
April 2017

Welcome to April's edition of the CordisPulse - a monthly digest of key research and policy developments across the sectors in which Cordis Bright provides research and consultancy services, i.e. children and young people's services, criminal justice, and adult social care and health.

In March, we noted with interest The Health Foundation report which assessed the implications of the social care funding gap on health care reform. From our perspective, the additional £2bn of funding from central government for adult social care to bridge the gap between the back-loaded Better Care Fund and the expected growth in additional resources through the council tax precept is clearly welcome.

Allocation of the additional central government funds prioritises those authorities facing a particular challenge over Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC). This includes some of the largest authorities by population: around a third of the £2bn has been allocated to just 20 authorities, serving a combined population of around 17.7 million people.

This extra money from central government has probably bought some time whilst the government (and likely future government) brings forward its Green Paper on a more stable solution to the long-term funding of care. However, in the interim authorities will continue to face rising cost pressures in the form of National Living Wage uplifts and growing populations of older people and people with complex disabilities. The extra money will need to deliver on two fronts: (1) to pay the rising costs of existing service provision, and (2) to deliver additionality, so more services can be provided to more people. At this stage, it is unclear how much of latter will be delivered.

Concerning children's services and criminal justice, two of our evaluation reports were published in March (see Cordis Bright News below). One for the Department for Education on the Family Learning Intervention Programme and the other for the Welsh Government on the Enhanced Case Management approach. In some ways the evaluations were very different: the former on implementing an innovative holistic approach to supporting families with children on the edge of care and the latter on applying a Trauma Recovery Model to young people with complex needs and prolific offending histories. In other ways, the projects were very similar, i.e. public sector partners seeking to build on evidence of what works to develop new, more impactful ways of supporting children and young people by addressing their



underlying needs. Increasingly, this is a focus of a lot of our work in children's services: helping public services design new approaches built on solid evidence of 'what works' and/or evaluating the impact of existing services so commissioners have reassurance about the level and nature of impact.

If you would like to discuss any of the issues raised in this month's Pulse please do contact us on 020 7330 9170.

Best wishes,

Dr Stephen Boxford

Head of Research

If you would prefer not to receive future editions of the CordisPulse, please click 'unsubscribe' at the very end of this email. If you would like to discuss anything that arises from the Pulse (or if there are others who you think would like to receive copies) then please contact Dr Stephen Boxford on stephenboxford@cordisbright.co.uk or 020 7330 9170.

Cordis Bright News

Please click on the headings to access reports.

Youth Justice Board Cymru and Welsh Government. *Evaluation of the Enhanced Case Management approach*

Cordis Bright completed an evaluation of the Enhanced Case Management (ECM) approach on behalf of the Youth Justice Board Cymru and Welsh Government. The ECM approach is grounded in a Trauma Recovery Model, designed to provide YOT practitioners and managers with increased knowledge and understanding in relation to how early attachment, trauma and adverse life events can impact on a young person's ability to engage effectively in youth justice interventions. Qualitative data from all stakeholders involved in the evaluation highlighted positive improvements in young people's lives.



Department for Education. *Family learning intervention programme: evaluation*

Cordis Bright completed an evaluation of the Family learning intervention programme (FLIP) in Hackney. FLIP is an innovative model for the delivery of edge-of-care interventions, which focuses on working with families to strengthen their long-term resilience, raise aspiration, and empower and enable parents to parent effectively. This evaluation found emerging evidence of some positive impact for participating children, parents and staff. However, the evidence base can be considered to be emerging and therefore it is difficult to robustly assess at this stage the long term impact of FLIP.

ECPAT UK

Cordis Bright is pleased to announce that we will be working with ECPAT UK and Missing People to help improve the response to children at risk of trafficking, children who have been trafficked and those who are at risk of going missing. Funded by the Home Office's Child Trafficking Protection Fund, the ground-breaking Partnership Against Child Trafficking Project (PACT) will provide a specialist consultancy service to four UK local authorities in order to improve localised responses to child trafficking.

For further information visit the [ECPAT UK](#) site.

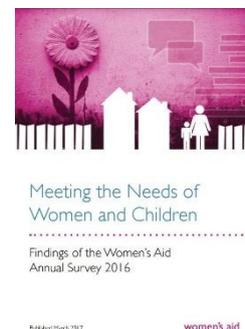
Children and young people's services

Please click on the headings to access reports.

Reports

Women's Aid. *Meeting the Needs of Women and Children: Findings of the Women's Aid Annual Survey 2016*

This survey includes evidence collected from 179 domestic abuse services, of which 145 ran refuge support and 114 ran community-based support. Women's Aid report that service providers find the funding landscape for domestic abuse services to be fragmented and the level of funding available varies considerably between local authorities and different services. The survey also found that almost two thirds of women in refuge services had children with them, highlighting the need for services for children as well as women at refuge shelters.



Department for Education. *Children and young people's mental health: peer support*

This report summarises the responses to a call for evidence made by the DfE. It includes interviews with adults and young people involved in peer support programmes. It sets out recommendations about 'what works' when delivering peer support for mental health and emotional wellbeing to children and young people. Children and young people suggest peer support programmes work best when they are flexible, and peer supporters are friendly and approachable. Adults involved in peer support reported that programmes should be integrated into a wider support network of adult and clinical support, and peer supporters should receive structured, good-quality training.

Department for Education. *The impact of abuse and neglect on children; and comparisons of different placement options*

This review of evidence provides a summary of relevant research to allow comparison of the outcomes between different placement options for children who have suffered abuse and/or neglect. It reports that in instances where issues relating to maltreatment at home have not been resolved, placing children in alternative care can lead to better outcomes. Evidence suggests that adoption has a lower rate of disruption for children than special guardianship orders or residency orders. It also stresses that information, advice and support for carers is an essential ingredient to establish successful placements.

British Journal of Social Work. *Continuity and Discontinuity in the Transition from Care to Adulthood*

Current discourse in social work research values stability in care and continuity in the transition from care as a main strategy for successful transitions for care leavers. However, according to this research, greater regard should be given to young people's own efforts to create (dis)continuity in other aspects of their life. Allowing



care leavers to create their own (dis)continuity can enhance their sense of agency throughout the transition process.

The Rees Centre. Evaluation of the Siblings Together Buddy Project

The Siblings Together Buddy project aims to reunite siblings separated through care and adoption. Since the 2008 Children and Young Persons Act, Local Authorities have had a duty to accommodate siblings together in care, so far as is reasonable. A review of evidence conducted as part of this study supports this duty, reporting that sibling groups placed together experienced greater stability of placement. The review suggested that there was evidence of some young people's behaviour improving following participation in the scheme. It also reported that older teenagers had enhanced wellbeing as a result of having the opportunity to discuss their futures.

Early Intervention Foundation. Disadvantage, Behaviour and Cognitive Outcomes: Longitudinal Analysis from age 5 to 16

The Early Intervention Foundation's study into the links between disadvantage and behavioural and cognitive outcomes found that there is a higher prevalence of behavioural and emotional problems among disadvantaged children. It suggests that discrepancies can be accounted for by differences in maternal psychological wellbeing and parental education – however problems tend to only present in children from lower and middle income households. This suggests that higher family income may protect against risk factors or that poverty may amplify them.

Department for Education. Creating a Culture: How school leaders can optimise behaviour

This report reviews the quality of behaviour in schools and identifies examples of best practice. It argues that good behaviour contributes to better academic and social outcomes for young people, and improves staff satisfaction and retention. To create a culture of success in schools, the report highlights the importance of having clarity of purpose, consistent practices, high levels of staff engagement, and visible leadership. It recommended that the DfE should provide greater guidance to schools on how to manage the most challenging students.

Department for Education. Stoke-on-Trent's House Project: evaluation

The Stoke-on-Trent House Project is a new way of supporting care leavers to take control of their transition into independent living and to have greater involvement and choice in creating a long-term home after care. 16-18 year olds leaving care were given access to a void council property, alongside a bespoke package of support until that young person was ready and able to transition out of the project, at which they and their home revert to a standard long-term council tenancy. The evaluation cautiously suggests that there is emerging evidence that young people experienced improved outcomes through their involvement in the programme.

Department for Education. Child sexual exploitation 'empower and protect' project



South Yorkshire Empower and Protect (SYEP) has created a new, sub-regional partnership between local authorities in Sheffield, Barnsley and Rotherham, and Doncaster's Children's Services Trust, aimed at enabling young people experiencing or at risk of CSE to remain safely at home, or in stable foster care rather than being placed in out-of-area residential or secure accommodation. The programme aimed to recruit and train specialist foster carers, and introduce intensive support and therapeutic input to help sustain placements and prevent breakdowns. The evaluation concluded it is possible to safely assist young people to stay at home or settle in long-term foster placements with the correct, collaborative, psychologically-informed support.

Department for Education. *Tri-borough Residence Evaluation interim research report*

This report evaluates an intervention developed by Tri-borough Multi Academy Trust (MAT) to provide education for young people who have been excluded from mainstream schools. The intervention targets students who have attended one of the MAT's academies and who were in, or on the edge of care, and/or involved in the youth justice system. The students attend a residential educational setting outside of London for a flexible period of time. At the residency a range of models were flexibly applied to match the educational and care needs of the cohort. The evaluation concluded that there was positive evidence emerging of the impact of the residence on students. However, there were challenges still to overcome around reintegrating students into mainstream education.

Department for Education. *Wigan and Rochdale Child Sexual Exploitation Innovation (CSE) Project*

The Wigan and Rochdale CSE Innovation Project has aimed to address the problem of too many young people affected by CSE being placed in high cost or secure accommodation that does not always meet their needs. An intervention was co-designed with young people and their families, and included providing high intensity support, non-conventional working hours and using technology. The evaluation concludes that the innovation was effective but may be challenging to scale-up. The report raises concerns about whether social workers could provide the same level of intensive support while managing larger, more mixed caseloads.

Department for Education. *Safe Steps CSE Innovation Project*

The St Christopher's Fellowship Safe Steps Innovation pilot was developed as a response to an increasing number of young women being identified as sexually exploited, or at risk of sexual exploitation. The pilot aimed to provide intensive support and supervision within existing guidance on restrictions to liberty, to provide safe accommodation outside a secure setting. The evaluation concludes Safe Steps has reached a point where it has the potential to work with young women for long enough periods of time to establish relationships that can provide relational security, address past trauma and begin to affect future outcomes.



Department for Education. *Social Care Innovations in Hampshire and Isle of Wight*

This evaluation covers a wide range of interventions aimed at creating the right conditions and capacity for professionals to work as effectively as possible with vulnerable children and families in order to safely reduce demand for remedial or repeat interventions. It includes Family Intervention Teams (FIT), the use of skilled PAs to support social work teams, a new multi-agency service for victims or potential victims of CSE, and working with young people and families at the edge-of-care. The report finds evidence of that the use of PAs and work with young people and families at the edge of care have worked well, but FIT and the new multi-agency CSE service need further time to develop before it could be properly evaluated.

Department for Education. *Coram's Permanence Improvement Project*

Coram's Permanence Improvement Project was intended to enhance the wellbeing of children who could not live safely at home, focusing in particular on cases where adoption was the permanence plan. The Coram Consultancy approach, according to this evaluation, enabled significant improvements to be achieved in the timeliness of agency decision-making in family-finding for children, where adoption was the agreed plan. For example, children with a protection order (PO) waited an average of 113 days for an adoptive family to be found and approved by the agency, compared with an average of 246 days achieved for children with a PO made in the previous year.

Department for Education. *The Right Home Project*

The Right Home Project (RHP) is a multi-agency approach including children and young people's services, and housing services and providers to address a gap in provision for young people on the edge of care or at risk of being homeless in Calderdale. It included five accommodation strands, with a single multi-agency panel providing a central pathway for assessing referrals and allocating accommodation and support. The evaluation reflected that due to the complexities of need amongst the target services users, the intervention had mixed success at reducing the risk of care and homelessness. However there was emerging evidence of some participants more successfully engaging with EET.

Department for Education. *Evaluation of Growing Futures*

Growing Futures was established in Doncaster to improve the outcomes of families, and particularly children and young people, who have experienced Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA). This programme comprises multiple elements including development of new professional roles, training programmes, a communications and outreach strategy, and a new Domestic Abuse Strategy for Doncaster. This evaluation sought to evaluate the programme as a whole. It particularly highlighted that the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Navigator role had benefited both service users and social workers, by improving engagement with families and ensuring more uniform and consistent completion of risk assessments for DVA.

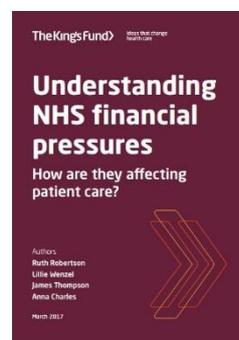
Adult Social Care and Health

Please click on the headings to access reports.

Reports

The King's Fund. *Understanding NHS financial pressures: How are they affecting patient care?*

Financial pressures are negatively affecting patient care, according to this report by The King's Fund, particularly services such as genito-urinary medicine (GUM) services, district nursing services, elective hip replacement services and neonatal services. However, the report suggests that it is difficult to measure precisely the effect of negative financial pressures on services as staff are working extra hours and working more intensively to compensate for funding cuts.



The King's Fund. *Public Satisfaction with the NHS in 2016*

Using data from the British Social Attitudes survey, the King's Fund have conducted an analysis of the public's levels of satisfaction with the NHS. It found public satisfaction with the NHS overall was 63 per cent in 2016. The change in satisfaction since 2015 was not statistically significant, but overall the figure remains well below the peak figure of 70% in 2010. In 2016, 26% of respondents were satisfied with social care services, unchanged from 2015. For the past five years, public satisfaction with social care services has been considerably lower than it was a decade ago. Social care is also the only service to have a negative net satisfaction score.

The Health Foundation. *The year of plenty? An analysis of NHS finances and consultant productivity*

Rising costs have outstripped the growth in funding for NHS providers, whose financial position continued to worsen in 2015/16, according to The Health Foundation's review of NHS providers' finances. The report stresses that the NHS does not operate in isolation, and that efforts to reach productivity and efficiency targets are being hampered by the increased numbers of A&E admissions and delays in patient discharge from acute care.

Briefings

The NHS. *Next steps on the NHS Five Year Forward View*

This document reviews the progress made since the launch of the NHS Five Year Forward View in October 2014 and sets out a series of *“practical and realistic steps for the NHS to deliver a better, more joined-up and more responsive NHS in England”*.

Department of Health and Department for Communities and Local Government. *2017-19 Integration and Better Care Fund: Policy Framework*

This document sets out an overview of policy initiatives and legislation around the ongoing processes of integrating elements of health, social care and other public services. It provides a guide to the Government's proposals for going beyond the Better Care Fund towards further integration by 2020, including allowing a flexible, devolved approach to integration that will differ according to local circumstances and needs across the country.

The Health Foundation. *The impact of providing enhanced support for care home residents in Rushcliffe*

In this briefing, The Health Foundation considers the impact of Principia, the local partnership of GPs, patients and community services, delivering the Multispecialty Community Provider Vanguard in Rushcliffe, Nottinghamshire. Key elements of the MCP include aligning care homes with general practices, providing additional support to community nursing and working to engage care home managers. The evaluation found that older people living in care homes that participated in the enhanced support programme attended A&E departments 29% less often than a matched comparison group, and were admitted to hospital as an emergency 23% less frequently.

The Health Foundation. *The social care funding gap: implications for local health care reform*

In this briefing, The Health Foundation sets out the impact of the social care funding gap on efforts to reform local health care. Interviews with local leaders of the NHS's Strategic Transformation Plans found that the paucity of social care funding was creating strains on the relationships between social care and health services. The report argues that the scale and impact of cuts to social care budgets is limiting the potential for effective health care reform.

Crisis and Joseph Rowntree Foundation. *The Homelessness Monitor: England 2017*

In this, its sixth annual report, the Homelessness Monitor provides an update of how the level of homelessness has changed in England and elsewhere in the UK. It finds that the ongoing upward trend in officially estimated rough sleeper numbers remained evident in 2016, with the national total up by 132% since 2010, of which, the vast bulk of recent increases in statutory homelessness is made up of people previously located in the private rented sector.



Tools and Guidance

Local Government Association. *Public health transformation four years on*

This report provides a compilation of case studies demonstrating how local authorities are attempting to continue to make progress on improving health and wellbeing and tackle health inequalities since health was formally transferred from

the NHS in 2013. Case studies were chosen to show a range of ways in which councils are approaching their public health responsibilities, including examples of commissioning integrated services for substance misuse, sexual health, early years/0-5s and integrated wellbeing services.

NICE. *Managing medicines for adults receiving social care in the community*

This document includes a series of recommendations around medicines support for adults who are receiving social care in the community. Guidance includes recommendations on:

- governance arrangements and joint working between health and social care
- assessing medicines support needs
- supporting people to take their medicines, including covert administration and managing concerns
- staff training and competency
- sharing medicines information and record keeping
- safely ordering and supplying medicines and transporting, storing and disposing of medicines

Homeless Link. *Future Focus: A framework to shape the funding of sustainable supported housing services*

In order to create a sustainable supported housing sector, Homeless Link argue that the new funding system must be underpinned by five key principles. It must:

- provide adequate funding on a sustainable basis
- respond flexibly to the diversity and complexity of people's needs and aspirations
- encourage the sector to implement good practice, innovate and develop to meet future demand
- support the commissioning of high-quality schemes that meet the current and future needs of local communities
- be developed in partnership with supported housing schemes and their residents



Social Care Institute for Excellence. *Total transformation of care and support*

Using data from Birmingham City Council, this paper explores the potential for scaling-up the most promising examples of care, support and community health services. This document has been updated since 2016 to include additional promising models of care. Examples include models of care aiming to connect people with local services more effectively; help families and people stay living at home for longer; and providing reablement services.

Local Government Association. *Performance: How do you know your council is performing well in adult social care?*



The LGA has produced a short guide to help Lead Members understand how well their local authority is delivering adult social care. It highlights key factors and questions to ask, including about getting the culture and systems right; whether the authority is taking a sector-led improvement approach; and measuring progress towards integration with the NHS.

Department of Health. Annual Report by the Chief Social Worker for Adults

This report focuses on developments in social work practice, culture change and professional development in delivering social work services in England, particularly in response to the Care Act and its impact in reframing practice with adults. The report also sets out progress made in the last year to promote and sustain excellent social work and outlines the Chief Social Worker's priorities for 2017-18.

Criminal Justice

Reports

Prison Reform Trust. Fair Cop? Improving outcomes for women at the point of arrest

In this discussion paper, the Prison Reform Trust argues for greater use of “problem solving approaches” for women at the point of arrest, such as police-based triage schemes, integrated offender management, restorative justice and, liaison and diversion services. It recommends that funding should be provided to support flexible, early interventions to avoid the criminal justice system being the primary gateway through which vulnerable women can access appropriate support.

Tools and Guidance

NICE. Mental health of adults in contact with the criminal justice system

This document includes a series of recommendations around assessing, diagnosing and managing the mental health of adults in contact with the criminal justice system. Guidance includes recommendations on:

- assessing and managing a person’s mental health problems, including assessing risk to themselves and others
- planning their care
- psychological and pharmacological interventions
- how services should be organised
- staff training