

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN  
INFORMATION & NEWS UPDATE - 154  
4<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

**The Young Runaways Education Resource (01/03/10)**

The Children's Society has launched an online source of information to help prevent young people in the UK from running away.

The Resource, developed in collaboration with the DCSF, will provide a tool for schools to help intervene when children show signs of being 'at risk'. It aims to help teachers and youth workers warn young people about the dangers of running away and looks at the support networks available.

[http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/whats\\_happening/media\\_office/latest\\_news/20237\\_pr.html](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/whats_happening/media_office/latest_news/20237_pr.html)

**Sexualisation of young people review (26/02/10)**

This review is part of the strategy to tackle 'Violence Against Women and Girls'. It looks at how sexualised images and messages may be affecting development of children and young people and influencing cultural norms. It also examines evidence for a link between sexualisation and violence.

Key recommendations include:

- An online 'one-stop-shop' to allow public to voice their concerns about irresponsible marketing, with an onus on regulatory authorities to take action.
- Govt should support the Advertising Standards Agency to extend regulatory standards to include commercial websites
- Music videos featuring sexual posing or suggestive lyrics required to be broadcast only after the 'watershed'



- Govt support for the NSPCC work with manufacturers and retailers to encourage corporate responsibility.

- Guidelines for retailers

- games consoles should be sold with parental controls already switched on. Purchasers can choose to 'unlock' the console if they wish to allow access to adult and online content.

<http://press.homeoffice.gov.uk/press-releases/sexualisation-young-people.html>

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/Sexualisation-young-people.pdf>

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/news/index.cfm?event=news.item&id=response\\_to\\_dr\\_linda\\_papadopoulos\\_independent\\_review\\_into\\_the\\_sexualisation\\_of\\_young\\_people\\_published\\_today\\_by\\_the\\_home\\_office](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/news/index.cfm?event=news.item&id=response_to_dr_linda_papadopoulos_independent_review_into_the_sexualisation_of_young_people_published_today_by_the_home_office)

**Review of Cocaine Use (02/03/10)**

The Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs has written to the Home Secretary outlining its intentions in carrying out a review of Cocaine use. The letter states that cocaine is a very harmful drug to individuals and society and there is evidence of continued increased use, particularly amongst 16-24 year olds. In addition, purity has been decreasing with possible implications for harms to users.

The ACMD believes that cocaine should remain Class A. It proposes a review of the harms associated with cocaine that provides advice on how these might be reduced and suggestions for further research in this area.

<http://drugs.homeoffice.gov.uk/publication-search/drug-licences/acmd-cocaine-review.pdf>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8544648.stm>

### **Targeted action to tackle violent youth crime (26/02/10)**

The Home Secretary has visited Liverpool to see Operation Portcullis in action. He saw police officers conducting searches for weapons and distributing leaflets on the dangers and consequences of violent crime.

Similar operations have resulted in nearly 500 arrests, over 150 young people referred to positive activities, uncovered 3 cannabis farms, a shotgun and 15 knives.

Other Op Portcullis activities include:

- Street-based police teams engaging with young people, pointing them towards diversionary activities and helping prevent them from becoming victims of crime;
- Use of knife arches to detect those carrying lethal weapons;
- Targeted raids on individuals believed to be involved in violent offending;
- Automatic number plate recognition operations to trace those who may be carrying weapons in vehicles; and
- Visiting clubs and pubs to ensure licensing laws are being adhered to.

Operation Portcullis builds on prevention activities at the heart of the Youth Crime Action Plan. The government is funding 10 Portcullis operations in key areas around the country.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?NewsAreaId=2&ReleaseID=411614&SubjectId=2>

### **The female voice in violence**

Specialist services and policies targeting women and girls involved in gangs are needed to help reduce and prevent youth violence, according to this new report by Race on the Agenda.



The research highlighted concerns about lack of appropriate services for those females caught up in gangs, the use of sexual violence by gang members, and the impact of serious violence on their health.

Key findings include:

- Very little support is targeted at women and girls involved in gangs, with any female-specific services usually the initiative of individuals rather than planning or policy.
- Girls involved with gang members often live outside of known gang-affected areas, and may hold firearms, drugs or money for their boyfriends.
- Rape, sexual violence and exploitation are significant weapons used against women and girls associated with, or involved in, gangs.
- Convicted female gang members are often held with boys outside of mainstream schools, severely limiting their ability to deal with their offending behaviour and reduce their victimisation.
- Little intelligence exists to quantify the numbers of women and girls affected by gang violence.

The report assesses the role and effectiveness of statutory and voluntary sector services, especially women's groups and those working with black and minority ethnic communities, in helping those involved with gangs.

It highlights ways of supporting women and girls to exit the lifestyle and culture of serious violence - whether as sisters, mothers or girlfriends of gang members, or gang members themselves. The role of local, regional and national policy in supporting this agenda is also examined.

<http://www.rota.org.uk/pages/WhatsNew.aspx>

**Joint Committee on Human Rights  
Report: Crime and Security Bill; Personal  
Care at Home Bill; Children, Schools and  
Families Bill (02/03/10)**

The Crime and Security Bill is the response to a European Court decision that blanket retention of DNA samples and profiles of innocent individuals and children is disproportionate and in breach of the right to respect for private life. The Committee thinks that the Government has not:

- provided justification for its proposal to take and retain DNA samples from children, and
- has not published an analysis of the compatibility of the proposals with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child;

The Committee also regrets that the Bill does not require officers conducting stop and search to record the age when it appears the person is under 18. It recommends specific guidance be introduced about the use of stop and search powers in relation to children.

The Bill provides for Domestic Violence Protection Notices allowing police to bar a suspected perpetrator of domestic violence from their homes for up to 48 hours even if they are not charged. After 48 hours police may apply for a DV Protection Order which may bar a suspect from their home for between 14 and 28 days. The Commission thinks that more evidence is needed to make the case for DVPOs that could last for as long as a month, and that given the impact a DVPO will have on a suspect, it should be necessary for the violence or threat of violence to be proved beyond reasonable doubt to satisfy the right to a fair hearing.

The Children, Schools and Families Bill introduces a new registration and monitoring scheme for children who are electively home educated. Parents will

have right to appeal to an independent panel against a refusal or revocation of registration.

The Committee agrees that the provisions of a registration and monitoring scheme for children electively home educated will enhance their right not to be denied an education and to have their views taken into account. The provisions include:

- Parents to apply for their children to be placed on a LA home education register
- LAs to monitor the education provided to those on the register and consult the child
- LAs to have the power to revoke registration on certain grounds

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/jt200910/jtselect/jtrights/67/67.pdf>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/jt200910/jtselect/jtrights/65/6502.htm>

**Family Procedure Rule Committee news  
(26/02/10)**

The Committee has published details of its work between May and December 2009.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/latest-updates/announcement260210a.htm>

**Factors Contributing to the Referral and  
Non-referral of Incompetence Cases to the  
GTCE (25/02/10)**

This study found that factors affecting referrals are evident within different parts of the overall framework for monitoring teacher standards and managing capability: in the performance management system, local capability procedures, and at the point at which the employer considers that a case is appropriate for a GTC referral.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=15970&type=5&resultspage=1>

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/GTC-10-01.pdf>

### **Early years inspection contractors**

(25/02/10)

Ofsted has confirmed that Tribal Group PLC will undertake day to day inspection and registration visits in the South and Prospects Services Ltd in the North and Midlands.

Ofsted states that the changes will enable it to focus on the quality of provision in the early years sector, bring greater value for money, and provide an integrated approach to childcare and early education which matches the delivery at a local level.

The contract makes provision for Ofsted's early years inspectors and support staff to transfer to the new contractors.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/News/Press-and-media/2010/February/Ofsted-confirms-appointment-of-early-years-inspection-contractors>

### **Anti-social Behaviour Family Intervention Projects: Monitoring and evaluation (March 2010)** (03/03/10)

FIPs work with the most challenging families and tackle issues such as antisocial behaviour, youth crime, school absenteeism, drug and alcohol addiction, domestic violence, poor mental health and inter-generational disadvantage. Families are supported by a dedicated 'key worker' who coordinates a multi-agency package of support and works directly with family members to help them overcome their problems. The different FIP models are aimed at reducing antisocial behaviour, preventing youth crime and tackling child poverty.

This research found that families at the end of a FIP showed:

- 64% reduction in anti-social behaviour

- 58% reduction in truancy, exclusion and bad behaviour among children and young people
- 70% reduction in drug and substance misuse
- 53% reduction in alcoholism.

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn\\_id=2010\\_0052](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2010_0052)

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-RR215&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RR215.pdf>

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/ecm/thinkfamily>

### **Children on rights and responsibilities**

(04/03/10)

Protection from abuse, a right to an education and to be helped to keep alive and well are just some of the most important rights that children want all young people to have, according to this report by Children's Rights Director for England, Roger Morgan. Children have also expressed the view that this comes with responsibilities.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/News/Children-tell-us-having-rights-means-having-responsibilities>  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/10877/129251/file/Children%20on%20rights%20and%20responsibilities.pdf>

### **Giving social work a voice - how to improve social workers' relationship with the media** (03/03/10)

This leaflet give general tips to lead members and DCSs on how to increase and improve the contact between social work teams and journalists and spread some of the good news about social work.

<http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/aio/8994194>  
<http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pageId=8994230>

### **NEET Statistics - Quarterly Brief**

(25/02/10)

This brief sets out the latest statistics available on NEET in England from the DCSF 16 - 18 Participation SFR, the Labour Force Survey, and regional NEET figures and a segmentation using Connexions data.

Additional tables disaggregating NEET estimates from the LFS for 16-24 year olds, 18-24 year olds and 19-24 year olds by region, highest qualification held and gender will be published separately on 25 March 2010.

Iain Wright said:

Today's figures show that we are moving in the right direction and the action we are taking to invest in young people is working. But while there are signs that the proportion of 16- to 18-year-olds NEET is falling, we know we need to keep working hard to back young people through these tough times.

We are committed to raising young people's skill levels and building a young, skilful and dynamic workforce throughout the economic recovery. That is why we are offering every 16- and 17-year-old the opportunity to continue in education or training through our September Guarantee for school leavers - and record numbers are doing so, helping to fulfil their potential and secure the future of our economy.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STR/d000913/index.shtml>

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STR/d000913/NEETQBO42009final.pdf>

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/news/index.cfm?event=news.item&id=iain\\_wright\\_on\\_todays\\_neet\\_statistics](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/news/index.cfm?event=news.item&id=iain_wright_on_todays_neet_statistics)

### **HSE Myth of the Month: Risk assessment is too complicated for me to do!** (March 2010)

Carrying out a risk assessment should be straightforward. It's about focusing on real risks and hazards that cause real harm and, more importantly, taking action to control them.

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/myth/mar10.htm>

### **'Child Development Grant' Pilots grant: 2010-11** (01/03/10)

This Circular sets out the grant allocations, conditions of grant and payment arrangements for those authorities delivering the Child Development Grant Pilot.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/news-and-communications/local-authority-circulars-2008-2011/lac2502100005/>  
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/download/?id=7761>

### **Right2BCared4 Pilot grant: 2010-11** (19/02/10)

This circular advises the participating pilot authorities of their grant allocations, the conditions of grant and payment arrangements for the Right2BCared4 Pilot grant 2010-11.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/news-and-communications/local-authority-circulars-2008-2011/lac1602100004/>  
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/download/?id=7739>

### **Rise in child neglect calls to NSPCC Helpline** (25/02/10)

The NSPCC reports that the number of calls to NSPCC Helpline about child neglect have risen from 4,800 calls in 2004 to 6,500 calls in 2009.

[http://www.nspcc.org.uk/whatwedo/mediacentre/pressreleases/2010\\_25\\_February\\_Rise\\_in\\_child\\_neglect\\_calls\\_to\\_NSPCC\\_Helpline\\_wdn73506.html](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/whatwedo/mediacentre/pressreleases/2010_25_February_Rise_in_child_neglect_calls_to_NSPCC_Helpline_wdn73506.html)

**Parenting Early Intervention Programme:  
First interim report (25/02/10)**

The PEIP funds LAs to implement evidence-based parenting programmes. Key findings of this evaluation from the programmes's inception in 08 to August 2009 are:

- All 18 Wave 1 Pathfinders (started April 07) but only 18 of 23 Wave 2 Pathfinders (started April 08) were running parenting programmes by August 09.
- The most common programme used by LAs running PEIP has been Triple P (43% of parents). Increasingly high levels of referrals were made to PEIP programmes irrespective of the programme offered.
- Data on 714 parents who started a Wave 2 parenting group are comparable to those served by Wave 1, with children of most concern to parents with high behavioural, emotional and social difficulties and parenting styles characterized by laxness and overreactivity.
- The slower rate of setting up Wave 2 is partly due to confusion about the role of the National Academy of Parenting Practitioners in supporting LAs in setting up local infrastructures and 'brokering' training with national providers. Only one LA reported problems in recruiting potential parenting course facilitators.
- When operational, PEIP is becoming embedded in LAs' parenting strategies and links between PEIPs and the extended school offer, PSAs and parenting experts are encouraging. By Spring 2009 the DCSF initiative *Think Family* was beginning to make an impact on the strategic planning of targeted parenting provision.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=15968&type=5&resultspage=1>

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/DCSF-RB193.pdf>

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/RR193.pdf>

**Deprivation and risk: the case for early intervention (02/03/10)**

This report argues that cycles of deprivation and neglect that trap many vulnerable families can be broken if families, and children, are supported early enough. Key findings include:

- Early interventions with very young children can break long term negative behavioural patterns
- Parenting is the most critical influence on children's lives
- Children living in deprived families have less support and resources from outside the family and struggle to build up resilience and self-esteem

[http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/news\\_detail.aspx?ID=395&q=&RegionID=&ResultList=1](http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/news_detail.aspx?ID=395&q=&RegionID=&ResultList=1)

<http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/uploads/media/36/9432.pdf>

**Bereaved children face postcode lottery (25/02/10)**

Over a third of LAs in England lack a specialist childhood bereavement service where families can directly access the help they need.

Findings from a survey presented by the Childhood Bereavement Network, reveal the patchiness of provision for children and their families who are seeking help after the death of someone close to them.

3.5% of the population of 5-16 year olds have been bereaved of a parent, brother or sister (252,000 children in England).

[http://www.ncb.org.uk/campaigning/media\\_news/2010/jan\\_to\\_jun/bereaved\\_children\\_face\\_postcod.aspx](http://www.ncb.org.uk/campaigning/media_news/2010/jan_to_jun/bereaved_children_face_postcod.aspx)

### **Child Sex Offender Review Public Disclosure Pilots: a process evaluation**

This research was to determine how successfully the pilots provided a formal mechanism for requesting information about individuals who have access to children and may have convictions for child sex offending. It also assessed the extent and nature of applications, whether the pilots contributed to CP arrangements and the cost.

#### **Key findings**

- 585 enquiries were made and 315 proceeded with as applications. 21 disclosures (4% of applications) were made with a further 11 applications resulting in non-pilot disclosures, i.e. information not relating to convictions for child sex offences. A further 43 applications resulted in other child safeguarding actions e.g. referral to Children's Social Care.
- Most applicants were satisfied with the pilot process, valuing timely contact and the professional conduct of staff. They thought the pilot contributed to alertness about risks to, and protection of, children. Anxiety sometimes remained following applications when some individuals were left to cope with difficult situations. This highlights the need for follow-up support regardless of whether a disclosure is made.
- Applicants understood the restrictions about disclosure and confidentiality but expressed some difficulties in keeping information to themselves. There was no evidence to suggest serious or damaging breach of confidentiality, but this should be closely monitored.
- Police and offender managers perceived that the disclosure process formalised what should be good CP practice. It was seen as providing greater clarity for staff by focusing on risk, focusing on the child, and permitting the sharing of information with members of the public.

- Police said the pilot had 'sharpened up' CP work by tightening procedures and being explicit about what the public could expect. In terms of the MAPPA though, these arrangements largely operated as they had done before the pilot.
- The pilot was described as a 'parallel' process that required some further attention with regards to the interface between the pilot and MAPPA.
- Of the RSOs interviewed, the most common initial reaction was anxiety about negative reactions from communities. As the pilot progressed this decreased and most saw it as an extension of existing controls. No changes in behaviour were reported by the RSOs and practitioners working with RSOs did not perceive any changes in compliance with registration and probation supervision. Longer-term monitoring, particularly of compliance should be considered.

[http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/ho\\_rr32c.pdf](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/ho_rr32c.pdf)

### **Child sex offender disclosure scheme – nationwide roll out (03/03/10)**

This scheme protects children, by providing a formal mechanism to make enquires about people who are in contact with children.

The scheme will roll out to 18 new police areas from August. The 4 existing pilot areas will continue with the scheme and it will roll out to all forces by the end of March 2011.

As part of the new scheme the government will be working with CEOP to pilot a new online reporting process in addition to the other methods by which members of the public can register their concerns.

<http://press.homeoffice.gov.uk/press-releases/protecting-children-disclosure.html>  
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/news/child-sex-offenders-disclosure->

### **More support and new centre for children who stammer (02/03/10)**

A further £500,000 will help fund a new centre providing early intervention and support for children and young people who stammer. The funding is supporting the Association for Research into Stammering in Childhood Appeal for a new centre of excellence in West Yorkshire.

The Prince of Wales, Patron of the ARSC Appeal, hosted a reception today at Clarence House, where Michael Palin gave his backing to support the charity to raise a further £2m to expand services at the London centre and help set up the new centre.

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn\\_id=2010\\_0050](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2010_0050)

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn\\_id=2009\\_0195](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2009_0195)

### **Local Authority Child Protection Registers (Wales) 2009 (24/02/10)**

The main findings of the latest National Statistics for year ending 31/03/09:

- 2,510 children (including unborn) were on CPRs, up 190 or 8% from 08 (a rate of 40 children per 10,000 population under 18).
- 1,265 boys, 1,235 girls and 10 unborn children were on CPRs - 32% were aged 1–4 with more boys than girls in this group
- 48% of registrations were for neglect, which was stated more frequently than any other category (registrations may state more than one).
- The lowest category of abuse was the risk of sexual abuse (9%)
- 3,060 children were added to CPRs, up 3%
- The number removed from CPRs fell by 2% to 2,900

<http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/policy/documents/statistics/12971.html>

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/health2010/1002242/?lang=en>

### **Front Line Care: the future of nursing and midwifery in England - 2010**

This report by the PM's Commission is the first overarching review of nursing and midwifery in England since 1972. The terms of reference were:

- Identify the competencies, skills and support that frontline nurses and midwives need to take a central role in the design and delivery of 21st century services for the sick and to promote health and wellbeing. In particular, to identify any barriers that impede the pivotal role of ward sisters / charge nurses / community team leaders.
- Identify the potential and benefits for nurses and midwives, particularly in primary and community care, of leading and managing their own services.
- Engage with the professions, patients and the public in an interactive and robust dialogue which will identify challenges and opportunities for nurses and midwives.

The Report states that:

- nurses and midwives must renew their pledge to society to deliver high quality, compassionate care – and must be better supported to do so by their employers.
- a strong statement of commitment to high quality care would help restore public trust.
- Front-line staff and employers should state how nurses and midwives will enact values of compassion, maintain competence, and champion care in hospitals and community.
- Ward sisters, charge nurses and equivalent team leaders should be restored to their former traditional positions of authority as visible care champions.
- responsibility for high quality and compassionate care starts at the front line and goes right up to board level.

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/Page22662>

[http://cnm.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/nursing\\_midwifery\\_report.pdf](http://cnm.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/nursing_midwifery_report.pdf)

**Inactive children get help to move more**  
(04/03/10)

A new team of coaches are being deployed to help children become more active - setting them on the path to a healthier future.

The new Active Lifestyle Coaches are people who the children know well, but are specially trained and come from a range of backgrounds. They may be teaching assistants or parents, and will help motivate the children to do at least one extra hour of physical activity per week.

In addition to school PE, the programme offers children the opportunity to take part in fun alternative activities such as break dancing, cheerleading, martial fitness, yoga or free running. It is expected that 20,000 children age 4 - 5 and 10 – 11, will take part.

Children who don't get as much exercise as they need are at risk of developing serious illnesses like heart disease, type 2 diabetes and some cancers in later life. Being active also helps strengthen bones, improves coordination and helps improve self-esteem and confidence.

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn\\_id=2010\\_0055](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2010_0055)

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/PublicHealth/HealthImprovement/Obesity/HealthyWeight/index.htm>

**National Family Week 2010**

31<sup>st</sup> May 2010 – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2010

The UK's second National Family Week, offers an opportunity for practitioners working with children and young people to raise the profile of their work through a range of activities and events.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/events/surestart/nationalfamilyweek2010/>

<http://www.nationalfamilyweek.co.uk/>

**Working Together to Safeguard Children**  
(Feb 2010)

The LGA's response to the government's Working Together to Safeguard Children consultation expresses concerns about the ability of councils to deliver improvements in safeguarding practice at a time when they face severe challenges in recruiting and retaining qualified and experienced staff able to implement improvements.

<http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pageId=8874271>

<http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/aio/8873561>

**Engaging young people through social media**  
(26/02/10)

DCSF has created a set of materials to help communicate and collaborate with young people through social media and inspiring video content. This advice will help reach out to a youth audience by promoting activities and encouraging innovative ways of communicating.

Three short films have been produced to illustrate the stages of video creation. These videos are designed to enthuse and motivate both you and young people to create video content.

The toolkit includes a comprehensive guide to social media that will allow you to start a conversation with young people and get them actively involved in creating and maintaining a social media group, page or account.

A guide to video production is also included and can be used to help you develop creative videos to promote your activities.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/news-and-communications/news/26022010socialmediatoolkit/>

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/resources-and-practice/IG00676/>

## Consultations

### **Teenage Pregnancy Strategy: Beyond 2010 (25/02/10)**

This document sets out how the DCSF wants to build on the existing Teenage Pregnancy Strategy to strengthen its delivery in all local areas and make further progress towards halving the under 18 conception rate and improving outcomes for teenage parents and their children. The Strategy aims to give young people the knowledge and skills they need to delay early sex until they are ready, to ensure they are able and confident to access and use effective contraception when they do become sexually active, and to provide effective support for teenage parents. Success depends on the contribution from a range of agencies.

A separate consultation with young people and parents will be starting next month through Brook and Parentline Plus.

Closing Date: 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1708&external=no&menu=1>

### **Inquiry into Local Safeguarding Children Boards (25/02/10)**

The National Assembly for Wales' Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee invite individuals, groups or organisations with an interest or expertise in this area to submit written evidence.

During its inquiry the Committee will examine the following issues:

- Appropriateness of existing Welsh Government Policy and Guidance as relevant to LSCBs;
- Appropriateness of the scope and focus of LSCB responsibilities;
- Membership of LSCBs with reference to both the role of statutory partners and also the voluntary sector and smaller / specialist organisations;
- Arrangements for funding LSCBs;
- The relationship of LSCBs to other local partnerships, including Children and Young People's Partnerships; Community Safety Partnerships; Local Service Boards; the planned Integrated Family Support Teams.
- The effectiveness of LSCBs in promoting the protection and welfare of specific groups of vulnerable children such as children with disabilities, asylum seeker and trafficked children, black and minority ethnic children;
- The effectiveness of LSCBs in their specific role with regard to promoting the information sharing responsibilities and duties of LSCB partner agencies;
- The effectiveness of LSCBs in involving children and young people in their work.

Closing Date: 9<sup>th</sup> April 2010

<http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/policy/consultations/consultations/12979.html>

## Conferences

### **Keeping Children and Young People in Mind: Improving Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health**

25th May 2010 London £175 - £225

Participants will consider the independent review of CAMHS, and examine support outlined within the context of delivering local and national strategies to supporting child and young people's emotional wellbeing and mental health.

Key issues to be examined include:

- Delivering an effective local offer for universal, targeted & specialist services
- The role of Children's Trust Boards – early intervention through local children's plans
- Commissioning, self assessment & clarity of what local services should look like
- Children's workforce working together – understanding emotional well being & mental health
- Supporting the workforce: training, support & funding – examining national support
- EYFS and role of Sure Start
- The role of schools: Healthy Schools Programme, PSHE, Targeted Mental Health in Schools Programme, Pupil Parent Guarantees – a whole school approach
- Personalised, age appropriate & joined up services with effective transition to adulthood
- Meeting the needs of vulnerable groups, including looked after children
- Monitoring outcomes – measuring the effectiveness of the service

<http://www.westminster-briefing.com/?p=11233>

### **Issues in safeguarding refugee and asylum-seeking children (ASC)**

15<sup>th</sup> April 2010 Preston £140 - £205

Presentations and workshops include:

- Working to ensure safety, belonging and success for unaccompanied ASC
- The changing role of social workers in safeguarding the rights and needs of ASC
- Families at the end of the asylum process
- Changing migration flows to the UK: issues for children and families
- Immigration detention: systemic failings in safeguarding practice
- The role of social networks
- What role for guardians? Work with separated children in Ireland
- Guardians for unaccompanied ASC
- Growing together – using art, psychodrama, storytelling and gardening with asylum-seeking and refugee children
- Addressing the white elephant in the room: gathering a difficult history to assess the emotional and behavioural impact on children within asylum-seeking families
- Grassroots mobilisations against child deportations
- Good practice in social care
- A toolkit and assessment framework for trafficked children
- Safeguarding children and destitution
- Separated children at risk
- The experience of children in the Immigration removal process
- Afghan UASC in UK: Methods/findings from a pilot survey on mental health
- Protecting ASC in Wales
- Safeguarding Refugee and ASC
- Migrant children and health inequalities
- Domestic violence

<http://www.baspcan.org.uk/events.php>

## Conferences (continued)

### **Take a break from inspectors: Let children talk to your LSCB**

17<sup>th</sup> June 2010      Leeds   £150 - £175

An NSPCC conference for LSCB chairs, business managers and members.

Members of Local Safeguarding Children Boards know how vital it is to get children and young people involved in their activities. *Working Together* talks about ensuring that their views and opinions are consulted when planning and delivering safeguarding and promoting welfare services. This conference will really help your board engage with the voices of children and young people.

This conference will:

- help LSCBs to convert their commitment to involving children and young people into specific activities and models of working
- provide a range of tools and methods for participation, through showcases and live consultations
- model the benefits of including young people in LSCB activity by involving young people directly in the conference.

[http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/newsandevents/CPConferences/take\\_a\\_break\\_from\\_inspectors\\_wda70528.html](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/newsandevents/CPConferences/take_a_break_from_inspectors_wda70528.html)

### **Working in Partnership to Safeguard Vulnerable Students**

16<sup>th</sup> June 2010      London

£299 - £399 + VAT

Partnership working is integral for effective safeguarding and ensuring all your students receive the support and protection they need to achieve their full potential.

Following Lord Laming's recommendation, Ofsted are now inspecting the 'extent and effectiveness of partnership activity and the DCSF have made clear, "Children can only be safeguarded properly if the key agencies work effectively together".

What are the best ways to overcome barriers to inter-agency working so your students get the support they need, when they need it? Are you confident in your professional judgement when making the decisions for refer? What can you do when referrals are not taken up?

At this conference you will gain practical guidance for developing effective multi-agency working so you can maximise your effectiveness in promoting well-being, and ensure your students are safe.

<http://www.teachingexpertise.com/landing/MEL-10B-EP305-Order.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)