



CordisPulse

July 2021

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. adult social care and health, children and young people's services, and criminal justice.

This month we were pleased to see our recent report on [Safeguarding and Radicalisation](#) published by the Department for Education. This research demonstrates how radicalisation is being addressed in children's social care. The report is based on stakeholder consultation in 11 local authorities between September 2020 and March 2021. In the report, we identify current approaches in children's social care to tackling radicalisation as well as explore examples of promising and potentially transferable practice.

In June, the Independent Care Review published their [Case for Change](#) report, setting out the Review's early thinking on what needs to change in the children's social care system. In many ways the report mirrored our own experiences of supporting local authority children's services directorates and other partners working with children at risk of poor outcomes. Our experience of evaluating a range of Department for Education Children's Social Care Innovation Programme projects highlights the importance of addressing system-wide challenges especially in relation to the need to boost funding, address the lack of national policy focus on early intervention and empower professionals to make robust decisions.

If you would like to discuss any of the issues raised in this month's Pulse, please do contact us on 020 7330 9170 or email stephenboxford@cordisbright.co.uk.

Best wishes,

Dr Stephen Boxford
Director and 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

Safeguarding and radicalisation

The Department for Education has published our research report **Safeguarding and Radicalisation: Learning from Children's Social Care**. We spoke to stakeholders from 11 local authority case study areas, along with national and regional stakeholders, to explore:

- Views on how cases, processes and practices have changed in recent years.
- Current approaches in children's social care to tackling radicalisation.
- Examples of promising and potentially transferable practice
- Challenges encountered.
- Current and potential future sources of information, support and guidance.

 Department for Education

Safeguarding and radicalisation: learning from children's social care

Research report
June 2021

Suzie Langdon-Shreeve and Hannah Nickson, Cordis Bright  Government Social Research

Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership: VCSE Engagement end of programme evaluation

In October 2020 GM Health and Social Care Partnership commissioned a 6-month long evaluation to find out how successful the 4.5-year VCSE Engagement programme has been so far.

We were asked to answer the following question: To what extent has the VCSE Engagement programme been successful in achieving progress towards the outcomes set out in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)?

Overall, the evaluation found that the programme has made demonstrable progress towards the longer-term outcomes in the MoU, but also in delivering intermediate outcomes such as stronger relationships, mutual understanding, the capacity, and skills to engage in strategic conversations, and a wider recognition of the contribution the VCSE sector can make.



Adult Social Care and Health

Reports

Department of Health and Social Care. Data saves lives: reshaping health and social care with data (draft)

The strategy sets out the Secretary of State's vision for how data will be used to improve the health and care of the population in a safe, trusted and transparent way. It provides an overarching narrative and action plan to address the current cultural, behavioural and structural barriers in the system with the ultimate goal of having a health and care system that is underpinned by high quality, readily available data. It marks the next steps of the discussion about how we can best utilise data for the benefit of patients, service users, and the health and care system.

Office for National Statistics. Coronavirus and the social impacts on unpaid carers in Great Britain

Indicators from the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey on the social impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on unpaid carers in Great Britain.

Public Health Wales. Voices of Carers during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Messages for the future of unpaid caring in Wales

A new Cardiff University report, funded by Public Health Wales, highlights the additional challenges that unpaid carers have faced during the Coronavirus pandemic.

The British Journal of Social Work. Place, Strengths and Assets: A Case Study of How Local Area Coordination is Supporting Individuals and Families Under Conditions of Austerity

This report shares the findings of a mixed-method evaluation of Local Area Coordination (LAC) in one English Local Authority – an approach that draws on principles of earlier intervention, and place-, asset- and strengths-based activity. It draws on documentary materials, unstructured observation and qualitative interviews.

The Health Foundation. Switched on: How do we get the best out of automation and AI in health care?

This report explores the opportunities for automation and AI in health care and the challenges of deploying them in practice. It draws on learning from the Health Foundation's programmes and research – including a recent study by the University of Oxford on the potential of automation in primary care – as well as a range of other literature.



Bevan Foundation. A review of befriending services in Merthyr Tydfil

With more people experiencing social isolation and loneliness, this report reviews the role of befriending support in Merthyr Tydfil.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a double impact with more people affected by social isolation and loneliness than before. The depth of loneliness has also increased. Befriending support could provide a way of tackling the issue.



Briefings

Department of Health and Social Care. Bridging the Gap: transitional safeguarding and the role of social work with adults

This briefing is for people involved in safeguarding adults and social work. It is relevant to practitioners, senior leaders and other social care professionals providing support across local safeguarding partnerships.

Tools and Guidance

Department of Health and Social Care. Hospital discharge and community support: policy and operating model

This document sets out how health and care systems can ensure that people:

- are discharged safely from hospital to the most appropriate place.
- continue to receive the care and support they need after they leave hospital.

It replaces 'Hospital discharge service: policy and operating model' published on 21 August 2020.

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. Shared decision making

This guideline covers how to make shared decision-making part of everyday care in all healthcare settings. It promotes ways for healthcare professionals and people using services to work together to make decisions about treatment and care. It includes recommendations on training, communicating risks, benefits and consequences, using decision aids, and how to embed shared decision making in organisational culture and practices.

The British Journal of Social Work. Measuring Instruments for Empowerment in Social Work: A Scoping Review

In past decades many instruments for measuring empowerment have been developed and there are many variations in the way these instruments have been developed. The aim of this review is to provide a comprehensive overview of the available instruments, scales, or questionnaires that intend to measure the empowerment of users of social work in different contexts of social work, by means of a scoping review.

Children and Young People's Services

Reports

The Independent Review of Children's Social Care. The Case for Change.

The Case for Change is the Review's early thinking about what needs to change in the children's social care system. It sets out the problems and invites people to share their thoughts and perspective.

As the review moves into its next phase, the Independent Review of Children's Social Care will explore in more depth the issues highlighted in this document. The objective is to put forward a set of recommendations that will meaningfully improve life for children and families.

In addition, the NSPCC has published a [CASPAR briefing on the review](#).



Ofsted. Children's social care questionnaires 2021: what children and young people told Ofsted

This report outlines what children and young people have told Ofsted about their experiences of living in children's homes or with foster carers and staying at residential special schools or boarding schools.

Department for Education. Evaluation of regional adoption agencies

This evaluation aims to understand regional adoption agencies (RAAs) and the models they are adopting. In June 2021, the reports 'Evaluation of regional adoption agencies: adopter recruitment' and 'Evaluation of regional adoption agencies: managing culture change' were published.



National Foundation for Educational Research. Putting Apprenticeships to Work for Young People

This research examines the impact of the apprenticeships reforms on small and medium-sized enterprises and on young people, against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic. It also considers to what extent the apprenticeship programme needs to be refocused in order to ensure that – as we continue to emerge from the pandemic – the apprenticeship system is working to support young people and SMEs.

Education Policy Institute. EPI research for the Department for Education on pupil learning loss

The Department for Education (DfE) has published research examining the extent of learning loss among primary and secondary school pupils in England during the spring and autumn terms, at both a national and regional level.

It found that average learning losses for primary school pupils stood at nearly 2 months in reading and over 3 months in maths in the first half of the autumn term, before recovering in



the second half of the autumn term, and then returning to similar levels in the spring term. Additionally, it reports that pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds have been amongst the biggest losers as a result of the pandemic and that there is evidence of disparities in learning losses at regional level.

Briefings

NSPCC. Coronavirus briefing: guidance for social work practitioners

This briefing summarises the latest guidance for social workers and social work practitioners during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Criminal Justice

Reports

HMICFRS. Review of policing domestic abuse during the pandemic - 2021

This review expands on the findings in the HMICFRS recent policing COVID-19 report, highlighting good practice and innovation. It contains three recommendations aimed at ensuring forces continue to respond to the challenges of policing domestic abuse during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.



Review of policing domestic
abuse during the pandemic
2021

Briefings

Shelter. Briefing: Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill

In this briefing, Shelter shares concerns that, in its current drafting, this section of the Bill will lead to the criminalisation of homeless people in certain situations. And, in particular, will lead to the criminalisation of specific homeless groups, most notably individuals from the Gypsy and Traveller communities.

Tools and Guidance

The Home Office. Piloting devolving decision making for child victims of modern slavery

The Home Office has launched a pilot programme that will test alternative models of decision making for child victims of modern slavery and human trafficking.

St Mungo's. Keeping us safer: An approach for supporting homeless women experiencing multiple disadvantage

This guidance is part of a 'Safety by Experience', a joint project between St Mungo's, Standing Together Against Domestic Violence and funded by Homeless Link's Ending Women's Homelessness Fund.

'Safety by Experience' was born out of a clear gap in provision and support for women experiencing homelessness, violence and abuse and other forms of multiple disadvantage. The project has sought out to address these key issues and questions, by consulting with staff and women in St Mungo's services and building on existing tools and resources from across the homelessness and women's specialist sectors.



Howard League for Penal Reform. Making Black Lives Matter in the criminal justice system

In association with Black Protest Legal Support and in consultation with an expert advisory group, the Howard League has developed a practical guide for antiracist lawyers. The guide is inspired by two harsh realities that must be addressed: racial discrimination as an enduring feature of criminal justice for Black people; and legal training in England and Wales that does not equip lawyers to be antiracist.