



CordisPulse

July 2019

Welcome to July'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.

This month we were pleased to see the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs report into homelessness and drug misuse. This report found that there is increased risk of problematic drug use associated with people who experience homelessness. There is a higher rate of drug-related deaths, infections among people who inject drugs, and multiple morbidities. People who experience homelessness and use substances have particularly complex circumstances and additional risks which require intensive long-term support. An integrated health, social care, and community care approach to the recovery and housing needs of people who are homeless would provide the optimal model of service delivery. This must include a focus on safe, stable housing and evidence-based harm reduction initiatives.

Our work on two major nationally important evaluations, concerning supporting people with lived experience of homelessness, substance misuse, mental health issues and offending concurs with the findings of this report. These evaluations are: (1) the national evaluation of the Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) approach – more about which can be seen [here](#), and (2) the longitudinal evaluation of the Big Lottery Fund's Blackpool *Fulfilling Lives* programme – more about which can be found [here](#).

In these evaluations we have taken innovative, bespoke, participatory and co-productive approaches working with people with lived experience to design, conduct, analyse and disseminate findings. This month we have released a blog and podcast which covers elements of this approach. We'd recommend both to our reader. More information can be accessed [here](#).

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.

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Cordis Bright News

Court Diversion and Deferred Prosecution Schemes – Evidence Review

Court diversion and deferred prosecution schemes can be a valuable tool for achieving a range of outcomes: reducing reoffending rates, reducing costs to the criminal justice system, and improving wider outcomes for offenders. In this evidence review we profile 20 different diversion and deferred prosecution schemes and assess their effectiveness in relation to achieving these three overarching outcomes. We also outline the policy context surrounding deferred prosecution and identify consistent themes regarding successful implementation.

Co-Production with Experts by Experience

This month, Cordis Bright have released a podcast and blog to coincide with co-production week. In our podcast, we talk to two Expert by Experience researchers, Anne and Mero, about their experience conducting research with us in our evaluation of the National MEAM Approach. The year 1 and 2 reports can be found [on their website](#). We discuss how we involved people with lived experience in each phase of the research, and the value this added to the final evaluation. Our accompanying blog offers a useful tool for co-producing research, outlining the key lessons that we learned from the process. The importance of equal relationships where everyone has shared responsibilities is highlighted as a key factor underpinning the success of co-production.

Adult Social Care and Health

Reports

Care Quality Commission. Medicines in health and adult social care.

People's physical and mental health outcomes improve when medicines are used in the best or optimal way. When they are not prescribed or administered correctly, they can cause harm. The CQC want to encourage improvement by sharing what they have found through their regulatory work and giving examples of how some providers have reduced these risks.



This report analyses over 200 inspection reports, 100 enforcement notices and 1,500 National Reporting and Learning Systems and statutory notifications from providers. They found that there are many examples of how good use of medicines can lead to person-centred care and better patient outcomes. Yet many medication errors happen, and they identified common areas of risk where there is a need for improvement across different types of health and case services. These are: prescribing, monitoring and reviewing medicines; administering medicines; at transfer of care between services; reporting and learning from incidents; storing, supplying and disposal; and staff competence and workforce capacity.

Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. Report into homelessness and drug misuse.

The report, published by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, outlines that treating homeless people for drug misuse is exceptionally difficult unless their housing needs are met at the same time. The report also finds that housing authorities, local councils and health services should work together to adopt a tailored approach to tackling drug misuse among homeless people in the area. The council's recommendations come as official statistics show that 32% of all deaths among homeless people in England in 2017 were a result of drug poisoning. This compares with only 1% of the general population.

House of Commons, Health and Social Care Committee. Sexual health.

Good sexual health is a vital aspect of overall health and wellbeing. That is helped by easy access to high quality information and sexual health services. Although the top line figures for sexual health appear positive at first glance – overall STIs and teenage pregnancies are falling – they mask a number of seriously concerning underlying trends and inequalities as poor sexual health outcomes fall disproportionately on certain groups.



Among the findings from this inquiry, an enduring theme was geographical variation in access to the highest standard of sexual health services, worsened by the impact of greatly reduced funding and increase fragmentation of services. The report concluded that sexual health must be sufficiently funded on a national level to deliver higher quality sexual health services and information. Inadequate sexual health services may also lead to serious personal long-term health consequences for individuals and jeopardise other public health campaigns, such as the fight against antimicrobial resistance which is becoming a major issue in the treatment of gonorrhoea.



The King's Fund. Insights from the spread of the primary care home.

In this report, The King's Fund, look at factors that contributed to the spread of the 'primary care home', a type of primary care network, from concept to more than 200 sites in a few years. They draw on a series of interviews with staff from the National Association of Primary Care (NAPC, who curated the primary care home concept for use in England in 2015), NHS England (who supported the work) and local sites (who delivered changes on the ground). The report identifies factors that enabled the spread of primary care homes, as well as the factors that made the spread harder. It provides insights for the NAPC and others that can inform their health and care transformation efforts.

TheKingsFund

**Insights from the
spread of the primary
care home**

Osaka Shogun
Joshi Jitendra
PHE New Obesity
Public Health
June 2018



Briefings

The Department of Health and Social Care, the Local Government Association and Public Health England (PHE). Tackling childhood obesity: £1.5 million funding for local projects.

The Department of Health and Social Care, the Local Government Association and Public Health England are to award five local councils £100,000 a year over a 3-year period. The funding will help them to trial new programmes in their area to address childhood obesity and health inequalities. The five councils are: Bradford, Blackburn and Darwen, Nottinghamshire, Lewisham and Birmingham.

Tools and Guidance

Public Health England. Social prescribing: applying All Our Health.

This updated resource helps health professionals prevent ill health and promote wellbeing as part of their everyday practice, including guidance on why to adopt social prescribing in your professional practice, understanding local needs and measuring impact. They also recommend important actions that managers and staff holding strategic roles can take.

Public Health England. Local Health: public health data and mapping tool for small areas.

The Local Health tool uses mapping software to present data for middle super output areas, electoral wards, clinical commissioning groups, local authorities and England as a whole. It contains indicators related to population and demographic factors, wider determinants of health and health outcomes. The tool allows users to map data and provides spine charts and reports for small areas. Users can also define their own geographic areas, such as local neighbourhoods, and add their own data.

Children and young people's services

Reports

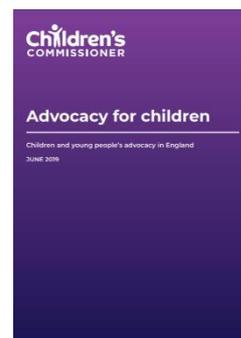
Department for Education. Children in need of help and protection: data and analysis.

The DfE have released new data and analysis on children in need. They have used a range of DfE data sources and linked several datasets for the first time. It will be of interest to those working in services for children in need and those engaging with the children in need review. The analysis offers insights into children in need including: the characteristics of children in need, overlaps with other disadvantages such as special educational needs, the experiences of children in need through social care and school, and outcomes from the early years through education and into adulthood.

The preliminary longitudinal analysis shows the social care journeys of children in need between 2014 to 2015, and between 2016 to 2017. It explores the impact of social care journeys on educational outcomes.

Children's Commissioner for England. Advocacy for Children.

This report follows previous studies and other recent research into advocacy. This work builds on research by the Children's Commissioner in 2016, which also explored the provision of advocacy across England and found substantial variation across local authorities, with spend per child or young person ranging from £2 to £668 each year.



This report intends both to take stock of advocacy provided by local authorities three years on and to highlight ongoing issues observed by the Children's Commissioner's Help at Hand service, which provides advice and help to children in care. This research is not a complete review of advocacy provision in England, rather it is intended to contribute to ongoing work to promote support for effective advocacy and to ensure that children and young people receive a good service wherever they are. Whilst many people can act as a child's advocate by helping them to have their voice heard, this report focuses on independent, professional advocacy, to which children and young people are entitled by law and statutory guidance.

Greater Manchester. Children and Young People's Plan (2019-2022).

This plan sets out how Greater Manchester will achieve their vision to be one of the best places in the world to grow up, get on and grow old. This means a place where all children have the best start in life and young people grow up inspired to exceed expectations. Their ambition is that every child in Greater Manchester has the skills, opportunities and aspirations necessary to negotiate early childhood, primary and secondary school, and education and employment. This plan should act as a reference point for their collective aims for children and young people in the city-region but also for individual organisations and district level plans.



Briefings

The British Psychological Association. Promoting mental health and wellbeing in schools. How the Ofsted inspection process can inspire change and what support is needed in schools.

This briefing sets out how Ofsted can develop its proposed inspection framework and approach to assessment to recognise schools that deliver quality mental health and wellbeing support. Drawing on evidence from psychologists who work with children, young people, families, schools and teachers, this briefing outlines how Ofsted inspections could better incorporate a holistic understanding of children's mental health in context. It explains how to use that understanding to better assess and recognise good practice in schools that support the mental health and wellbeing of students and staff.

Children and Young People's Mental Health Coalition. Overshadowed. The mental health needs of children and young people with learning disabilities.

Children and young people with learning disabilities are much more likely to develop mental health problems yet their needs are too often overlooked warns a new report by the Children and Young People's Mental Health Coalition. *Overshadowed* finds that children and young people with learning disabilities are more than four times more likely to develop a mental health problem than average. This means that 14% or one in seven of all children and young people with mental health difficulties in the UK will also have a learning disability. The young people and families spoken to described being 'ping-ponged' around the system leaving them to fall through the gaps. It is during the transition from child to adult services that young people face particular difficulties as they may be transitioning from multiple services.



Tools and Guidance

HM Government. Reducing the need for restraint and restrictive intervention.

This guidance is for health services, social care services and special education settings. It sets out how to support children and young people with learning disabilities, autistic spectrum conditions and mental health difficulties who are at risk of restrictive intervention.

Ofsted and CQC. Local Area SEND inspections: Information for families.

In May 2016, Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC), started a new type of joint inspection, aiming to hold local areas to account and champion the rights of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities. In June 2019, Ofsted and CQC published the 'Local area special educational needs and disabilities inspection framework'. This document provides guidance in preparation for inspections, including information on the inspection teams, how service users will be told about an upcoming inspection, what inspectors will be looking for, what inspectors can and can't do and how they will report their findings.



Criminal Justice

Reports

Ministry of Justice. 'Lifeline' community treatment pilots to steer offenders away from crime.

Vulnerable offenders in the criminal justice system will be offered targeted treatment under new plans designed to boost rehabilitation and reduce re-offending announced by the government, as of 20th June 2019. Where appropriate, through the new pilots, more offenders will be diverted towards community sentences in where they will receive treatment for mental health, drug or alcohol issues, often deemed to be the root cause of offending behaviour.

Public Health England. Prison health: health and justice annual report 2017/18.

PHE works in partnership to identify and meet the health and social care needs of people in prisons and other prescribed places of detention (PPDs), as well as those in contact with the criminal justice system in the community. PHE aims to reduce health inequalities, support people in living healthier lives and ensure the continuity of care in the community.

This report captures a broad range of activities led by the national health and justice team in PHE. They work across parts of PHE and with a broad range of partners internationally, nationally and locally across all the domains of public health practice.



Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service. The effect of diet and exercise on anti-social behaviour in prison.

Exercise and physical activity have many physiological and psychological benefits. Most evidence is about the general population. But there is a growing interest about their effect on prisoners. What effect might exercise have on prisoners' wellbeing, custodial behaviour and future offending. There is also growing evidence that diet affects not only our health, but our cognitive behaviour and ability too.

This report presents the evidence surrounding what we already know about the effect of diet and exercise on anti-social behaviour in prison. This includes findings on how physical activity can reduce reoffending, how exercise affects mood and thinking, and evidence on how dieting affects prisoner behaviour.

Briefings

Policing in the UK.

Police forces across the UK are having to contend with multiple challenges. Many forces have been under financial pressure, whilst responding to evolving crime threats including digital crime and serious violence. This briefing is designed to provide a 'beginners guide' to policing policy in the UK.



Tools and Guidance



Parole Board. Improving victim's engagement in the parole process.

This guidance, published by the Parole Board, provides a victim guide to parole in the form of a four minute explanatory video. The video covers information including: the Parole Boards duty to victims, the process victims will need to go through, as well as how issues will be approached if things do go wrong.

Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service. Healthcare for offenders.

This guidance, published by Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service, outlines how offender healthcare is managed in England and Wales, for both offenders in prison and within the community. In England for example, there is collaborative responsibility from the Ministry of Justice, the Department of Health and Social Care, HM Prison and Probation Services, NHS England and Public Health England, to align, enable and support health and substance misuse and social care services in prisons, via a National Partnership Agreement.