

May 2013

Welcome to May'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.

During April we were pleased to see the new NICE quality standards on 1) the health and well-being of looked-after children and young people, and 2) on supporting people to live well with dementia. This Pulse also includes a range of interesting developments and announcements from, among others, the Department of Health, the Youth Justice Board and Ofsted.

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

PS - We will be running an executive seminar on how to ensure that your organisation is positioned to achieve growth. This is scheduled for the 25th July. For more information please contact Mark Norton by email: marknorton@cordisbright.co.uk or by phone on: 020 7330 9170.

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

NICE: Health and well-being of looked-after children and young people

This quality standard covers the health and well-being of looked-after children and young people from birth to 18 years and care leavers (including young people planning to leave care or under leaving care provisions). It applies to all settings and services working with and caring for looked-after children and young people, and care leavers, including where they live.

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

Reports

DfE: Evaluation of children's centres in England. Strand 2 - baseline survey of families using children's centres in the most disadvantaged areas

The evaluation of Children's Centres in England is a large scale, six year study that looks at Sure Start Children's Centres (SSCCs) in the most disadvantaged areas of England. These are centres that were set up in the first two phases of the programme. The evaluation, from a survey of families who were using children's centres when their child was 9-18 months of age, will provide a very detailed picture of children's centre services. This includes how effective they are when they use different approaches in their management and when delivering services and activities for parents and children. It also looks at the cost of delivering different types of services.

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

NFER: OCC School Exclusions Inquiry - Perspectives of teaching staff and other professionals

The Office of the Children's Commissioner (OCC) commissioned NFER to investigate teachers' and non-teaching professionals' views and experiences of inequalities in exclusion from school and illegal exclusion practises. Results from focus groups indicate that certain groups of pupils were disproportionately excluded: boys, pupils receiving free school meals, pupils with Special Educational Needs, those from certain ethnic groups, looked-after children, and previously excluded pupils.

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

VIPER: Voice. Inclusion. Participation. Empowerment. Research.

Young disabled people working with VIPER conducted research which looked at opportunities for their cohort to have a say in how health and social care services are run, designed, and commissioned. They found that young disabled people face significant barriers preventing them from having a voice when these decisions are being made. VIPER has launched a new website, which includes links to the research they have conducted.

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



News

Ofsted: Good early years get children off to a flying start

Plans to ensure that good is the only acceptable standard of education and care provided by nurseries, pre-schools, and childminders for the youngest children were unveiled by Ofsted. Her Majesty's Chief Inspector, Sir Michael Wilshaw, formally launched a consultation on changes to the inspection framework aimed at improving the quality of early years provision.

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

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

Ofsted: A single inspection framework for children's services

The Chief Inspector of Ofsted announced plans to inspect local authority child protection and services for children who are looked after under a single, combined framework. Sir Michael Wilshaw said that following discussions with local government representatives and after assessing the results of initial pilots, he had taken the decision to defer the proposed new multi-agency child protection inspections involving a number of other inspectorates, that had been planned for launch in June. He also said Ofsted would no longer be going ahead with plans to inspect services for looked after children separately.

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

Children & Young People Now: DfE axes Children's Improvement Board funding

It has been announced that the government will stop funding the Children's Improvement Board just two years after it was set up. The body, which is responsible for helping councils improve their children's services and implementing government policies, received £10.5m from the DfE in 2011/12 and £8m in 2012/13. But the board has now been told that it will not be funded in the current financial year.

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

Community Care: Government plans to overhaul 'lower standards' of care in children's homes

The government has announced a raft of care reforms, designed to ensure that "lower standards of care and aspiration" are never again applied to children in residential care. This includes plans to improve recording children missing from care, new rules for children's homes, and more training and qualifications for the residential sector.

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



Criminal Justice

Policy

Youth Justice Board: National Standards for Youth Justice Services

The revised National Standards for Youth Justice Services have been published, as well as resources designed to support practitioners in interpreting and applying the changes. Revisions have been made to the standards to facilitate the introduction of the Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 provisions and the AssetPlus framework, as well as to bring practice expectations up to date with developments in relation to resettlement, transitions, restorative justice, and work with victims.

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

MoJ: Data recording guidance and counting rules

The YOT Data Recording Guidance 2013/14 has been published and came into effect on 1 April 2013. The guidance describes the YOT data collected in the Youth Justice Management Information System (YJMIS) for use by YOTs and the YJB. Separate guidance is provided for England and for Wales.

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

News

YJB: Law to change for 17-year-olds in police custody

The High Court ruled that the current treatment of 17 year-olds in police custody, as determined by the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE), is unlawful. The ruling followed a judicial review brought against the Home Office and the Metropolitan Police on behalf of a young man detained by police in London on suspicion of robbery. His lawyers argued that the police's refusal to notify his family of his whereabouts and failure to offer him an Appropriate Adult were in breach of the Human Rights Act and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child (UNCRC).

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



Adult Social Care and Health

Policy

DWP: Simplifying the welfare system and making sure work pays

This guidance provides policy, detail, and latest information on the new welfare reforms, including universal credit, personal independence payments, working age benefits cap, and housing support.

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

Welsh Government: Putting well-being for all at the heart of social services

A new document has been published by the Welsh Government to improve the well-being of people who need care and support and carers who need support. The newly published Well-being Statement sets out a range of factors that contribute to the well-being of a person, and which people in need of care and support can expect in their daily lives. The Well-being Statement is the first step in the production of a National Outcomes Framework, which is a commitment within Sustainable Social Services, the Welsh Government's 10-year plan to meet changing needs and expectations of service users, as well as the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Bill.

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

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

Welsh Government: Improving end of life care in Wales

The "Delivering End of Life Care" plan sets out the Welsh Government's expectations of NHS Wales, and its partners, to make end of life care consistently good across the country. Specific aims of the plan include improving training for health professionals delivering end of life care in the community and developing the skills required to support people wherever they choose to die. The plan will also seek to improve communication skills to enable discussions about the end of life with individuals and their families.

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

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

DoH: Putting Patients First - Government publishes response to Francis Report

The quality of patient care will be put at the heart of the NHS in an overhaul of the health and care system in response to the Francis Inquiry. Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt announced how a culture of compassion will be a key marker of success, spelling an end to the distorting impact of targets and box ticking which led to the failings at Stafford Hospital.

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

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



DoH: Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework 2013 to 2014

The framework describes the principles for how it should be used, and its role in supporting local improvement. It provides a national commentary on adult social care outcomes in 2011 to 2012, the first year of the operation of the framework, sets out the Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework for 2013 to 2014, and provides a forward look for the development of the framework in future years.

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

NICE: Supporting people to live well with dementia

This quality standard covers the care and support of people with dementia. It applies to all social care settings and services working with and caring for people with dementia. It should be read alongside the NICE Dementia quality standard (QS1) which covers care provided by health and social care staff in direct contact with people with dementia in hospital, community, home-based, group care, residential, or specialist care settings.

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

CQC: Our strategy and business plan

The CQC have announced that they are making radical changes to the way they inspect and regulate health and social care services. Those changes include, e.g., appointing Chief Inspectors for hospitals and social care and support; asking the following five questions when inspecting services - are they safe, effective, caring, well led, and responsive to people's needs; developing new fundamental standards which focus on these five areas; and predicting, identifying, and responding more quickly to services that are failing, or likely to fail, by using information and evidence in a more focused and open way.

These changes will come into effect in NHS hospitals and mental health trusts first. This is because they recognise that there is an urgent need for more effective inspection and regulation of these services. They will then extend and adapt their approach to other sectors in 2014 to 2016.

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

Reports

Bevan Foundation: Cap in Hand? The Impact of Welfare Reform on Disabled People in Wales

The Welfare Reforms that the UK Government are currently implementing will have a huge impact on disabled people, who will bear the brunt of the cuts to the welfare budget with disabled people in Wales being particularly hard hit.

This report sets out an overview of the Welfare Reform Act 2012, the existing welfare benefits available to disabled people, and changes that will be made to these. The report concludes with a set of recommendations for both the UK and Welsh Governments and also public bodies such as local authorities, health boards, and emergency services to mitigate the negative impact of these changes on disabled people in Wales.

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



JRF: The links between housing and poverty

This study analyses the past decade of UK evidence to explore: the relationship between housing circumstances and the experience of poverty; the relative importance of housing cost, quality, and location and other factors in the impact of poverty on people's lives; and the role of housing in enabling people to take up employment and increase income from work.

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

JRF: Households below a minimum income standard - 2008/9 to 2010/11

In the first two years after the economic downturn, the risk of having inadequate income rose for some, but not all, groups. This study is the first in an annual series of reports monitoring how many people live in households with not enough income to afford a 'minimum acceptable standard of living'. This research looks at changes in the adequacy of household incomes in the early part of the recession, as measured by households' ability to reach the Minimum Income Standard.

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

Tools

DoH: Government launches care comparison website

Information to help people choose, compare, and comment on residential care homes and home care services is now available on NHS Choices. The new care profiles provide the most comprehensive source of information on care services. They help people to search and compare residential care homes and other care services and make confident choices about registered care for themselves or family members.

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

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