

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
INFORMATION UPDATE - 164
9th July 2010**

Munro Review of child protection – call for evidence (01/07/10)

The wide-ranging review was announced last month with the aim to remove barriers and bureaucracy so that social workers can get more face-to-face time with children and families.

As part of the review, Professor Munro wants to hear about new and innovative examples of good practice, to understand how they were made possible and what obstacles had to be overcome.

In particular she wants to hear about examples of:

- **Identifying and helping children and young people in need** including good examples of working with the public or between professionals that have helped identify children and young people in need. This might include accounts about how responsibility for the assessment and management of risk for a child, young person and their family is shared between universal services, for example, the specific involvement of the public, various professionals involved with the child, and children's social care.
- **Improved social work practice in assessing and helping children, young people and their families.** To what extent has this been because social workers have greater professional freedom to spend time with children, young people and their families, or through improved support or supervision? This might include reference to new models for organising social work practice or alternative approaches to case recording.



- **Strategies for assisting social workers to have the skills to** pursue difficult issues with families whose needs may be complex and/or where families are reluctant to engage.
- **Strategies for shared learning** from practice experience, including critical incidents that recognise accountability but counteract any tendency towards a blame culture.
- **Approaches to case discussions** or other strategies which evidence the quality of front-line practice.
- Engaging social workers so that they are clear about their responsibilities and efforts to **improve transparency** in local safeguarding services, which would in turn improve public confidence.

Professor Munro is keen to hear from a wide variety of perspectives – from the young person, parent or carer who has first-hand experience of social work practice; frontline social workers, health visitors, police officers, teachers, supervisors, managers; leaders of local services; voluntary and community organisations; and the range of other professionals with whom social workers work on a daily basis and whose support is also vital to securing positive outcomes for children and families.

Professor Munro is due to submit her final report in April 2011 - an interim report in January 2011 - and an initial report in September 2010.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/news/news/munroreview-callforevidence>
<http://www.education.gov.uk/munroreview/>
<http://www.education.gov.uk/munroreview/evidence.shtml>

Next steps on special educational needs and disabilities (07/07/10)

Speaking at an Every Disabled Child Matters event yesterday Sarah Teather, Children's Minister, said:

We want to make sure that the most vulnerable children get the best quality of support and care. Children with special educational needs and disabilities should have the same opportunities as their peers.

The system needs to be more family friendly so that parents don't feel they have to battle to get the support their child needs.

That is why I will launch a Green Paper in the autumn to look at a wide range of issues for children with SEN and disabilities.

Before then I will be looking at the results of the Ofsted review of SEN we are expecting later this summer, in addition to the many reviews of SEN policy in recent years. I'll also be listening to the views of parents, teachers and organisations with an interest in this area.

The system needs to be far more transparent. We need to give parents more choice and involve them in the decision-making process.

The Green Paper will also look at how to manage the transition beyond school so that young people over 16 can get the support they need.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/news/news/sen-next-steps>

Against the odds - Re-engaging young people in education, employment or training (07/07/10)

Since 1990, a yearly survey has indicated that 9-10% of 16-18 year olds are without a wage, schooling or training. This study looks at the financial, personal and social cost of this. It found that the problem may be worse than previously shown, but a new approach can make resources work harder for those at greatest risk.

The summary gives an overview of the main findings, complete with questions to help commissioners and members of 14-19 partnerships, children's trusts and local strategic partnerships explore local issues and how to work more effectively.

The report calls for Councils to get to grips with the needs of local teens, better targeted funding, and more effective schemes. The authors found that successful programmes have 3 common elements:

- target responses to local circumstances;
- support pre 16s at risk of drifting away from school, training or employment;
- intervene after age 16 in a way tailored to meet individuals' needs.

<http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nationalstudies/localgov/againsttheodds/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/pressoffice/pressreleases/Pages/englandsforgottenteens-targetedhelpwillsavemoneyandmiserysaysnewreport.aspx>

<http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Downloads/20100707-againsttheoddsfull.pdf>

<http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Downloads/20100707-againsttheoddssummary.pdf>

**Families with children in Britain:
Findings from the 2008 Families and
Children Study** (July 2010)

The 2008 FACS is the tenth in a series of annual surveys, which investigate the circumstances of British families with dependent children. This report presents descriptive findings, and is divided into a number of chapters, each of which looks at distinct features of family life.

The first part of the report focuses on the circumstances, lives and conditions of families, and topics covered include: family characteristics, health, education, work, income, benefits and tax credits, social capital and material deprivation. The second part of the report focuses on the circumstances, conditions and lives of children, and topics covered include: child characteristics, health, schooling, children's activities, and childcare.

http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/report_abstracts/rr_abstracts/rra_656.asp

<http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2009-2010/rrep656.pdf>

**Handling and retention of inspection
evidence** (06/07/10)

This document brings together Ofsted's policies regarding the handling and management of inspection evidence, including the policies regarding confidentiality, retention periods and the disclosure of evidence.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/Other/General/Handling-and-retention-of-inspection-evidence>

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/11272/133178/file/Handling%20and%20retention%20of%20inspection%20evidence.pdf>

**HSE Myth of the month: Health and
safety brings candyfloss to a sticky end**
(July 2010)

Come the summer sun and what tops off a great day out better than good, old-fashioned candyfloss? But if you believe some newspaper headlines this beloved sweet treat is under threat – because of the dangers posed by the stick it is spun around.

The truth is that there are no health and safety laws banning candyfloss on a stick. Is the traditional form of this sweet disappearing because it is easier to mass produce and store it in plastic bags? Who knows, but it certainly isn't health and safety leaving anyone with a bad taste in their mouth.

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/myth/jul10.htm>

Male forced marriage on rise (01/07/10)

Reports of men becoming victims of forced marriage are increasing, according to new figures. The Forced Marriage Unit received more than 220 emails and calls to its helpline about forced marriages involving male victims in 2009 – up 65% from 134 in 2008.

Set up in 2005, the FMU provides support to victims as well as expert training and guidance to professionals. While the majority of victims are women, men are forced into marriage for a variety of reasons, often relating to family commitments and expectations, securing visas or the desire to control behaviour and protect a family's reputation. In particular, male victims are often forced to marry women because their families know or suspect they are gay or bisexual.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/male-forced-marriage>

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/travel-and-living-abroad/when-things-go-wrong/forced-marriage/>

Guidance on Management Committees for Pupil Referral Units: Constitution and roles and responsibilities (May 2010)

This document offers guidance on the constitution and roles of management committees for PRUs. It is intended for LA officers responsible for PRU provision and for clerks and chairs of management committees. Separate guidance deals with management committee procedures.

The guidance explains the requirements in the Education (Pupil Referral Units) (Management Committees etc.) (England) Regulations 2007 as regards the constitution and roles and responsibilities of PRU management committees.

The regulations came into force on 13/11/07. From that date LAs need to choose and formally adopt a constitutional model.
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-00054-2010>
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-00054-2010.pdf>
http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/ukSI_2007_2978_en_1

Review of Early Years Foundation Stage (06/07/10)

Children's Minister Sarah Teather has asked Dame Clare Tickell, Chief Executive of Action for Children, to carry out a review of the EYFS so that it is less bureaucratic and more focused on young children's learning and development. Ministers are concerned that the EYFS framework is currently too rigid and puts too many burdens on the Early Years workforce, which has led to some saying they are spending less time with children, and more time ticking boxes.

The Government has asked Dame Clare to make sure the standards that support



young children's learning are based on the best and latest research. They want to shift the focus to getting children ready for education and to increasing the attainment of children from deprived backgrounds.

The review will cover four main areas:

- Scope of regulation – whether there should be one single framework for all Early Years providers.
- Learning and development – looking at the latest evidence about children's development and what is needed to give them the best start at school.
- Assessment – whether young children's development should be formally assessed at a certain age, and what it should cover.
- Welfare – the minimum standards to keep children safe and support healthy development.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/news/news/eyfs-review>

DfE: Children Accommodated in Secure Children's Homes at 31 March 2010: England and Wales (07/07/10)

This updated SFR gives statistics on children accommodated in secure children's homes at 31/03/10. The SFR includes information on places approved, and children accommodated by sex, age, length of stay and type of placement.

The key points are:

- 260 children were accommodated in secure children's homes – a fall of 10% on the 09 total of 290.
- The number of secure children's homes, is 17, a reduction of 2 since 09.
- There were 310 approved places in these 17 secure children's homes.
- 83% of approved places were occupied - a decrease of 3% since 09.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000945/index.shtml>

Internal Exclusion Guidance (May 2010)

Internal exclusion is an internal process and is used when the objective is to remove the pupil from class, not from the school site, for disciplinary reasons. It may be a formal process but it is not a legal exclusion so exclusions legislation and the Department's guidance on exclusion from school does not apply. Sending a pupil off site for behavioural reasons is a legal exclusion and has to be dealt with and recorded as such.

This guidance is aimed at all schools and offers advice and good practice. There is no requirement to follow this guidance, it should be used as a guide as to what internal exclusion should look like.

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-00055-2010&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-00055-2010.pdf>

An Outline of the 2006 Pupil Registration Regulations and the Changes from the 1995 Pupil Registration Regulations (May 2010)

The pupil registration regulations govern the admissions and attendance registers that all schools must keep. They also regulate the power of special schools and maintained schools to grant leave of absence.

The current regulations, The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006, came into force on 1 September 2006. This document provides a summary of the content of the regulations.

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-00052-2010&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-00052-2010.pdf>
<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/20061751.htm>

School discipline and pupil behaviour policies: Guidance for schools (May 2010)

This guidance aims to help schools understand their legal powers and duties as to establishing a school behaviour policy and disciplining pupils. It also provides more specific advice on certain key sanctions (detention and confiscation). It does not offer a definitive interpretation of the law which is a matter for the courts.

This replaces earlier guidance on school behaviour and attendance policies. It focuses particularly on provisions in the School Discipline chapter of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 which came into force on 01/04/07. These include provisions on school behaviour policies, the power to discipline, detention and confiscation. A separate chapter of the EIA 2006 sets out provisions on more specific issues around parental responsibility and excluded pupils.
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-00050-2010&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-00050-2010.pdf>

Funding for Children's Palliative Care (05/07/10)

The attached document contains details of £30m funding for children's palliative care in 2010/11, announced 26/06/10, and set out what sorts of projects will be funded and what criteria they will have to meet.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_117172
http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/document_s/digitalasset/dh_117173.pdf
http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/document_s/digitalasset/dh_117174.doc

The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 (Appropriate Officer and Schedule 7 Prescribed Persons) (Revocation)

Regulations 2010 – SI 1707 (06/07/07)

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/uksi_2010_1707_en_1

The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 (Supervisory Authorities and Devolution Alignment) (Amendment)

Order 2010 – SI 1710 (06/07/07)

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/uksi_2010_1710_en_1

Explanatory Notes

The instruments covered by these Memorandums revoke provisions which are due to come into force on 26th July 2010 but which are no longer needed.

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/em/uksiem_20101707_en.pdf

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/em/uksiem_20101710_en.pdf

Education and Skills Act 2008 - Chapter 25 (08/07/10)

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2008/ukpga_20080025_en_1#Legislation-Preamble

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2010 – SI 1725 (07/07/10)

These Regulations amend the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 - SI 1751. They prescribe a new exceptional circumstance under which a pupil may be marked as unable to attend on the school attendance register.

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/uksi_2010_1725_en_1

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/em/uksiem_20101725_en.pdf

DfE: Private Fostering Arrangements in England, year ending 31 March 2010

(06/07/10)

A privately fostered child is one under 16 (18 if disabled) cared for by someone other than a parent or close relative as defined in s105 Children Act 1989. This publication provides figures for the numbers of notifications and new private fostering arrangements for year ending 31/03/10. It also reports on actions carried out by the LA in accordance with the requirements for carrying out visits (under the Children (Private Arrangements for Fostering) Regulations 2005).

The key points are:

- 1,590 children were reported as being cared for and accommodated in private fostering arrangements. This compares with 1,530 children reported in 09 and 1,330 in 08.
- 1,940 new private fostering arrangements began – down from the 1,980 that began in the previous year.
- Of the 2,040 cases where action was taken in accordance with requirements for carrying out visits, 1,520 (75%) were carried out within 7 working days; in 2009 this was 77%.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000944/index.shtml>

The Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records and Registration) (Guernsey) Regulations 2009 SI 3297 (30/06/10)

These Regulations, which come into force on 16/12/09 and only apply in Guernsey, make detailed provision in relation to applications made in Guernsey for criminal record certificates and enhanced criminal record certificates. The Regulations, mirror, with appropriate modifications, those for E & W. http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2009/uksi_2009_3297_en_1

Self-harm, Suicide and Risk: Helping People who Self-harm (07/07/10)


Many people who harm themselves are failing to receive the help they need because of a 'patchy' provision of services across the UK and a lack of supervision and training of NHS staff, the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCPsych) says.

In this new report, the RCPsych examines the current provision of care for people at risk from self-harm and suicide, and makes a series of recommendations to improve standards of care.

Self-harm is defined as an intentional act of self-poisoning or self-injury, and includes suicide attempts. While there has been a downward trend in the number of completed suicides in recent decades, the incidence of self-harm in the UK has continued to rise over the past 20 years. An estimated 4 in 1,000 people have self-harmed, and the rate of self-harm in the UK's young people is among the highest in Europe.

As part of the report, the RCPsych surveyed over 1,500 of its members. Less than half the respondents felt that they or their team had sufficient training to undertake assessments of people who had harmed themselves.

Many respondents reported that junior doctors and other inexperienced health professionals are left – often at night – to assess and manage the complex and potentially life-threatening situations of people who have harmed themselves or attempted suicide. The survey suggests the situation is particularly bad in A&E departments.

The report makes a series of key recommendations to improve the provision of services, including: 

- NHS services, particular in A&E, to be managed so as to ensure people who have self-harmed or attempted suicide have proper access to care and treatment by fully-trained clinical staff, and the NICE guideline on self harm is implemented.
 - A change to the culture of NHS services, so that staff who encounter people who self-harm are trained and supported.
 - A proper public health strategy to cover self-harm, and for the suicide prevention strategy to remain a priority in all nations of the UK.
 - More funding of research on self-harm, which has been neglected and overlooked.
- <http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/press/pressreleases/2010/selfharmsuicideandrisk.aspx>
<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/publications/college-reports/cr/cr158.aspx>
<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/files/pdfversion/CR158.pdf>

Children's Centres Engagement Tool (29/06/10)

This tool highlights how children's centres and registered childminders can best work together to provide a range of childcare services. It provides guidance on how centres can develop plans to work with childminders in their area, links to supporting materials, details of how NCMA can offer professional support, and examples of good practice.

NCMA' Director of Communications, said "Collaborative partnerships between registered childminders and children's centres have a positive outcome for all involved, including the children. That is what makes this tool to support these joint ventures so important."

http://www.ncma.org.uk/news_and_events/news/january_to_june_2010/tool_for_childrens_centres.aspx
http://www.ncma.org.uk/partnerships/childrens_centres/engaging_childminders.aspx

Join the dots to identify the most vulnerable children says Barnardo's
(05/07/10)

Vulnerable children are going unnoticed by professionals – as they fail to identify the tell-tale signs of those being groomed for child sexual exploitation says children's charity Barnardo's.

GPs, teachers, youth workers and the police need to be made more aware of the risk indicators of these vulnerable children, and be better equipped at spotting those at greatest risk of sexual exploitation.

Key risk indicators include:

- disengagement from education; young people who are not in school during the day may be more at risk of sexual exploitation. Children who are becoming involved in this activity may begin to skip school or become disruptive
- risky behaviours; including secretive use of mobile phones and the internet
- unexplained gifts; children who appear to have new clothes, jewellery, mobile phones or money that cannot 'plausibly' be accounted for
- peers and friends; involved in sexual exploitation and with 'older' boyfriends/girlfriends
- drugs/alcohol; drug or alcohol abuse may leave children more vulnerable to sexual exploitation, it is also true to say that 'abusers' may use drugs and alcohol to help control children
- sexual health issues; a history of unprotected sex leading to STIs or inappropriate sexual behaviour.
- The earlier that sexual exploitation, or likelihood of it, can be identified, the more opportunities there are to prevent or minimise the harm suffered by vulnerable children.



Barnardo's is calling for:

- specialist training for professionals working with children in England - to help to them recognise and respond directly to the early signs of child sexual exploitation
- better co-ordination and information sharing between social services, health, education, specialist services and the police – to ensure the dots are joined in protecting those children at risk.

http://www.barnardos.org.uk/news_and_events/media_centre/press_releases.htm?ref=58825

'Five Steps to Risk Assessment'

This document tells you how to do a risk assessment for occupational health and safety. In addition, a Risk Assessment and Policy Template brings together your risk assessment, H&S policy and record of H&S arrangements into one document to help you get started and save you time. A number of example risk assessments to show you what a risk assessment might look like. If your industry is not listed, pick the one closest to it and use it as a guide for completing the template, adapting it for your own workplace.

An example H&S policy illustrates what you need to think about and include, should you choose to complete the policy section of the template.

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/contact/faqs/riskassess.htm>

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg163.pdf>

Speech by Tim Loughton to C4EO
(02/07/10)

<http://education.gov.uk/news/speeches/tl-centre-for-excellence>

Speech by Tim Loughton to the East of England DCS conference (05/07/10)

<http://www.education.gov.uk/news/speeches/tl-childrens-services-conference>

Message in a Bottle: A joint inspection of youth alcohol misuse and offending
(30/06/10)

This reports states that YOTs have made good progress in identifying and addressing alcohol misuse in children and young people but further improvements must be made. HM Inspectorate of Probation, the CQC and Healthcare Inspectorate Wales and Estyn carried out this inspection to determine whether youth offending and health services are sufficiently engaged and involved in efforts to reduce the impact of alcohol misuse by C&YP who offend.

The report re-emphasises the known link between alcohol misuse and health problems, underachievement in school and offending behaviour. It reports that YOTs are sufficiently aware of this link and are offering significant and effective health resources where alcohol misuse is seen to relate directly to offending. But there were too many inconsistencies found in the quality of assessments across England and Wales, suggesting C&YP who misuse alcohol are going without the appropriate help at times.

The report calls for all C&YP who come into contact with YOTs to receive a nationally validated health assessment by a health professional or case worker with health training to ensure that the appropriate interventions are offered.

Among other recommendations, inspectors called for greater engagement with parents and for substance misuse issues, including alcohol, to be reported and adequately considered at YOT board management level. Inspectors were pleased to find that:

- most YOTs have made good progress towards recognising, identifying and meeting alcohol-related needs in C&YP over recent years;

- the range of interventions being offered were generally good and included the provision of educational support and information used in prevention; and
- feedback from parents and young people was positive about relationships with YOT staff and health workers.
- Inspectors were concerned, however, that:
 - arrangements for assessments varied greatly and in some areas, there was an acceptance by case managers as to what they saw as normal alcohol consumption which then impacted on their assessment;
 - assessments were seen to be of a good quality in only half of the cases examined;
 - there was little evidence of the needs of victims being well managed; and
 - the recording of outcomes from alcohol interventions was inconsistent.

http://cqc.org.uk/newsandevents/pressreleases.cfm?cit_id=36371&FAArea1=customWidgets.content_view_1&usecache=false

http://www.cqc.org.uk/publications.cfm?fde_id=15860

http://www.justice.gov.uk/inspectorates/hmi-probation/docs/Inspecting_Youth_Offending_Thematic_Alcohol_Misuse_Message_in_a_bottle-rps.pdf

Revised remit for CWDC (30/06/10)

The CWDC has agreed savings of £15m for 2010-11 with the DfE and confirmed a revised remit with emphasis on cost-effective delivery to support front-line services. The savings will be as follows:

- £7.5m from communications
- £4m in efficiency savings and as a result of refocusing delivery
- £2m in stopping pilots that will not impact on front-line delivery
- £1m from public sector recruitment freeze
- £0.5m in research, including the Practitioner-led research project

http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/news/3848_revised-remit-for-cwdc

Information for Parents Booklet:**Neurological disorders** (June 2010)

The term neurodevelopmental disorder is an umbrella term for any condition caused by a dysfunction in part of the brain or nervous system, resulting in physical and/or psychological symptoms as a child develops.

The aim of this booklet is to provide parents with information about the many things they may want to know as a parent of a child with an NDD. It outlines the types and causes of neurodevelopmental disorders, their diagnosis and treatment and the potential therapies available. It also provides information about the issues parents may face, where they can gain further information and support and provides the perspective of families who have a child with an NDD.

There is a quick reference table at the back of this booklet explaining the causes, symptoms and potential therapies for a range of disorders, with details of support organisations that may be able to offer help and advice.

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=ES83&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/ES83.pdf>

Information for Parents Booklet: Sleep

(June 2010)

Getting a good night's sleep is important for both adults and children. If parents have concerns about their child's sleeping habits they might find this booklet useful.

The booklet provides information about sleep and its importance, explores how sleep deprivation might affect the whole family, and examines why sleep problems may occur.



It also gives ideas to try at home to help children have a better night's sleep and provides advice on the support and services that can help.

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=ES82&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/ES82.pdf>

CEOP Annual Review 2009-10

Between April 09 and March 2010, CEOP was directly involved in investigations that safeguarded 278 children, bringing the total since 2006 to 624, according to new figures.

In the last year, 417 suspected offenders were arrested for offences ranging from possession of indecent images to rape. Meanwhile, 96 high-risk offender networks have been disrupted or dismantled.

CEOP's 'most wanted' website, which asks the public to help locate missing offenders when all other lines of enquiry have been exhausted, has an 80% success rate.

Use of its online advice, help and reporting mechanism has also increased significantly. It saw 600 requests from child-facing websites to embed the 'ClickCEOP' button between November 2009 and March 2010.

Publishing its Annual Review, CEOP outlined how its provision of operational support, intelligence development, training programmes and child protection expertise has delivered significant results in the fight against CSA.

http://www.ceop.police.uk/mediacentre/press-releases/2010/ceop_01062010.asp
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/children-protected>
http://www.ceop.gov.uk/downloads/documents/CEOP_AnnualReview_09-10.pdf

Gibb: ‘It’s time to free-up teachers so they can maintain good behaviour’

(07/07/10)

Nick Gibb, Minister for Schools, has announced that the Government would:

- end the rule requiring schools to give 24 hours written notice for detentions
- allow heads and school staff to search pupils for mobile phones, pornography and cigarettes
- strengthen guidance and legislation if necessary surrounding use of force in the classroom
- give anonymity to teachers accused by pupils and take other measures to protect against false accusations.

Nick Gibb said today:

All pupils should show respect and courtesy towards teachers, towards other staff and towards each other. Headteachers help to create that culture of respect by supporting their staff’s authority to discipline pupils. The role of the Government is to give schools the freedom and support they need to provide a safe and structured environment in which teachers can teach and children can learn.

We know that the majority of pupils are well-behaved and want others to behave well too. Heads and teachers know best how to improve behaviour but are too often constrained by regulations which inhibit them from maintaining control of the classroom. Today we are removing red tape so that teachers can ensure discipline in the classroom and promote good behaviour.

Teachers should feel confident in exercising their authority, and pupils should not have to suffer disruption to their learning caused by the poor behaviour of others.



The Govt is removing the ban on same-day detentions, giving heads and teachers a stronger deterrent against poor behaviour. Each school will be able to decide what notice to give and how to inform parents.

Currently headteachers and authorised school staff only have the statutory power to search without consent anyone who is suspected of carrying a knife or other weapon. Alcohol, controlled drugs, and stolen property will be added from 01/09/10. Under the changes we plan to extend the list to include:

- personal electronic devices such as mobile phones, MP3 players and cameras
- legal highs
- pornography
- cigarettes
- fireworks

Other measures include:

- Legislation to allow teachers to search for any item which could cause disorder or pose a threat to safety.
- Simplified guidance about the use of force for safety or restraint - Schools should not have ‘no touch’ policies and teachers should feel able to use force when they need to.
- Reporting restrictions on allegations made about teachers - Ministers wish to put an end to rumours and malicious gossip about innocent teachers which can ruin careers.
- Tackling bullying, exclusions, and reforming alternative provision - The Government will consult teachers and schools representatives on the best way to implement these changes, to ensure that legislation gives teachers the powers they need.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/news/press-notices-new/free-teachers>

Medical Device Alert: Alvema ITO pushchair for disabled children manufactured by Eurovema AB and supplied in the UK by Rainbow Mobility Ltd (30/06/10)

The frame tubes can break causing the pushchair to tip and injure the occupant or carer. Eurovema AB has issued a Field Safety Notice but is unable to trace all the affected pushchairs.

The MHRA is aware of several instances where frequent use of the foot-brake over time causes an elongation of the mounting holes in the rear vertical frame tubes. This can lead to fracture of the frame at the brake attachment point. There have also been instances of the front frame fracturing at the castor assembly connection point.

The manufacturer has agreed to replace all affected frames with a strengthened frame assembly.

<http://www.mhra.gov.uk/Publications/SafetyWarnings/MedicalDeviceAlerts/CON085140>

Report on Inquiry into Neonatal Care in Wales (05/07/10)

Neonatal units in Wales are understaffed, ill-equipped and over-capacity, according to this report by the National Assembly for Wales's Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee. The inquiry found that insufficient resources, in the face of increasing demand, are placing extreme pressure on neonatal services across Wales.

The report calls for the Welsh Government to address high occupancy rates – which are double the recommended level at 140% in some units – and severe understaffing.

According to the report, the All Wales Neonatal Standards are not being met,



and more funding is needed for this to change.

<http://www.assemblywales.org/newhome/new-news-third-assembly.htm?act=dis&id=189754&ds=7/2010>

<http://www.assemblywales.org/cr-ld8121-e.pdf>

New therapy brings results for troubled young people (09/07/10)

Re-offending in troubled and aggressive young people can be significantly cut using a pioneering new mental health approach known as Multisystemic Therapy, a UK conference was told this week.

Initial findings in families with multiple problems showed a reduced the risk of re-offending, particularly among boys. They found that lower re-offending behaviour was evident 2 years down the line compared to existing service approaches, and can be cost effective, because young people are kept out of custody or LA care, and parents are encouraged to use the voluntary sector and local supports instead.

Multisystemic Therapy revolves around improving parenting capacity, increasing young people's engagement with education and training, reducing offending behaviour, and tackling underlying health or mental health problems, including substance misuse. It is used with children and young people aged 11-17 years and their families, where young people are at risk of out of home placement in either care or custody, due to delinquent and aggressive behaviour, and anti-social attitudes.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?NewsAreaId=2&ReleaseID=414356&SubjectId=2>

Children's services assessment for 2010
(08/07/10)

This document outlines the arrangements for the annual assessment this autumn and highlights the changes that have been made following the evaluation of the 2009 process.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/Other/General/Children-s-services-assessment-for-2010>
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/11276/133198/file/Children's%20services%20assessment%20for%202010.pdf>

Evaluation report: Ofsted CSA for 2009
(08/07/10)

This document details the outcome of the evaluation of the first year of the CSA and the consultation process that took place.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/Other/General/Evaluation-report-Ofsted-children-s-services-assessment-for-2009>
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/11274/133188/file/Evaluation%20report%20-%20Ofsted%20children's%20services%20assessment%202009.pdf>

Taking Photographs in Schools (30/06/10)

The ICO is reminding schools that they cannot hide behind data protection myths to prevent parents from taking photos of their children at school events.

Deputy Commissioner, David Smith, said: "A photo of your child at their first school production or winning the 100m race on sports day preserves precious memories. The Data Protection Act in no way stops parents from taking such photos. A common sense approach should be taken to photography at school events. Photos for personal use, such as family albums, are not covered by the Act. Schools that cite the

Act to prevent parents from taking pictures are wrong."

The ICO has produced guidance for LAs and those working within schools, colleges and universities explaining that the DPA is unlikely to apply in many situations where photographs are taken for personal use. The DPA does apply to photographs taken for official use by schools and colleges and stored with personal details, such as names. In cases such as these, a common sense approach would suggest that if the photographer gains permission to take a picture, this will usually be enough to ensure compliance.

http://www.ico.gov.uk/upload/documents/pressreleases/2010/sports_day_press_release_30_0610.pdf
http://www.ico.gov.uk/upload/documents/library/data_protection/practical_application/taking_photos.pdf

Family Justice Review (29/06/10)

This Review will examine effectiveness of the family justice system and its outcomes, and make recommendations. It will:

- examine both public and private law cases
- explore if better use can be made of mediation and how best to support contact between children and non-resident parents or grandparents
- examine the processes (but not the law) involved in granting divorces and awarding ancillary relief, and
- look at how the different parts of the family justice system are organised and managed.

The first stage starts with the launch of a 'call for evidence'.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/reviews/family-justice-intro.htm>
<http://www.justice.gov.uk/reviews/fjr-call-for-evidence.htm>

See Consultations

Consultations

Call for Evidence on the data protection legislative framework (06/07/10)

This Call for Evidence seeks evidence about how the European Data Protection Directive 95/46/EC and the Data Protection Act 1998 are working, and their impact on individuals and organisations. The Government has issued a Call for Evidence on current data protection law to help inform the UK's position on negotiations for a new EU data protection instrument, which are expected to start in early 2011.

At the same time as launching this Call for Evidence, the Government has published a provisional post implementation review impact assessment of the Data Protection Act 1998, on which we would also welcome comments. This impact assessment complements the Call for Evidence and publication of a full impact assessment is planned for the end of 2010.

Please note that the Call for Evidence is not a formal consultation, but an evidence gathering exercise.

Closing date: 6th October 2010

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/consultations/call-for-evidence-060710.htm>

Family justice: your views on its future (30/06/10)

The Family Justice Review Panel has launched a 'Call for Evidence' so that anyone with an interest in the family justice system can contribute their views on how it can work better in the future. This is part of a fundamental review of the system announced by the Government in the coalition agreement.

The Review will be comprehensive in scope including looking at how to improve use of mediation and provide better access rights to non-resident parents and grandparents. The 'Call for Evidence' is seeking views on key areas of the family justice system including how to have a more user-friendly and child-focused system; the best methods of resolving family disputes, using alternatives to legal process, and how the system is governed, managed, and funded.

Questions the Panel is seeking views on include:

- How can the justice system focus more on helping family members to reach agreement rather than pitting them against each other?
- How best can the courts working with other agencies support children involved in the care system?
- How best can the system provide greater contact rights to non-resident parents and grandparents?

The evidence will be carefully considered and used to inform the Review's recommendations on how to improve the system.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/newsrelease300610b.htm>

Conferences

Protecting Unaccompanied Child Asylum Seekers – Improving Local Provision Through Multi-Agency Working

9th September 2010 London £225

The new Coalition Government has announced that it will end the detention of child asylum seekers as soon as possible and carry out an immediate review into alternative measures. This follows recent widespread acknowledgment that much more needs to be done to ensure the protection and safety of unaccompanied asylum seeking children entering the UK.

Increased statutory duties to protect children placed on the UK Border Agency, along with recent reports critical of local provision, reinforce the need for LAs, UKBA and their partners on LSCBs to improve multi-agency working, from entry in to the UK through to the conclusion of the asylum process and beyond.

Key issues to be discussed include:

- implications of the end of child detention and considering alternative options
- key barriers regarding access to local public services for AUSC, and how can these be most effectively tackled?
- How to ensure UASC are treated as children first and foremost?
- What changes can be made to the decision making process to ensure less distress and build greater stability for children?
- How to improve partnership working and referral procedures between UKBA and local stakeholder organisations?
- Building clear lines of accountability in terms of provision and care for AUSC
- Considering the implication of new duties placed on UKBA to keep all child asylum seekers safe from harm



- How can we begin to eradicate the illegal trafficking of children into the UK?
- How to improve the collection and application of records in relation to child asylum seekers in the UK?

<http://www.westminster-briefing.com/?p=13056>

Early Intervention: Acting Early to Prevent a Life of Crime

22nd September 2010 London £225

Many of the biggest problems affecting UK society are ones that become ingrained in childhood. It is increasingly recognised that one of the more sensible ways to tackle crime is to 'intervene early' with children at risk. By supporting these children, their families and their community we can help prevent them becoming trapped in a cycle of deprivation and crime. Government action so far has resulted in a number of policies, actions and schemes in this direction. Have these measures gone far enough though and what more can the new Government do to improve interventions before it is too late?

Issues to be discussed include:

- Government plans to tackle youth crime and its underlying causes
- Expanding, improving and mainstreaming early intervention
- Providing children at risk of offending with alternatives to a life of crime
- Linking actions of LA, health and criminal justice agencies in a more coherent manner
- Improving information sharing and implementing a workable referral system
- Funding and resources in a time of economic hardship
- Learning from current good practice

<http://www.westminster-briefing.com/?p=15053>

Conferences (continued)

Solutions to the Competing Complexities Facing Children's Services

10 September 2010 London
£375 + VAT

Children's Services are facing unparalleled challenges over the next three years. Inevitable budget reductions result in the need to get more, and better for less, whilst the increased concern and focus given to safeguarding practices and inter-agency working are putting extra pressures on resource allocation.

This forthcoming event will bring together experts who have successfully dealt with the most extreme of these issues to share their approaches to tackling these challenges head on.

The programme will specifically address:

- Why things go wrong and what can be done to prevent it
 - How to allocate resources strictly and scientifically in line with priorities
 - Resource prioritisation strategies on the basis of "Highest Return"
 - Transferring resources to bolster safeguarding without detriment to other services
 - Innovative solutions which deliver more, better for less
 - Increased personalisation of services
- <http://www.cypnow.co.uk/events/article/6977/datefrom/20100901/>
<http://www.vtfours.co.uk/fours/Solutions-for-Complexities-Facing-Childrens-Services>

From care to adulthood in a shrinking economy – Building the capacity of corporate parents to achieve positive outcomes

15th September 2010 London
£199 - £399 + VAT

There is still a significant shortfall in the comparative life achievements of looked after children and young people, particularly in the key areas of independent living, education, training, employment and emotional wellbeing.

Local authorities are currently facing substantial budget cuts and in addition need to find creative ways to manage the implications of the Southwark judgement and restriction of funding from the Independent Living Fund.

These are substantial challenges for social care professionals and corporate parents.

This conference will hear from the leading experts in the fields of transition, independent living and pathway planning and will offer practical solutions as to how the care community can effectively deliver positive outcomes for looked after children and young people in the context of constrained budgets and limited resources.
<http://www.communitycareconferences.co.uk/fromcaretoadulthood2010>

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