

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
INFORMATION UPDATE - 194
12th August 2011**

Government commits to child protection in video-on-demand services in light of Ofcom report (04/08/11)

The strict controls to prevent children from accessing hard-core pornographic material through VoD services will be secured as part of the review of communications legislation, the Communications Minister has announced. Rules are already in place which mean that video which the BBFC would classify as R18 – pornography which is explicit and sold in licensed sex shops, but not illegal – can be made available through VoD services only if controls are in place to prevent children from accessing it.

The Authority for Television On Demand is the independent regulator for VoD services and enforces regulations which ensure that any material which might seriously impair children’s physical, mental or moral development must not be freely available.

Access controls such as pin protection must be put in place if R18-type content is to be made available on anytime television services or TV-like services over the internet. But, in the light of an Ofcom report which recommended a precautionary approach to protecting children and new legislation, the Government has committed to securing the present controls and looking at whether the legal position should be bolstered further by future-proofing legislation as part of the current review of communications policy.

http://www.culture.gov.uk/news/media_releases/8368.aspx

<http://stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/internet/Sexually-Explicit-Material-VOD.pdf>

Use of reasonable force - Advice for head teachers, staff and governing bodies (02/08/11)

The term ‘reasonable force’ covers the broad range of actions used by most teachers at some point in their career that involve a degree of physical contact with pupils. Force is usually used either to control or restrain and can range from guiding a pupil to safety by the arm through to more extreme circumstances such as breaking up a fight or where a student needs to be restrained to prevent violence or injury.

This non-statutory advice is aimed at governing bodies, head teachers and staff in all schools. It aims to provide clarification on the use of force to help school staff feel more confident about using this power when they feel it is necessary and to make clear the responsibilities of head teachers and governing bodies in respect of this power.

<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/publicationDetail/Page1/DFE-00060-2011>

<http://www.education.gov.uk/f0077153/use-of-reasonable-force-advice-for-school-leaders-staff-and-governing-bodies>

[https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/Download?DownloadPublicationReference=DFE-00060-2011&DownloadItemReference=Use%20of%20Reasonable%20Force%20-%20Advice%20for%20head%20teachers%20C%20staff%20and%20governing%20bodies\(DfES%20Online%20Store\)&DocumentType=PDF&Url=%2Fpublications%2FeOrderingDownload%2Fuse%20of%20reasonable%20force%20-%20advice.pdf](https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/Download?DownloadPublicationReference=DFE-00060-2011&DownloadItemReference=Use%20of%20Reasonable%20Force%20-%20Advice%20for%20head%20teachers%20C%20staff%20and%20governing%20bodies(DfES%20Online%20Store)&DocumentType=PDF&Url=%2Fpublications%2FeOrderingDownload%2Fuse%20of%20reasonable%20force%20-%20advice.pdf)

SEND green paper pathfinders (02/08/11)

Following the publication of the green paper *Support and aspiration: A new approach to special educational needs and disability*, the DfE and DH are now seeking bids from prospective green paper pathfinders. At the same time the Departments are tendering separately for organisations to support the pathfinders and evaluate the programme.

The pathfinders will be funded to test the core proposals from the green paper: a single assessment process; 'Education, Health and Care Plan'; greater engagement of the voluntary sector; and use of personal budgets.

Bids should come from local area partnerships between LAs and PCT clusters. We are encouraging bids from partnerships of more than one local area, but bids from single LAs working with PCT clusters will also be accepted.

The pathfinder programme will be fully evaluated. We are seeking expressions of interest from an evaluation team to work with pathfinders over the next 18 months.

Pathfinders will benefit from support from an organisation that can provide timely advice, and access to shared learning from all the sites. We are seeking bids from organisations who would like to support pathfinders over the next 18 months.

Closing date: 15th August 2011

<http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/sen/b00191706/send-green-paper-pathfinders>

High profile abuse cases highlight the need for prompt referrals to the Independent Safeguarding Authority (29/07/11)

The abuse of vulnerable adults at Winterbourne Hospital and the abuse perpetrated at the Little Stars nursery have highlighted the need for prompt referrals to the ISA. So says Adrian McAllister, the ISA's Chief Executive.

The ISA was set up by Government to make independent barring decisions on people who have harmed or present a risk of harm to children or vulnerable adults. A bar by the ISA prevents people from working or volunteering with either of these vulnerable groups or both.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?ReleaseID=420630&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>

Cafcass Care Demand – latest figures for July 2011

2011-2012: Care application demand has remained at a very high level. Between April and July 2011, Cafcass received 3,213 new applications. This figure is 7.1% higher when compared to the same period last year. The May, June and July application numbers were the highest ever recorded by Cafcass for these individual months

http://www.cafcass.gov.uk/publications/care_demand_statistics.aspx

Delivering collective pledges (01/08/11)

Guidance which provides advice, guidance and resources to support Responsibility Deal partners in delivering the physical activity collective pledges.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_128844

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_128845.pdf

Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Consultation responses (27/07/11)

This is a summary of responses to:

- Healthy Lives, Healthy People: our strategy for public health in England;
- Healthy lives, Healthy People: consultation on the funding and commissioning routes for public health;
- Healthy Lives, Healthy People: transparency in outcomes - proposals for a public health outcomes framework; and
- Review of public health professional regulation.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Responsestoconsultations/DH_128838

Procedure for the transfer from custody of children and young people under the Mental Health Act 1983 in England (01/08/11)

The procedure for transferring to and from hospital under the Mental Health Act 1983 any child or young person who is:

- detained in custody in pursuance of any sentence or order for detention;
- remanded in custody or who is otherwise detained in custody.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_128853

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_128855.pdf

National Child Measurement Programme: Operational guidance for the 2011/12 school year (02/08/11)

Guidance on delivery of the NCMP in the 2011/12 school year

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_129001

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_129004.pdf

Child weight management programme and training providers framework (04/08/11)

The Child weight management programme and training providers framework includes nine pre-qualified training provider organisations. It has been developed to support local commissioning of weight management services for children and young people. The providers all offer training in the delivery of specific approaches to weight management in at risk, overweight and obese children and young people.

These documents provide further information on how to use the framework, information on each of the providers, details of how PCTs and partner organisations can 'call off' services from these providers and a set of template documents to support commissioners.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_129175

http://www.dh.gov.uk/dr_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_098432.pdf

http://www.dh.gov.uk/dr_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_129177.pdf

Re:Actions A third review of healthcare in the community for young people who offend (29/07/11)

This review assessed whether young people had their physical, emotional and mental health needs assessed on contact with YOTs, as well as their need for alcohol and substance misuse support programmes. It also looked at how YOTs work with health partners and how well C&YP's health needs are provided for as they move in and out of the criminal justice system.

It found that access to and management of health services for this group have improved since the last review in 09. One of the most notable changes is that YOT boards now include a health worker and nearly all YOTs have a service level agreement with their respective PCTs. PCTs financial contribution to YOTs has also increased from 3.4% in 2008 to an average of 5.4% of the overall YOT budget.

However further progress is still required. YOTs are still not planning and integrating offending services with health services enough and the physical health needs of the children and young people they work with are still not always sufficiently assessed. Insufficient numbers of YOTs are monitoring how effective support from health services can be, meaning they're not always learning what works well for future planning or justifying the money they're spending on health services.

There remain problems with services such as alcohol or substance misuse programmes or mental health support being provided consistently when children and young people move between a secure setting and the community and from young people's services to adults' services. This is important because the young person's



contact with their support programme can stop altogether, and the programme thus fails to have any positive impact.

Recommendations

In order to enable better health outcomes for young people who offend or who are likely to offend, YOTs, PCTs (or future equivalent) and other relevant agencies or organisations involved with this group of young people should ensure that:

- The resourcing of health provision in YOTs is better planned, targeted and allocated.
- Improvements to health provision in the YOT are based on high-quality health information that is gathered from different sources.
- Each young person has an appropriate assessment of their physical health needs.
- Health and offending behaviour intervention plans are well integrated.
- There is a greater use of family-based work and home visits by health workers.
- Health practitioners and YOT case managers share relevant information in relation to both custody and community settings.
- YOT case managers' and health practitioners' joint outcome measures include the impact of health contributions on offending behaviour.

http://www.cqc.org.uk/newsandevents/pressreleases.cfm?cit_id=37477&FAArea1=customWidgets.content.view.1&usecache=false
http://www.cqc.org.uk/db/documents/Reactions_3rd_review_of_YOT_healthcare_2011_07285843.pdf

National evaluation of Sure Start local programmes: An economic perspective (July 2011)

The first 524 SSLPs were established between 1999 and 2003. They were aimed at families with children up to age 4 living in disadvantaged areas. The aim was to bring together early education, childcare, health services and family support to promote the physical, intellectual and social development of babies and children.

This report discusses the economic issues arising out of the evaluation of the impact of SSLPs in England.

<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/RSG/AllPublications/Page1/DFE-RR073>

<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/RSG/AllRsgPublications/Page1/DFE-RB073>

Disabled Children's access to Childcare: a qualitative evaluation (July 2011)

The DCATCH pilot was a specific element of the Aiming High for Disabled Children initiative dedicated to improving childcare provision for this group of children and their families. This initiative involved funding 10 LAs to pilot ways of improving the range and quality of childcare for families of disabled children, and involving families in shaping childcare services.

This report presents the findings of 2 qualitative studies:

- of families' views on the acceptability and impact of DCATCH, and
- (ii) a process evaluation of three themes identified by the scoping study: brokerage; information and outreach; and the provision of additional services (including one-to-one support for disabled children in group settings).

<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/RSG/AllRsgPublications/Page1/DFE-RR146>

Individual budgets for families with disabled children (July 2011)

Personalisation of public services has been a consistent policy direction and the recent Green Paper includes a clear expectation of increased choice and control for young people and families. A series of pilots were commissioned to test whether the IB concept worked in practice, and to what extent the approach was cost-effective.

This report presents an assessment of the progress made by the pilot sites, focussing on the means by which the pilots were set-up and delivered, and resource and infrastructure requirements associated with the IB approach.

<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/RSG/AllRsgPublications/Page1/DFE-RR145>

Raising the bar? Evaluation of the Social Pedagogy Pilot Programme in residential children's homes (July 2011)

Over the past decade govt has given much attention to children and young people experiencing family breakdown and being looked after by LAs. It is known that this group is at risk of social exclusion with poor outcomes in later life. Wider policies would be expected to assist this group and their families, including efforts to lift children out of poverty and the investment in Sure Start.

This report aims to:

- evaluate the implementation and impact of the social pedagogy pilot programme; and
- consider whether a social pedagogic approach would be likely to have a positive effect within the context of English residential children's homes.

<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/RSG/AllRsgPublications/Page1/DFE-RR148>

<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/RSG/AllRsgPublications/Page1/DFE-RB148>

ISA - New Referral Guidance (04/08/11)
Employers, social services and professional regulators are under a legal duty to notify the ISA of relevant information, so that individuals who pose a threat to vulnerable groups can be identified and barred from working with these groups.

- If your organisation dismisses or removes a member of staff/volunteer from working with children and/or vulnerable adults (in what is legally defined as regulated activity) because they have harmed a child or vulnerable adult you have a legal duty to inform the Independent Safeguarding Authority.
- An organisation which knowingly employs someone who is barred is breaking the law.
- A person barred from working with children or vulnerable adults is breaking the law if they work/volunteer or seek to work/volunteer with these groups.

This guidance sets out:

- the key elements of the referral process
- the circumstances under which a referral should be made
- the legal responsibilities of employers, including the paid and voluntary sector and also employees
- the main points of the law in relation to referrals

<http://www.isa.homeoffice.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=379>

<http://www.isa.homeoffice.gov.uk/PDF/Referral%20Guidance%20and%20Form%20FINAL%20v%2010-01.pdf>

Curfews extended in tougher community sentences (08/08/11)

Offenders will be forced to spend longer in their homes as daily curfews are extended from 12 to 16 hours as part of tougher community sentences.



The period for which curfews can be imposed will also be extended from 6 to 12 months, to protect communities and ensure offenders face meaningful punishments that help stop them reoffending. Curfews not only restrict liberty but they can help bring order to chaotic lives.

These new proposals are part of the Government's plans to reform sentencing and tackle the root causes of offending.
<http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/curfews-extend-tougher-community-sentences.htm>
<http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/press-releases/moj/16-hours-a-day-on-curfew.htm>

The Edge Gets a Makeover (05/08/11)

The National Youth Agency, as part of its programme of work with the Local Government Group, has re-launched its free publication for elected members after giving it a cutting 'edge' makeover.

The Edge is now a digital magazine filled with policy information, case studies, and examples of best practice and news from local authorities from across the country.

Readers of The Edge provided their views on what they want from the publication and how they would like it to look and feel, through a readership survey undertaken by the National Youth Agency in January this year.

Individual formats have been developed for iPad, Kindle and Android electronic readers and a small number have also been printed for those readers who prefer it in a hard copy format.

<http://www.nya.org.uk/news/the-edge-gets-a-makeover>

New resource for provision of education for young people in custody (11/08/11)

The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 placed specific responsibilities on local authorities relating to provision of education for young people in custody.

A supplementary information pack has now been published by the MoJ in association with the Local Government Group, in relation to duties and responsibilities regarding the education and training of young people in custody, introduced from 1 September 2010.

The pack contains information about individual youth custody establishments, education and training provision, details about partnership-working around the establishments, local arrangements and contact details for key people. It also contains good practice information on enabling relationships to be built with partners in youth justice and children's services and development of systems for sharing and transferring information to inform the education provision for young people in custody and on their release.

The pack provides information, rather than guidance to which LAs must have regard. It is possible that guidance will be issued in the future, once outstanding issues about funding of education provision in custody are resolved.

<http://youthjusticeboard.newsweaver.co.uk/fkdamsfk62o16s49h76f4g?email=true>

<http://youthjusticeboard.newsweaver.co.uk/yots2/1gbptzikeod16s49h76f4g>

An evaluation of approaches to commissioning young people's services (09/08/11)

This report found that LAs are not always considering the voluntary and community sector, charities, or other arms of the public sector, when commissioning services for young people. The report also identifies some of the difficulties being faced by LAs and youth organisations.

Inspectors visited 12 LA areas and met with representatives from key national organisations involved in commissioning services for young people, including national charities, independent local voluntary sector providers and infrastructure organisations.

Commissioning is the process for deciding how to use the total resource available for children, young people, and parents and carers, in order to improve outcomes in the most efficient, effective, equitable and sustainable way.

The LAs that created a culture of shared values, even in a competitive environment, saw more success. Constructive conversations well in advance of commissioning decisions provided local and national organisations a chance to discuss the experience and resources they could bring to young people.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/news/councils-should-adopt-more-collaborative-approach-commissioning-services-for-young-people>

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/evaluation-of-approaches-commissioning-young-peoples-services>

Family justice review: the children's verdict (11/08/11)

Children's views on the recommendations of the Family Justice review Panel 2011. A report by the Children's Rights Director for England

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/family-justice-review-childrens-verdict>
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/surveys-and-good-practice/f/Family%20justice%20review%20the%20children%27s%20verdict.pdf>

Development of new arrangements for the inspection of local authority children's services (05/08/11)

Equality impact assessment

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/development-of-new-arrangements-for-inspection-of-local-authority-childrens-services>

Social care registration project (05/08/11)

Equality impact assessment

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/social-care-registration-project>

Point in time surveys for staff, for parents and carers, and for boarders and residential pupils (08/08/11)

Ofsted carries out these surveys by sending questionnaires by email to the school at a specific point of time during the inspection year, with instructions for distribution and completion.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/point-time-survey-for-staff>

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/point-time-survey-for-parents-and-carers>

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/point-time-survey-for-boarders-and-residential-pupils>

The framework for inspecting boarding and residential provision in schools

(08/08/11)

This document sets out the framework for Ofsted's inspections of boarding and residential provision in maintained, non-maintained and independent boarding and residential special schools in England.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/framework-for-inspecting-boarding-and-residential-provision-schools>

Evaluation schedule for the inspection of boarding and residential provision in schools (08/08/11)

The evaluation schedule provides outline guidance and grade descriptors for the judgements that inspectors will report on when inspecting boarding and residential provision in schools.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/evaluation-schedule-for-inspection-of-boarding-and-residential-provision-schools>

Conducting inspections of boarding and residential provision in schools (08/08/11)

This guidance is designed to assist inspectors when conducting inspections of boarding and residential provision in schools. It informs maintained, non-maintained and independent boarding and residential special schools about how we inspect the residential provision they make for children and young people in their care.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/conducting-inspections-of-boarding-and-residential-provision-schools>

New and updated Ofsted documents

(02-08/08/11)

[Report template - standard \(independent schools\)](#)

[Inspection team briefing \(independent schools\)](#)

[Form A - confirmation that an independent day, boarding or residential special school is causing concern](#)

[Independent schools inspection evidence form](#)

[Report template - emergency inspection \(independent schools\)](#)

[Advice note for an emergency inspection \(independent schools\)](#)

[Advice note for a progress monitoring inspection \(independent schools\)](#)

[Pre-registration regulatory check sheet for an independent day school or a children's home](#)

[Advice note for a pre-registration inspection of an independent day school or a children's home](#)

[Advice note for a pre-registration inspection of a boarding or residential special school](#)

[Advice note for a material change inspection \(independent schools\)](#)

[Pre-registration regulatory check sheet for an academy \(independent schools\)](#)

[Pre-registration regulatory check sheet for an independent boarding school](#)

[Pre-registration regulatory check sheet for an independent residential special school](#)

[Advice note for a pre-registration inspection of an academy \(independent schools\)](#)

[Record of inspection evidence and judgements \(ROIEJ\) for standard inspections \(Independent schools\)](#)

[Advice note for evaluating a school's action plan \(independent schools\)](#)

[Report template - progress monitoring \(independent schools\)](#)

[Children's centres evaluation schedule and grade descriptors](#)

[School self-evaluation: guidance for inspectors](#)

[Framework for the inspection of maintained schools in England from September 2009](#)

[Evidence form for school inspections from September 2009](#)

[Form 1 - confirmation that a school is causing concern or is no longer causing concern](#)

[Pre-inspection briefing for school inspections from September 2009](#)

[Report template for inspections of all-through, primary, secondary and special schools and pupil referral units](#)

[Report template for inspections of nursery schools](#)

[Report writing guidance for school inspections](#)

[Letter to parents for maintained school inspections from September 2009 \(includes the parents' questionnaire\)](#)

[Inspection questionnaire for pupils in Key Stage 2](#)

[Inspection questionnaire for pupils in Key Stage 3, Key Stage 4 and school sixth forms](#)

[Inspection questionnaire for school staff](#)

[School inspections: a guide for parents and carers for inspection from September 2009](#)

[Supplementary guidance and resources for inspectors](#)

[Schools inspection documents: summary of changes](#)

[Conducting school inspections: guidance for inspectors of schools from September 2009](#)

[Evaluation schedule of judgements for schools inspected under section five of the Education Act 2005, from September 2009](#)

[Guidance for schools on the distribution of pupil and staff questionnaires](#)

A step by step guide to making a powdered formula feed (10/08/11)

The DH has produced an A4 size leaflet giving a step by step guide to making a powdered formula feed. This has been developed to help health professionals working with new mums and sits alongside the guide to bottle feeding.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_129344

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_129346.pdf

New government guidance on minicabs to give volunteers and care workers a smoother ride (03/08/11)

Changes to the minicab licensing laws in 2006 mean that some councils have been classing people like childminders - who drive children to and from school in their own vehicles, and care workers - who assist elderly people in their homes, as minicab drivers.

New guidance makes it clearer which vehicles the Government believes need minicab licences – and those that do not, removing the burden on Local Authorities of licensing vehicles unnecessarily.

Groups the Government considers should be exempt from licensing their vehicle are:

- Private ambulances, including emergency vehicles and vehicles which operate as part of a formal patient transport service;
- Volunteers who share their car or provide lifts as part of their voluntary duties;
- Care and support worker services, including those who care for adults in their own homes, in community settings or in residential or nursing care homes;



- Childminders who carry children as passengers as part of their duties;
- Rental car companies and garages offering ‘courtesy lift’ services for customers, for example whilst their car is in for repair.

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/news/press-releases/dft-press-20110803-2>

<http://assets.dft.gov.uk/publications/phv-licensing-guidance-note/phv-licensing-guidance.pdf>

http://www.ncma.org.uk/news_and_events/news/july_-_december_2011/vehicle_registration_guidance.nce.aspx

Parents could lose benefits unless they report that 16-year-olds are staying on in education (11/08/11)

Parents with a teenager approaching 16 should let HMRC know if they are continuing in full time education so they continue to receive child benefit. Parents receive a reminder and form in the post from HMRC, asking them to provide the following information:

- details of the course and qualification
- its start and end dates
- the name and address of the school or college

Parents can also make the necessary changes online at:

www.hmrc.gov.uk/childbenefit/change-circs.htm or by phoning:

Child Benefit Helpline on 0845 302 1444.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?NewsAreaId=2&ReleaseID=420770&SubjectId=2>

Exploring poverty gaps among children in the UK


Measures set out in the Child Poverty Act and in the National Child Poverty Strategy are based on poverty headcounts, i.e. you are either below or above a certain poverty threshold. The most commonly used measure is the 60% relative poverty measure, defined as individuals living in households with incomes below 60% of the median income. The head count does not distinguish between those with incomes just below the poverty line and those deeper in poverty. Policies which improve incomes for those at the bottom of the income distribution will not lead to a fall in measured income poverty, unless incomes are raised sufficiently to cross the chosen poverty threshold, and yet reducing these families' depth of poverty is highly likely to improve living standards.

This paper supplements the headcount measures with analysis of the 'poverty gap' for UK children. The poverty gap measures 'How poor are the poor', i.e. the extent of poverty for those who are below the relative poverty threshold. With this measure, an improvement in incomes for those in poverty which is not sufficient for them to escape poverty, is nevertheless captured as a drop in measured poverty.

http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/report_abstracts/wp_abstracts/wpa_103.asp
<http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/WP103.pdf>

Children neglected children in school holidays (05/08/11)

26% of parents with a child under age of 18 think that children are more likely to be neglected in the summer holidays than term time, according to new figures.

A poll of over 2000 parents, carried out for Action for Children, has found that: 

- 26% of parents questioned said that children are more likely to be neglected in the summer holidays than in term time (dads 29%, dads in North 33%, mums 24%)
- 23% of parents surveyed have worried that their children's friends were being neglected during the summer holidays (26% in North).
- 14% of parents with a child under 18 have fed a child (other than their own) during the school holidays because they weren't sure they were being fed properly at home (17% in the North)
- 9% of all parents surveyed have had another child over to stay the night in the school holidays because they weren't sure they were being looked after properly at home (14% in London).
- 10% of parents surveyed have taken another child on a family trip/ outing in the school holidays because they weren't sure they were being looked after properly.
- 15% of mums surveyed have cared for a child, other than their own, because they thought they were being neglected at home (17% in Wales).

<http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/news/poll-reveals-almost-1-in-4-parents-fear-for-neglected-children-in-school-holidays>

Young Lives in Limbo: the protection of age disputed young people in Wales (10/08/11)

This Welsh Refugee Council report describes the experience of children and young people whose lives are left in limbo, outside of societies protective mechanisms because their age is disputed by the UK Border Agency or LAs.

<http://www.welshrefugeecouncil.org/age-assessment-getting-it-right-2/>
<http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/news/16643.html>

Deputy Minister determined to put Families First (04/08/11)

The Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services, Gwenda Thomas, has issued new guidance to all LAs as part of the next step to eradicating child poverty in Wales.

The 'Families First' programme is a key response to the Welsh Government's Child Poverty Strategy and will be rolled out across Wales from April 2012. It promotes the development of effective multi-agency systems and support for families, particularly those living in poverty.

Families need different levels of support depending on their circumstances. Complicated problems will need more intensive support. However, some families may need help to overcome smaller problems to avoid them becoming complicated. Supporting a family often involves many different teams and services. The Welsh Government wants to ensure that these services work together so the family is well supported.

Families First aims to develop a seamless support service for families alongside other programmes, including Flying Start, Communities First and the Integrated Family Support Service. The Welsh Government previously announced five Families First pioneer areas currently operating Families First.

The Deputy Minister, Gwenda Thomas, has written to the leaders of each of the 22 councils, asking them to work with the Welsh Government in delivering the objectives for children and families over the next 5 years.

<http://wales.gov.uk/newsroom/childrenandyoungpeople/2011/110804familiesfirst/?lang=en>

LINKs struggling to register children's voices (28/07/11)

A new research report on Local Involvement Networks has found that these bodies, set up to give people a say on their local health and social care services, are struggling to properly take into account the views of children and young people.

The research found that LINKs' membership is predominantly made up of older people and their activities are often skewed toward this age group. Across the LINKs surveyed, involvement of children and young people was irregular; with a few engaging fully with young people, while others do nothing with this age group at all.

LINKs are set to be replaced by local and national HealthWatch organisations under reforms included in the Health and Social Care Bill. NCB is calling for the Bill to be amended to make it clear that these organisations have to involve the voice of all health users, including children and young people.

http://www.ncb.org.uk/campaigning/media_news/2011/jul-dec/links_struggling_to_register_c.aspx

The Changing of School Session Times (England) (Revocation) Regulations 2011 SI 1954 (10/08/11)

These Regulations revoke the Changing of School Session Times (England) Regulations 1999 which set out the procedures to be undertaken by the governing body of a community, voluntary controlled or community special school before making any change in the session times of the school. Session times are the times at which each of the school sessions (or, if there is only one, the school session) is to begin and end on any day.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2011/1954/contents/made>

The Head Teachers' Qualifications and Registration (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 SI 1769 (W.196) (05/08/11)

These Regulations amend the Head Teachers' Qualifications and Registration (Wales) Regs 2005 by altering the definition of "The National Professional Qualification for Headship in Wales" in 3(2) of those regs.

The requirements of the "National Professional Qualification for Headship in Wales" will change from completion of a course of training approved by the Welsh Ministers to the fulfilment of certain standards approved by the Welsh Ministers.
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2011/1769/contents/made>

The Toys (Safety) Regulations 2011 SI 1881 (02/08/11)

These Regulations implement Directive 2009/48/EC of the European Parliament and Council of 18/06/09 on the safety of toys. The Directive sets harmonised safety requirements for toys and minimum requirements for market surveillance, ensuring a high level of safety of toys



with a view to ensuring the health and safety of children whilst guaranteeing the functioning of the internal market.

The Directive repeals and replaces Council Directive 88/378/EEC of 03/05/88 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning the safety of toys (OJ No L 187, 16.7.88, p1) (as amended), which was implemented in the UK by the Toys (Safety) Regulations 1995 (SI 1995/204) (as amended).

These Regulations revoke and replace SI 1995/204, subject to continuing application of SI 1995/204 to toys placed on the market before these Regulations come into force. (regulation 2).

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2011/1881/contents/made>

Consultations

Proposed replacement for the licensing regime for adventure activities established under the Activity Centres (Young Persons' Safety) Act 1995 in England

This Consultation Document sets out proposals for replacement arrangements for adventure activities. Replacement arrangements are needed to implement the recommendation in the report *Common Sense Common Safety* to abolish the licensing of four specified adventure activities by the Adventure Activities Licensing Authority, which will occur following the necessary legislative change at a later date.

The questions on the general characteristics of future arrangements will be of interest to providers of adventure activities, as well as their clients and others with an interest.

Closing Date: 21st September 2011
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/consult/condocs/cd236.htm>

Consultation to seek views on EC's proposal for a regulation on food intended for infants and young children and on food for special medical (05/08/11)

The European Commission is reviewing the Framework Directive on PARNUT foods or dietetic foods (2009/39/EC).

PARNUT foods are specially manufactured to satisfy the particular nutritional requirements of specific groups of the population and currently include:

- infant and follow-on formulae
- foods for infants and young children up to 3 years
- medical foods (eg. Nutritional tube feeds as total dietary replacement for patients) ↗

- slimming foods
- foods for people intolerant to gluten, and
- other foods which companies currently provide notification to member states (e.g. lactose free foods).

The proposal is likely to have a significant impact on the way in which PARNUT foods are notified, labelled and regulated. It limits the definition of PARNUT foods to 3 essential categories:

- infant and follow-on formula
- foods intended for infants and young children up to 3 years and
- medical foods

Gluten-free, slimming foods and other PARNUT foods currently notified to member states are not likely to be covered by this proposed legislation but are expected to be covered under other existing EC legislation (e.g. Nutrition and Health Claims Regulation).

We would like to obtain views on the proposal to inform forthcoming negotiations with the Commission and particularly welcome views from interested parties, industry, NGO's who currently manufacture such foods or represent consumers who rely on such foods for part or the whole of their diet.

Closing Date: 30th September 2011
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_129207

Consultations (continued)

Feverish illness in children (update): scope consultation

(02/08/11)

NICE have been asked to develop a clinical practice guideline on Feverish illness in children for use in the NHS in England, Wales and NI. The draft scope defines what aspects of care the guideline will cover and to whom it will apply. Registered stakeholders for this guideline are invited to submit comments on the scope and may suggest clinical questions that could be answered in the guideline.

Individuals and organisations not registered as stakeholders **are not able to comment**, we recommend that you register as a stakeholder or you contact the registered stakeholder organisation that most closely represents your interests and pass your comments to them.

Closing Date: 31st August 2011

<http://guidance.nice.org.uk/CG/WaveR/108/Scoping/ScopeConsultation>

Use of tocilizumab for systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis (10/08/11)

NICE has opened its public consultation on tocilizumab (RoActemra, Roche Products) for treating systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) in children and young people aged 2 years and older, where specific previous treatments have not produced an adequate response.

Although arthritis is commonly associated with older people, children and young people can also be affected. JIA - which has no known cause - covers various forms of the condition. Systemic JIA may start with symptoms such as a fever or rash, with joints eventually becoming swollen and inflamed. ↗

It can affect children of any age causing severe pain and difficulties in their everyday life.

Closing Date: 1st September 2011

<http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/pressreleases/MoreInfoTocilizumab.jsp>

Consolidation and review of the misuse of drugs regulations 2001 (04/08/11)

This consultation document seeks your comments on proposals to consolidate and review specific provisions under the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001 and on the accompanying impact assessment.

Closing date: 28th October 2011

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/misuse-drugs-regulations/>

Conferences

The Foundation Years: Putting the new early years policy into practice

Regional Seminars Autumn 2011

27th September 2011 - Manchester

4th October 2011 - London

5th October 2011 - Birmingham

£99 - £149 + VAT

As lead in the Early Years Strategic Partnership, 4Children has a unique position as the conduit of communication to the sector and also a responsibility to feed back to Government. These seminars will be both strategic and practical to inform you of the latest early years policy whilst giving you the tools to put this into practice.

The early years of a child's life set the very foundation of their future. It is therefore crucial that services for 0–5s consistently provide the highest quality support and education. These seminars will help you and your staff to understand the changing early years landscape. They will look at ensuring quality services whilst also retaining a focus on business skills, giving you the tools to run a successful service within the current budgetary constraints.

<http://www.4children.org.uk/events/show/ref/203>

What next for Children and Family Services? A new era, a new challenge for local authorities!

9th November 2011 London

£155 - £260 + VAT

At a time when more Council's are sharing key services, restructuring, re-commissioning and revising service offers, this conference will debate the key issues and offer innovative but achievable solutions, which ensure that outcomes



for children and families remain at the heart of service delivery.

With one third of Councils merging or planning to merge Children's Services with other key departments, councils need to ensure that services continue to meet the needs of children and families and that there is clear accountability on outcomes for children and families.

This conference will focus on the big questions about how LAs can best support and deliver services to children and families within the present economic environment. It will also provide a valuable opportunity for delegates to inform and shape thinking about next stage priorities.

<http://www.4children.org.uk/events/show/ref/204>

Sexual vulnerability of young people - Engaging professionals and young people

3rd October 2011 London £30 - £140

At the end of the meeting attendees will be better informed in order to structure a balanced judgement as to the best way to engage young people attending services and have a greater understanding of ways in which to consult with young people about their service needs and have developed awareness of specific abusive situations and relationships.

Who should attend: Clinicians, non-executive, executive managers, senior managers, General Practitioners, specialty doctors and nurses. In particular, those who meet with young people in their surgeries, clinics and outreach settings to enhance awareness of their sexual health needs.

<http://www.rsm.ac.uk/academ/sec01.php>

Conferences (continued)

NDNA Training Events (29/07/11)

20 th September 2011	Llandudno
22 nd September 2011	Maidstone
10 th October 2011	Colchester
13 th October 2011	Durham
10 th November 2011	Manchester
24 th November 2011	Stafford
13 th December 2011	Edinburgh
February 2012 (date TBC)	London
6 th March 2012	Huddersfield
8 th March 2012	Bristol
Members - £77	Non-members - £65

These regional training events are designed to support nurseries in a number of essential areas including the Early Years Foundation Stage and safeguarding (supported by the DfE. In addition, sessions on supporting children with SEN and sustainability will also be available.

<http://www.ndna.org.uk/news/press+releases/NDNA-regional-training>

Child Sexual Exploitation: Developing a Multi-Disciplinary Approach to the Problem

3rd November, 2011 London £225 + VAT
In January 2011 CEOP announced its intention to carry out a thematic assessment of child sexual exploitation after growing public concern of the trend whereby groups of men were reportedly grooming and sexually exploiting children across the UK. “

Out of Mind, Out of Sight”, the report of the findings of a 6 month investigation into the crime widely called “on street grooming”



has now been published. This form of abuse often involves rape and is premeditated, planned and carried out systematically with a complete lack of respect or empathy for the victims, often singled out for their vulnerability, and its damage can last a lifetime.

Delegates will consider in detail the recommendations of the report and discuss the implications for local practice. Engaging with the panel, key issues to be addressed will include:

- The nature and extent of “child grooming”
- Building robust data about “child grooming” – assessing current risk at the local level
- The need to develop a multi-agency approach to the problem
- The implications for the role of the LSCB
- The early identification of children at risk
- Providing specialist training for front-line professionals
- The role of the third sector
- Supporting victims and their families
- Peer exploitation
- The exploitation of boys and young men
- The role of the CPS in taking cases forward

<http://www.westminster-briefing.com/home/criminal-justice/event-detail7/newsarticle/child-sexual-exploitation-developing-a-multi-disciplinary-approach-to-the-problem/>

This 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