

March 2014

Welcome to March'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.

February saw the introduction of the Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT) by the Department for Education, which allows data about children and young people to be compared across local authorities in England. Developments in criminal justice included reports by the YJB on deaths of children in custody as well as an evaluation of the ESF funded Peer Mentoring programme in Wales. Concerning adult health and social care, the Department of Health published the first annual report on the cross-departmental suicide prevention strategy and Public Health England released obesity data which suggests over 60% of us are either overweight or obese.

During February, the Cabinet Office published unit cost data for a variety of costs within government. For the first time, a whole variety of costs within government are brought together in a single dataset.

Coming up in April is the launch of the Cordis Children's Services Briefing. For more information about this and how to sign up please [click 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.



Children and young people's services

Policy

Welsh Government: Wales Children in Need (CIN) Census 2013

The Welsh Government has published an annual report which includes data on disability and parenting capacity factors for CIN. Key findings include that over a fifth of CIN had a disability and that the attainment of CIN at Key Stage assessment was much lower than the average for all pupils.

[To access these findings, please click here](#)

Department for Education: National NEET statistics quarterly brief

This statistical release by the DfE provides data on the numbers of young people not in education, employment, or training for the quarter from October to December 2013.

[To view these statistics, please click here](#)

Department for Education: Information sharing for practitioners and managers

This document published by the DfE provides advice to professionals on when and how to share information about children, young people and families.

[To view this guidance, please click here](#)

Children in Care Council (CiCC): Winter Newsletter 2014

This CiCC winter newsletter provides a roundup of this winter's government news, guidance and support related to looked-after children and care leavers.

[To view this newsletter, please click here](#)

Reports

Department for Education: School-leavers strategies to raise aspirations to higher education

This research report published by the DfE looks at the most effective ways of encouraging high-achieving, disadvantaged pupils into higher education.

[To access this report, please click here](#)

Coventry Safeguarding Children Board: Daniel Pelka Review

The long-awaited follow-up to the initial serious case review was published this month and presents a review of Coventry's children's social care referral and assessment teams at the time leading up to Daniel's death in 2012. The report presents practice and management failings at the time of the incident.

[To read the full review, please click here](#)



Barnardo's: What are Children's Centres for?

A new report published this month from the UK's largest children's charity Barnardo's exposes a lack of unifying mission amongst England's children centres and calls for children's centres in England to be recognised as early intervention services.

[To access this report, please click here](#)

Ofsted: Supporting young people to participate in education and training

This report by Ofsted in collaboration with the Association of Colleges reviews factors that help or hinder young people aged 16-18 living in London to participate in education, employment or training.

[To access this report, please click here](#)

Tools

Department for Education: Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT)

This is a tool for comparing data about children and young people across all local authorities in England.

[To access this tool, please click here](#)



Criminal Justice

Policy

National Crime Agency: Figures show a rise in the number of child trafficking victims

Figures released by the National Crime Agency reveal that the number of British children thought to be victims of sexual exploitation has more than doubled in the space of a year, from 22 children in 2012 to 56 in 2013.

[To access the figures, please click here](#)

Home Office: New Government measures to end FGM

It will now be mandatory for NHS acute hospitals to provide information on patients who have undergone FGM. Furthermore, a new £100,000 FGM community engagement initiative launched this month.

[For more on this news, please click here](#)

Reports

YJB: Deaths of Children in Custody: Action Taken and Lessons Learnt

This report by the Youth Justice Board outlines plans to make youth custody safer and reviews action taken and lessons learnt in relation to deaths of children in custody since 2000. The report highlights steps taken by YJB to improve support available to looked-after children such as placing social workers in all youth offender institutes.

[To access this report, please click here](#)

Caada: In plain sight, effective help for children exposed to domestic violence

In this report published this month by Caada, they present the results of their research highlighting the lack of shared understanding amongst public services about the risks of domestic abuse to children and recommend the need for better coordination in response to these concerns.

[To access this report, please click here](#)

Welsh Government: Evaluation of European Social Fund Peer Mentoring Wales

This report presents both a process and outcome evaluation of Peer Mentoring Wales (PMW), a project funded by the ESF aimed at assisting ex-substance misusers across Wales enter employment or education. On average clients who used the project stayed with it for 7 months.

[To access this report, please click here](#)



Adult social care and health

Policy

Department of Health and Home Office: Mental Health crisis care agreement

This is a joint statement about how public services should work together to respond to people who are in mental health crisis.

[To access this guidance, please click here](#)

Department of Health: Wellbeing and Health Policy

The Department of Health has published a document outlining the evidence on why wellbeing matters throughout an individual's life.

[To view the document, please click here](#)

Department of Communities and Local Government: Funding offering a new start for single homeless people

A press release from the DCLG this month announced that the scheme launched in 2010 helping single homeless people into homes in the private rented sector is to be extended by 2 years.

[To view this press release, please click here](#)

Public Health England: Local authority adult obesity data

New local authority excess weight data published by Public Health England this month confirms that 64% of adults in England are overweight or obese.

[To view this press release, please click here](#)

Reports

The King's Fund: Commissioning and funding general practise: Making the case for family care networks

This report looks at the current commissioning and funding systems and concentrates on case studies where innovative models of primary care provision are being used in England.

[To access this report, please click here](#)

Department of Health: Preventing suicide in England, one year on

The department has issued the first annual report on the cross-government outcomes strategy to prevent suicides in England.

[To access this report, please click here](#)



Tools

Cabinet Office: Centre for Social Impact Bonds: Unit cost data

New Economy, in partnership with HM Government published unit cost data for a variety of costs within government. For the first time, a whole variety of costs within government are brought together in a single dataset.

[To access this tool, please click here](#)