood.htm>

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/about/docs/response-inquest-myatt-rickwood.pdf>

### **MAPPA Annual Report (27/10/10)**

The 2009/10 MoJ national statistical bulletin sets out a snapshot of the number of all categories and levels of offender managed under MAPPA, including the number of registered sexual offenders.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/latest-updates/newsrelease271010a.htm>

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/latest-updates/mappa-annual-reports.htm>

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/docs/mappa-stats-release.pdf>

### **Kidscape Schools' Anti-bullying Policy Survey**

In advance of anti-bullying week in November, Kidscape are very keen to find out more about anti-bullying policies in schools across the country, and whether parents feel that schools are working with them to resolve any bullying incidents which may occur.

It has been over 10 years now since schools have been required to have an anti-bullying policy in place, and Kidscape would like to see how useful these policies are when a bullying incident actually occurs.

Kidscape's online survey is open to all parents in the UK with at least one child in school. They are trying to get as many responses as possible to our survey, the results of which will help inform future campaigns and projects.

<http://www.kidscape.org.uk/survey/antibullyingpolicy.aspx>  
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/XBWQW2K>

### **Over quarter of a million people pledge their support for anti-bullying march as research shows children feel 'unsafe' in schools (27/10/10)**

71% of children feel unsafe at school, with 17% of under 14 year olds admitting that they would consider carrying a weapon to school to keep themselves safe, research by Beatbullying reveals.

A further 81% believe that bullying should be made a crime, with half feeling their school would take no action if they were to report instances of bullying and a further half deliberately playing truant for fear of being bullied or even physically abused.



The research follows Beatbullying's announcement of The Big March, a global online protest to deliver a virtual petition to Government asking for help to protect children and young people from all forms of bullying and harassment.

Over 260,000 schools, organisations, charities and individuals have pledged their support to the March which takes place on November 15, the start of Anti-Bullying Week.

<http://www.beatbullying.org/dox/media-centre/press-releases/Oct%202010/250000-support-big-march.html>

### **No health without public mental health: the case for action (26/10/10)**

Psychiatrists are calling on the government to put mental health at the heart of their new public health strategy, due to be unveiled later this year.

This report from the Royal College of Psychiatrists shows that:

- People with a mental disorder smoke almost half of all tobacco consumed in the UK and account for almost half of all smoking-related deaths.
- Depression doubles the risk of developing coronary heart disease.
- People with schizophrenia and bipolar disorder die an average 20 years earlier than the general population, largely owing to physical health problems.
- People with two or more long-term physical illnesses have a 7 times greater risk of depression.
- Children from the poorest households have a three-fold greater risk of mental ill health than children from the richest households.

<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/press/pressreleases2010/publicmentalhealth.aspx>  
<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/PDF/Position%20Statement%204%20website.pdf>

**Transforming education outside the classroom** (22/10/10)

The Education Committee has published the responses from the Government and Ofsted to its predecessor Committee's report on transforming education outside the classroom.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/201011/cmselect/cmeduc/525/52502.htm>

**The role and performance of Ofsted** (27/10/10)

The Education Committee holds its first oral evidence session for its inquiry on the role and performance of Ofsted at 9.30 am on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/education-committee/news/role-and-performance-of-ofsted-oral-evidence-session/>

**Relay – Child Protection in Sport Unit** (Autumn 2010)

The latest edition of this newsletter includes the following issues:

- UNICEF review recognises UK work
- Under 18s are represented on the British Aikido Board steering group
- Lead Officer Support Forum
- Framework for embedding safeguarding practice
- Humber Safeguarding through Sport Group
- Meeting between Government, CPSU and Sport Wales
- International symposium on elite child athlete welfare
- Key messages from research
- The role of the local authority designated officer (LADO)

[http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/cpsu/newsandevents/relay/relay\\_wda60557.html](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/cpsu/newsandevents/relay/relay_wda60557.html)

**New plans for a national police air service** (26/10/10)

A new NPAS is set to provide a more efficient and accessible air support service throughout England and Wales that replaces the current system with a service organised nationally, but delivered locally. The government has expressed a commitment to establishing NPAS by April 2012.

[http://www.acpo.police.uk/pressrelease.asp?PR\\_GUID={4159BF46-892A-4ABA-B06E-8B2909D1353A}](http://www.acpo.police.uk/pressrelease.asp?PR_GUID={4159BF46-892A-4ABA-B06E-8B2909D1353A})

## Conferences

### **Promoting respectful relationships - Tackling gender-based bullying in schools**

12<sup>th</sup> November 2010 Cardiff Free

This is a free conference funded by the Welsh Assembly Government and organised by NSPCC Cymru/Wales.

This conference will enable those who work in, for, or on behalf of schools to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding required to tackle gender-based bullying in schools.

Delegates can expect:

- Presentations from a range of experts, including Kate Bennett (Equalities and Human rights Commission) who will be chairing the day.
- Keynote presentations from NSPCC and UKCISS with up-to-date research information.
- A choice of interactive workshops from Childline, Stonewall, WISE KIDS, Barnardo's, Womankind and Theatriolo.
- An opportunity to exchange ideas and information with educational professionals across the spectrum.
- The opportunity to discuss with agencies the type of support available to schools in delivering targeted programmes and services to children and young people.
- An exhibition area with a range of information from several organisations to add to the resource pack handed out to delegates when leaving the conference.

[http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/newsandevents/cpconferences/promoting\\_respectful\\_relationships\\_wda78993.html](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/newsandevents/cpconferences/promoting_respectful_relationships_wda78993.html)

### **Facing up to Facebook**

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010

Cardiff

9<sup>th</sup> February 2011

North Wales

£110 - £150 + VAT

This conference will explore the impact of social networking websites on adopted children and young people, and on those in care. It will provide

- the latest information about technological developments while reminding delegates of research evidence on openness and contact.
- an opportunity to discuss practice issues, while providing practical guidance about managing social networking services.

It will also position social networking sites and adoption and children in care within the broader issue of child safety and the Internet.

<http://www.baaf.org.uk/training/110209>

### **What future for children and young people's civil rights?**

Annual children's rights conference

19<sup>th</sup> November 2010

London

£140 - £205 + VAT

After the General Election, the Government announced 'sweeping legislation to restore the hard won liberties that have been taken one by one from the British people'. The Deputy PM has promised the Government 'will end practices that risk making Britain a place where our children grow up so used to their liberty being infringed that they accept it without question'.

Attend this conference and join debates about the current state of children and young people's civil rights, and help set the agenda for change.

<http://www.cypnow.co.uk/events/article/7692/datefrom/20101101/>

<http://www.crae.org.uk/assets/files/CRAE%20conference%20flyer%202010.pdf>

## Conferences (continued)

### **Learning from experience in inter-agency training**

7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2010      Leicester  
£339 - £399

This symposium is produced to empower agency trainers to address the national child protection agenda and share best practice.

#### Objectives

- To provide an opportunity to reflect critically on the child protection debate.
- To share and learn from examples of good inter-agency training practice.
- To reinvigorate inter-agency trainers' confidence and enhance their skills and knowledge.

#### What can you expect?

- Updates on research, policy and practice developments in the field and from across the UK.
- Keynote presentations that stimulate thinking and strengthen practice within inter-agency training.
- Workshops that explore both core and innovative subjects in safeguarding training.
- Opportunities to network and share resources with others involved in inter-agency training and development
- an opportunity to listen to young people's views about what practitioners do well and what they could improve.

Registration is now open.

[http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/newsandevents/cpconferences/piat-symposium\\_wda50415.html](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/newsandevents/cpconferences/piat-symposium_wda50415.html)

### **Not in Education, Employment or Training - NORTH**

8<sup>th</sup> December 2010      Leeds  
£225 - £545 + VAT

Being NEET is associated with poor life chances, a high probability of unemployment and a long-term cost to the public purse.

This Conference provides delegates with the latest policy initiatives and essential practical guidance for reducing NEETs.

With the most recent statistics showing that 15.3% of young people in England were NEET in the first quarter of 2010\*, the Government has outlined plans to “get Britain working”.

#### This conference will address:

- Key policy changes delivered by the Young People's Learning Agency, the NYA and the LGA
- The increasing role of LAs in reducing levels of young people who are NEET
- The importance of preventative measures to tackle disengagement  
Meeting local needs through strategic commissioning
- Examples of effective partnership working between key agencies
- The Big Society's impact on supporting young people

<http://www.capitaconferences.co.uk/public-sector-conferences/employment-skills/full-conference/article/not-in-education-employment-or-training-neet-national-conference-copy-1.html>

This weekly newsletter collates information from various sources that is relevant to safeguarding children. Anyone working in this area who would like to be added to the circulation list can forward their details to – [keithdriver@btinternet.com](mailto:keithdriver@btinternet.com)