

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
INFORMATION UPDATE - 199
14th October 2011**

Children's Minister responds to major report on CSE (14/10/11)

Tim Loughton has responded to a major report on Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups published by the University of Bedfordshire. The Office of the Children's Commissioner is launching a 2 year inquiry.

Tim Loughton said:

This report is an important contribution to our understanding of the terrible problem of CSE. CSE is an appalling form of child abuse and we are determined to do everything possible to stamp it out. I will carefully consider these findings as we develop our action plan to safeguard children and young people from sexual exploitation.

The action plan, to be published later this Autumn, will draw on work around the country to prevent sexual exploitation, identify those at risk and support victims. It will address the challenge of securing prosecutions and the need for robust action against perpetrators.

LSCBs have a key role in tackling CSE but too many LSCBs are not taking the issue seriously enough and abuse is often remaining hidden from view. Raising awareness must be a priority along with tackling the difficulties that young victims and their families can face in getting justice.

I also welcome the Office of the CC's inquiry into CSE in Gangs and Groups, which the DfE and the authors of the University of Bedfordshire report will be assisting. The inquiry will be a very



significant contribution to our collective efforts to understand better, and respond more effectively to, this shocking form of abuse.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/inthenews/inthenews/a00199248/tim-loughton-responds-to-major-report-on-child-sexual-exploitation>

See Consultations

4 in every 10 disabled children living in poverty (07/10/11)

Four in ten disabled children in the UK are living in poverty, reveals this new report by The Children's Society. Nearly a third of those 320,000 are living in severe poverty. Alarmingly, when a disabled adult also lives in the household, around half of all disabled children will be living in poverty.

The report 'makes key recommendations to ministers detailing how families can be lifted out of poverty, including urging the Government to make sure that all families with disabled children are aware of, and able to take up, their full entitlement to benefits.

The charity is also calling for government to do more to help these families, including placing pressure on decision-makers to rethink welfare reforms, which would see over 100,000 disabled children lose up to £27 per week following the introduction of the Universal Credit.

<http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/news-views/press-release/four-ten-disabled-children-are-living-poverty>

http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/sites/default/files/tcs/4_in_10_reportfinal.pdf

Young voices heard on tackling gangs and youth violence (06/10/11)

Young people got to voice their opinions on the August riots and tackling gangs in a face-to-face discussion with Home Secretary Theresa May and Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Iain Duncan Smith today.

The Cabinet Ministers joined in a debate with a panel of young people from Lambeth, Southwark, Haringey, Waltham Forest, and Croydon at the Safer London Foundation (SLF), the official charity of the Metropolitan Police, which works to ensure young people's views and concerns about crime help shape local policing priorities.

Later in the day the Home Secretary met with anti-knife campaigner Brooke Kinsella and young people involved in projects supported by the Ben Kinsella Fund at the HO.

The Home Secretary, who is leading a cross-government programme of action on ending gang violence, has been talking to police forces up and down the country as well as to local agencies, charities, youth organisations and others involved in front-line work to tackle youth violence.

The Home Secretary will report to Parliament on the cross-government work on gangs later this month.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?ReleaseID=421500&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>

The influence of parents, places and poverty on educational attitudes and aspirations (05/10/11)

What are the real barriers to educational achievement?

What is the relationship between young people's aspirations and how they are formed?

Based on longitudinal research in three locations in the UK, this study investigates aspirations and empirical evidence.

There is a high degree of interest among politicians and policymakers in aspirations, driven by two concerns: raising the education and skills of the UK population, and tackling social and economic inequality. High aspirations are often seen as one way to address these concerns, but how aspirations contribute to strong work and educational outcomes is not well understood.

The report:

- examines the nature of aspirations;
- explores how parental circumstances and attitudes, school, and opportunity structures come together to shape aspirations in deprived urban areas; and
- argues that the approach to intervention should be reconsidered.

http://www.jrf.org.uk/publications/influence-parents-places-and-poverty-educational?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=New+JRF+publication+-+5+October+2011&utm_content=New+JRF+publication+-+5+October+2011+Version+B+CID_f07a1f310f964d4d903230bf502fd7ed&utm_source=Email+marketing+software&utm_term=The+influence+of+parents+and+poverty+on+educational+attitudes+and+aspirations

Update on products free of colours associated with hyperactivity (03/10/11)

The FSA has updated its list of product ranges that do not contain the six food colours associated with possible hyperactivity in young children.

The list includes companies that have product ranges which have never contained the six colours and companies that have reformulated their product ranges to remove the colours.

The colours, identified by a Southampton University study financed by the FSA, are:

- sunset yellow FCF (E110)
- quinoline yellow (E104)
- carmoisine (E122)
- allura red (E129)
- tartrazine (E102)
- ponceau 4R (E124)

<http://www.food.gov.uk/news/newsarchive/2011/oct/colours>

The public wants more choice of NHS care (11/10/11)

The public wants more say and greater choice over their NHS healthcare according to a new patient survey carried out by an independent research company on behalf of the DH.

The new survey of 5,000 people reveals that over 80% of patients want more choice over how and where they are treated in the NHS and nearly ¾ of patients want more choice in who provides their hospital care.

Full results of the survey show that:

- 80.88% of respondents want more choice in where they are treated in the NHS
- 78.62% want more choice in how they are treated in the NHS



- 49.52% were not aware that they can choose which hospital to go to for non-emergency treatment
- 74.88% wanted a choice over which hospital consultant is in charge of their care
- 74.62% wanted a choice over which hospital consultant is in charge over their children's care.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?ReleaseID=421542&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>

NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit celebrates 10th anniversary

The vast improvements in safeguarding that have been made since the unit was formed in partnership with Sport England in 2001 are highlighted in new research.

The study, by the NSPCC and the University of Edinburgh's Centre for Learning in Child Protection, reveals that while sport is a positive experience for most children, issues like bullying have in the past been treated as 'the norm'.

It underlines how 10 years ago sport was failing to make the safety and wellbeing of children a priority, with less than half of national governing bodies in sport having child protection policies. Now the CPSU supports nearly 100 sporting bodies in the UK, which have over 5m children in their care every week. And the majority of funded sports in the UK have these vital protection policies in place.

The CPSU provides sports organisations with expert child protection advice and guidance, such as ensuring sports club staff and volunteers know what to do if they have concerns about a child.

http://www.sportengland.org/about_us/our_news/cpsu.aspx

Cafcass Care Demand (September 2011)

Care application demand has remained high. Between April and September 2011, Cafcass received 4,945 new applications, 9.1% higher than last year. Applications between May to September this year has been the highest ever recorded by Cafcass for these individual months. The figures for August 2011 are the second highest care applications ever recorded for a single month by Cafcass. <http://www.cafcass.gov.uk/PDF/September%202011%20care%20demand%20update.pdf>

£20m to knock down mental health stigma (10/10/11)

The Govt is joining forces with Comic Relief to help tackle mental health stigma, with up to £20m funding for Time to Change, the stigma and anti-discrimination campaign, run by Mind and Rethink Mental Illness. This is the first time the campaign has received Govt funding: up to £16m over the next 4 years. It will also receive £4m from Comic Relief.

Time to Change runs events and campaigns as varied as getting young men and women into the boxing gym where they can meet people, pick up new skills and improve their mental health and confidence; and campaigning to change public behaviour towards people with mental health problems.

The new funding will allow Time to Change to reach 29m members of the public and increase the confidence of 100,000 people with mental health problems to challenge stigma and discrimination.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?ReleaseID=421534&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>

Joint working: the future of inspection and audit in Wales (10/10/11)

CSSIW, Estyn, HIW and the WAO are launching the website Inspection Wales, to help members of the public and the organisations they audit and review to have a better understanding of how they are working together.

The website has been set up following the strategic agreement that the four inspectorates launched in March 2011 to boost joint working arrangements.

The website aims to be the single point of contact for citizens who wish to find out more about how inspection, audit and regulatory bodies are working together to strengthen public assurance in Wales.

<http://wales.gov.uk/cssiwsbsite/newcssiw/news/inswal/?lang=en>
<http://www.inspectwales.com/>

Joint Inspection of LSCBs 2011 (12/10/11)

A core element of the Children Act 2004 Act was the requirement for each LA to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board for their area. This report found that LSCBs lack focus on improving outcomes for children and are not fulfilling their statutory responsibilities. Consequently, LSCBs are unable to demonstrate the impact of their work on improving the lives of children.

<http://www.inspectionwales.com/uploads/attachments/wDcd45gtg.pdf>

MoJ: Operation of the family courts - Government response (13/10/11)

This is the Government's response to the Report of the Justice Select Committee on the Operation of the Family Courts published in July 2011.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/corporate-reports/moj/operation-of-the-family-courts.htm>

Early years: September 2011 (14/10/11)

This newsletter provides inspectors and stakeholders with information and guidance about our inspection work in early years.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/early-years-september-2011>

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/other-publications/e/Early%20years%20September%202011.pdf>

The numbers and ages of children that childminders may care for (14/10/11)

Revised factsheet on policy and the law about the numbers and ages of children you may care for when registered.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/factsheet-childcare-numbers-and-ages-of-children-childminders-may-care-for>

Standard conditions of registration for those on the Early Years and/or Childcare Registers (14/10/11)

Revised guidance to assist inspectors and the NBU in setting conditions of registration.


<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/standard-conditions-of-registration-for-those-early-years-andor-childcare-registers>

Registration and suitability handbook (14/10/11)

Revised guidance for inspectors and regulatory decision-makers on the registration and continued registration of those on the EYs and Childcare Registers.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/registration-and-suitability-handbook>

Exemption notification form for childcare providers that operate for 14 days or less in a 12-month period (14/10/11)

Most providers caring for children under 8 must register with Ofsted unless the law says that they are not required to. Providers should read the Registration not required 

factsheet before using this revised form.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/exemption-notification-form-for-childcare-providers-operate-for-14-days-or-less-12-month-period>

Factsheet: childcare - Registration not required

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/factsheet-childcare-registration-not-required>

Are you ready for your inspection? A guide to inspections of provision on Ofsted's Childcare and Early Years Registers (14/10/11)

This revised guide is designed to help prepare for an Ofsted inspection.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/are-you-ready-for-your-inspection-guide-inspections-of-provision-ofsted-childcare-and-early-years-r>

Revised information for parents and carers using childcare services (14/10/11)

Ofsted registers and inspects those who provide childcare for children from birth up to 18th birthday. It does this to help reassure parents and carers that when your children are in registered childcare they are cared for by people who are suitable.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/information-for-parents-and-carers-using-childcare-services>

Childcare - Serious accidents, injuries and deaths that registered providers must notify to Ofsted and local child protection agencies (14/10/11)

A revised factsheet for registered early years and childcare providers on when and how to inform Ofsted and local child protection agencies of deaths, serious accidents and/or injuries.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/factsheet-childcare-serious-accidents-injuries-and-deaths-registered-providers-must-notify-ofsted-an>

SCR evaluations: April 2007 onwards
(13/10/11)

Serious case reviews are local enquiries into the death or serious injury of a child where abuse or neglect is known or suspected to be a factor. They are carried out by LSCBs so that lessons can be learned.

Ofsted is responsible for evaluating SCRs in line with the requirements of *Working Together to Safeguard Children*. The evaluation of a SCR is not an evaluation of the quality of the professional practice, or the quality of service delivery, in relation to the incident under review. Nor is it about allocating blame. It is an evaluation of the degree to which the review has succeeded in identifying lessons to be learned from the events and the analysis, and the action that needs to be taken to improve the protection of children in the future.

The evaluation list shows the SCRs carried out by LSCBs that Ofsted has evaluated.
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/serious-case-review-evaluations-april-2007-onwards>
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/surveys-and-good-practice/s/Serious%20case%20review%20evaluations.pdf>

Memorandum of Understanding between Ofsted and the GSCC (03/10/11)

This sets out areas in which Ofsted and GSCC will work together and coordinate their roles and activity in order to protect and promote the interests and rights of children who use social care services in England.
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/memorandum-of-understanding-between-ofsted-and-general-social-care-council>
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/other-forms-and-guides/m/Memorandum%20of%20understanding%20between%20Ofsted%20and%20GS>

Use of holiday accommodation for looked after children (04/10/11)

A Q&A leaflet about use of holiday accommodation for LAC in England.
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/qa-use-of-holiday-accommodation-for-looked-after-children>
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/other-forms-and-guides/q/QA%20the%20use%20of%20holiday%20accommodation%20for%20looked%20after%20children.pdf>

Guidance on writing complaint and compliance action summaries (06/10/11)

This revised guidance is to help inspectors to write outcome summaries which are published on our website following information that a provider is not complying with the requirements for registration. This guidance relates to those providers on either or both the Early Years and Childcare Registers.
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/guidance-writing-complaint-and-compliance-action-summaries>

Factsheet: childcare - Guidance for inspecting childminders and childcare settings with no children on roll or no children present at the time of the inspection (06/10/11)

The aim of this revised factsheet is to assist inspectors when carrying out an inspection of providers registered on the Early Years Register and Childcare Register, if applicable, when there are no children on roll or no children present at the time of the inspection visit.
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/factsheet-childcare-guidance-for-inspecting-childminders-and-childcare-settings-no-children-roll-or>

Notification of events/incidents at children's social care providers

Providers must tell Ofsted about certain events and incidents occurring at a provision. Revised notification forms are shown below.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/children-and-families-services/for-childrens-social-care-providers-and-commissioners/regulating-ch-3>

Revised notification forms (06/10/11)

Providers of adoption support agencies
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/notification-form-for-providers-of-adoption-support-agencies>

Providers of voluntary adoption agencies
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/notification-form-for-providers-of-voluntary-adoption-agencies>

Providers of residential family centres
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/notification-form-for-providers-of-residential-family-centres>

Independent fostering agencies
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/notification-form-for-independent-fostering-agencies>

Providers of secure children's homes
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/notification-form-for-providers-of-secure-childrens-homes>

Revised notification guidance and form for residential special schools
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/notification-guidance-and-form-for-residential-special-schools>

Children's centres self-evaluation form (05/10/11)

This updated self-evaluation form is linked to the judgements made at inspection.
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/childrens-centres-self-evaluation-form>
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/inspection--forms-and-guides/c/Children%27s%20centres%20self-evaluation%20form.pdf>

Children's centres self-evaluation form guidance (05/10/11)

This revised document provides information for children's centres on completing their self-evaluation form. It includes guidance notes for responding to each of the questions.
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/childrens-centres-self-evaluation-form-guidance>
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/inspection--forms-and-guides/c/Children%27s%20centres%20self-evaluation%20form%20guidance.pdf>

Communication and consultation with children and young people with learning disabilities (06/10/11)

This illustrates flexible and effective approaches in relation to communicating and consulting with children and young people with learning disabilities and a complex mixture of communication difficulties.
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/communication-and-consultation-children-and-young-people-learning-disabilities-bridges-resource-cent>

CIN for 2011-12 (10/10/11)

The Children in Need Census technical specification and guidance notes documents for 2011-12 are available to download from this page.
<http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/strategy/research/a0063842/cin-for-2011-12>

CIN for 2012-13 (07/10/11)

The Children in Need Census technical specification for 2012-13 are available to download from this page. The guidance notes documents will be available later.
<http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/strategy/research/a00198962/cin-for-2012-13>

'Raised Expectations: parental experiences of short breaks' (05/10/11)

This report from EDCM examines parents with disabled children's experiences of short breaks between 2007 – 2011.

The report finds that, when ring fenced funding was available, short breaks services were 'transformed'. Parents reported an increase in regular, reliable and appropriate short breaks. Additionally there is clear evidence that the positive impact of short breaks has been recognised by both Government and some local areas. Parents who have had good experiences of short breaks report feel there is no going back to the limited services provision of the past.

However, it is clear that there is still progress to be made. EDCM's report raises concerns that some children – particularly children with complex health needs - are still struggling to access sufficient short breaks. It is vital that children do not miss out on short breaks because their needs are seen as 'too complex'.

http://www.ncb.org.uk/edcm/news/press_releases/press_releases_2011/5_oct_11_raised_expectations.aspx

International gangs forum (13/10/11)

The Home Secretary held an international forum yesterday to discuss gangs and gang violence. The event formed part of the x-government work on tackling gangs and gang violence.

The Home Secretary has been talking to police forces up and down the country to hear about their experiences and successes in tackling gangs as well as to local agencies, charities, youth organisations and others involved in front line work to tackle youth violence.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/gangs-forum>

Stay Safe: Plan bonfire night in plenty of time (14/10/11)

Fireworks will be on sale across the country tomorrow ahead of Bonfire Night on November 5, so RoSPA is urging people to plan ahead to ensure they and their guests stay safe at parties.

The safest place to enjoy fireworks is at properly-organised displays, but RoSPA recognises that not everyone can attend such events.

Good preparation is vital if you are arranging a fireworks celebration at home. Now is a good time to start thinking about issues such as:

- The law concerning fireworks
- Whether you have enough space for your guests to watch from a safe distance
- Who will be attending your party - will there be lots of children around?
- Suitable sites for a bonfire, if you're having one
- Who will be responsible for setting off the fireworks.

RoSPA's fireworks website has everything you need to know about planning a safe fireworks display. It provides details on UK law and tips for setting up a display.

<http://www.rospa.com/news/releases/detail/default.aspx?id=1038>

<http://www.saferfireworks.com/>

PM welcomes progress on tackling commercialisation and sexualisation of childhood but says more must be done

(11/10/11)

The PM and Children's Minister, Sarah Teather, will host a summit to drive forward progress on tackling the commercialisation and sexualisation of childhood.

This follows a review in June by Reg Bailey, which made a series of recommendations to businesses, broadcasters and regulators. Today they updated the PM on the actions they have taken and discussed what more could be done to support parents in protecting their children from excessive commercialisation and sexualisation.

The PM said:

There is a growing tide of concern up and down the country among parents who, like me, are concerned about our children being exposed to inappropriate advertising and sexual imagery and growing up too early. I welcome the progress being made, including the ParentPort website being launched today that will give parents a strong voice and a single hub to air their concerns about inappropriate products, adverts or services.

But we must do more, so today I call on businesses and industry to go further and in the new year I will again review progress because I am determined we are really making changes that support parents and protect our children.

Other new measures include:

- Stricter guidelines by the ASA on images in outdoor advertising e.g. near schools.
- A voluntary ban by the outdoor advertising industry on advertisements near schools for lap-dancing clubs and similar adult services.



- New guidelines preventing children 15 and under from being employed to act as brand ambassadors or in marketing campaigns.
- Commitment from the top 4 ISPs that all customers will receive a choice at purchase over whether they want to block adult content on their home internet or laptops.
- The first child protection app, free for parents, to let them choose the times of day their children can use their phones, and whether they allow their children access to the internet, via mobile or wifi.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/inthenews/inthenews/a00199094/prime-minister-welcomes-progress-on-tackling-commercialisation-and-sexualisation-of-childhood-but-says-more-must-be-done>

Parental substance misuse (12/10/11)

Parental substance misuse is an important issue that social workers encounter frequently. However, one survey suggests that most have had no formal training on the issue. One study estimated that between 250,00 and 350,000 children in the UK had a parent who was a problem drug user, and that 62% of children subject to care proceedings had a substance misusing parent.

- SCIE's elearning resource is designed to support social workers responsible for 'children in need' when working with families where a parent or parents are misusing drugs or alcohol. It will provide them with enough information to be able to make judgements about the possible impact on children that they are responsible for.

<http://www.scie.org.uk/news/mediareleases/2011/121011.asp>

<http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/elearning/parentalsubstancemisuse/index.asp>

Safeguarding Web Application

SAFEchild has launched the first ever free safeguarding web app for iPhone and Android designed to put key information at the user's fingertips.

The app is ideal for the voluntary youth and sports sector and includes guidance on how to recognise and report incidents of suspected abuse. The app contains key telephone numbers for key resources such as ChildLine and the NSPCC and also has email and phone links to SAFEchild's helpline.

For those wanting to be kept informed, the app also includes Facebook and Twitter links to the latest safeguarding headlines, coupled with a diary of national and regional events related to the subject matter.

To download the app users can visit

<http://tinyurl.com/5sorq5k>

For further information contact:

barry.holland@safeguarding.co.uk

Respecting others: anti-bullying guidance 2011 (10/10/11)

This guidance from the Welsh Government sets out the best ways to tackle bullying in schools. It focuses on:

- bullying around race, religion and culture;
- bullying around special educational needs and disabilities;
- homophobic bullying;
- sexist, sexual and transphobic bullying and
- cyber-bullying.

Building on guidance published in 2003, Respecting Others provides detailed advice to schools on preventing, responding to and recording bullying, including examples of good practice, case studies and scenarios.

The guidance reflects advances in new



technologies, with more young people than ever using social networking sites, smart phones and other portable devices to communicate with friends. The guidance will inform school leaders and staff of the way these technologies are used by young people and how, potentially, they can be abused to bully both pupils and teacher

<http://wales.gov.uk/newsroom/educationandskills/2011/111010antibullying/?lang=en>

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/publications/circulars/antibullying/?lang=en>

Asbestos checks reveal compliance picture at non-LA schools (14/10/11)

Checks on how schools outside of LA control are managing asbestos have revealed that most have adequate arrangements in place - though 17% fell below acceptable standards in relation to management procedures.

The HSE inspected a random sample of 164 independent, voluntary aided and foundation schools and academies between November 2010 and June 2011. It served notices on 28 schools requiring them to improve arrangements for managing asbestos, and provided informal advice to a further 110.

Enforcement action was taken over failures such as training staff and producing written management plans, rather than because staff or pupils were considered at significant risk of exposure.

Asbestos which is in good condition and remains undamaged and undisturbed does not pose any significant risk to health if it is managed in compliance with the legal requirements and according to HSE's published guidance

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/press/2011/hse-asbestosinschools.htm>

Consultations

Inspection of residential provision for students under 18 years of age in FE colleges (04/10/11)

This is a consultation document on proposals for a revised framework for the inspection of residential provision in FE colleges.

From September 2012, Ofsted proposes to concentrate on 5 key judgements for colleges:

- overall effectiveness
- outcomes for young people
- quality of service
- safeguarding and
- leadership and management

Ofsted seeks the widest possible range of views from those who have an interest in colleges, to ensure that the inspection framework takes proper account of the needs and circumstances of all interested parties.

Closing date: 27th December 2011
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/inspection-of-residential-provision-for-students-under-eighteen-years-of-age-further-education-colleges>
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/news/revised-inspection-framework-for-residential-provision-fe-colleges-ofsted-consultation-0>

Consultation on the Review of Intercountry Adoption Legislation (11/10/11)

This is a joint consultation by the DfE, the Scottish Government Children and Families Directorate and the DH, Social Services and Public Safety in NI in relation to proposed changes to the Adoption (Designation of Overseas Adoptions) Order 1973 also known as the 'Designated List'.



The 1973 Order lists the countries whose adoptions are classified as 'overseas adoptions' for the purposes of the Adoption and Children Act 2002, the Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007 and the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987 and are recognised as adoptions in the UK under that legislation.

The 1973 Order applies to England and Wales only. However, this consultation is UK wide as the 1973 Order is incorporated into the law of Scotland and NI, and the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man have their own similar legislation.

Closing Date: 3rd January 2012
<http://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1772&external=no&menu=1>

Proposed Amendment to The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2007 (07/10/11)

This consultation seeks the views of the Catholic Education Service, the Church of England Board of Education, the Foundation and Aided Schools National Association, foundation and voluntary schools, parents, other stakeholders and interested parties on amendments to clarify The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2007 regarding the appointment of foundation governors.

Closing Date: 18th November 2011
<http://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1780&external=no&menu=1>

Consultations (continued)

Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups (CSEGG) Call for Evidence- Phase One (14/10/11)

This 2 year Inquiry will be conducted under the Children's Commissioner's powers in the Children Act 2004. In doing so, we aim to throw light on the scale, scope, nature and extent of the sexual exploitation, victimisation and abuse that girls and boys in England are subjected by street gangs and loosely formed groups.

Current data based on limited reporting indicates that up to 10,000 children may be affected. The picture we are getting from research to date, notably that conducted by ROTA, CEOP and the University of Bedfordshire, is of serious and violent sexual, physical and emotional abuse. All agree that we simply don't yet have the full picture as the data is still inadequate.

The emerging evidence is that the children and perpetrators involved are very diverse and seem to reflect the local demographic of where the abuse is taking place. It would be wrong for anyone to conclude or assert that this is an issue for one particular ethnic community.

In this call for evidence, we are seeking information to find out the true picture and to highlight where there is good practice to support and identify children and young people in these circumstances.

Closing Date: 20th January 2012
http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/content/publications/content_536

Conferences

Translating Munro - Meeting the challenges raised by the Munro Review

21st November 2011 Liverpool
7th December 2011 Leicester
7th February 2012 London

Free

These events will make clear the challenges for training and workforce development and provide real solutions.

You will have the opportunity to:

- hear about the key workforce issues arising from the Munro review and the Government's response to this
- exchange knowledge and approaches in meeting the workforce development challenges in the current climate
- be provided with the latest tools and solutions to overcome your work-based challenges
- sample NSPCC CPC services that could assist in meeting workforce needs

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/newsandevents/cpconferences/translating-munro_wda84777.html

Preventing violence against women and girls

1st December 2011 London
£125 - £295 + VAT

The Government has developed an action plan designed to prevent violence against women and girls which can take many forms – from domestic abuse to sexual violence; female genital mutilation to forced prostitution and trafficking.



This is a priority for the Government, which has set out its key themes:

- Early intervention – making sure young people understand the importance of healthy relationships and respect the right to say no
- The importance of training – for professionals and frontline staff to spot early signs and risk factors of domestic and sexual violence, child sexual abuse, and harmful practices - including a new e-learning training course for GPs on violence against women and children
- New powers – helping domestic violence victims break the cycle of abuse including piloting DVPOs which allow police to ban alleged abusers from returning to the victim's home for several weeks
- Support for victims

This conference will:

- raise awareness of VAWG
- provide guidance about specific issues such as violence in teenage relationships, working with men and boys, education about FGM and exploration of trafficking and forced prostitution
- highlight the importance of early intervention and education and the role that the education sector plays
- describe some of the new powers that the police will have to protect victims including DVPOs.

<http://www.pavpub.com/p-410-preventing-violence-against-women-and-girls.aspx?s=1>

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