



CordisPulse

May 2018

Welcome to the May 2018 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.

Two reports this month highlight the significant and entrenched challenges (current and historical) facing children's services, i.e. the [IICSA interim report on historical child abuse](#) and the [Education Policy Institute's evidence review on vulnerable children and social care in England](#).

Some of the key findings in the latter report mirror our own experiences of working in children's services. For instance, helping local authorities and their partners re-shape – and sometimes de-commission – services in the light of increasing demand, gaps in early intervention services, and ongoing budget restraints. Recently, one of the ways we have helped to tackle this is to examine the potential for bringing together teams, services and strategies across local areas and ways of doing this whilst keeping local flexibility. For further information about this work, please contact Kam Kaur at kamkaur@cordisbright.co.uk.

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

Cordis Bright News

Social care market sustainability in the LGA's *Framework for Integrated Commissioning for Better Outcomes 2018*

The Local Government Association have released their [Integrated Commissioning for Better Outcomes \(ICBO\) Framework 2018](#), a practical tool designed to support council and NHS commissioners in improving outcomes through integrated commissioning.



The LGA's framework cites the [guidance and toolkit on social care market sustainability](#) that was produced by Cordis Bright in 2015 following extensive consultation with the sector and with the input of an expert panel. In this guidance, we set out a useful 'light touch' approach for systems to know the provision in their area that would be hardest to replace.

For further information on this work, please contact Lucy Asquith at lucyasquith@cordisbright.co.uk.

What works in creating an effective Multispecialty Community Provider?

We have been the evaluation partner for seven NHS New Care Model Vanguard sites in the past two years. Over the coming months, we will be publishing a series of best practice evidence reviews on a range of issues related to the integration of Health and Social Care, drawing on our work in this field. This month we present the findings of our [review on best practice in the creation of Multispecialty Community Providers](#), which bring together different organisations in order to move specialist care out of hospitals and into the community.



Adult Social Care and Health

Reports

The Kings Fund, Does the public see tax rises as the answer to NHS funding pressures?

In the wake of the [Prime Minister's announcement of long-term funding for the NHS](#), and two weeks before the Office for National Statistics published [the latest statistics on UK health expenditure](#), the King's Fund published their analysis of public attitudes to NHS funding.

This report, based on data from the British Social Attitudes (BSA) survey, found that anxiety and pessimism about the future of the NHS are growing, with 86% of respondents saying that the service faces a major or severe funding problem. They also found that the proportion who thought NHS care had got worse over the past five years has continued to grow (to 45%), and the proportion thinking care has improved was at the lowest level in two decades (17%).

They found that public support for tax rises to increase NHS funding was widespread, with 61% of respondents supporting tax rises. Notably, this included 56% of Conservative Party supporters, up from 33% in 2014.

UK Focal Point on Drugs, United Kingdom Drug Situation 2017

The UK Focal Point on Drugs, part of Public Health England, have published their annual report and data tables on the national prevalence, impact, prevention and treatment of drug use in 2017.



Welsh Government, Review of 'Working Together to Reduce Harm': The Substance Misuse Strategy, 2008-2018

The Welsh Government have published a review of the [Working Together to Reduce Harm strategy on substance misuse in Wales, 2008-2018](#). The review aimed to assess the contribution that the strategy has made, identify gaps in data and consider the efficacy and applicability of performance measures used within the strategy and implementation plans. As such, it is useful not only for those working on substance misuse and related areas in Wales, but also for those considering measurement and evaluation of harm reduction strategies in other areas of the UK. Full and summary reports are available [here](#).

Crisis and Joseph Rowntree Foundation, *The Homelessness Monitor: England 2018*

This annual state-of-the-nation report, funded by Crisis and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and conducted by Heriot-Watt University, analyses the impact of economic and policy developments on homelessness in England, drawing on a survey of councils, statistical analysis and in-depth interviews with representatives from councils, national government and charities working with homeless people.

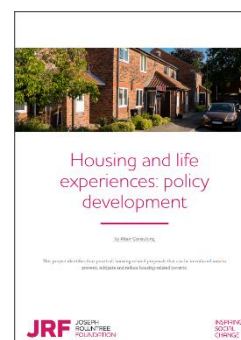
This year's report finds that the majority of local councils in England are struggling to find any stable housing for homeless people in their area, leaving them forced to place more and more people in unstable temporary accommodation. It warns that, if current trends continue, more than 100,000 homeless households will be in temporary accommodation in England by 2020.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation, *Housing and life experiences: making a home on a low income and Housing and life experiences: policy development*

In April, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) commissioned [a study tracking the housing and life experiences of 72 low-income households around the UK](#) that was undertaken by the Centre for Housing Policy. The report provides a detailed analysis of the interaction between poverty and housing across the lifecycle.



Based on this report, the JRF commissioned a piece of policy development work from Altair Consulting, which [identified four practical proposals to prevent, mitigate and reduce housing-related poverty](#). The proposals were:



- A Government-backed affordable loan scheme to fund property deposits and enable greater access to the private rented sector ([summary report](#) / [technical report](#)).
- Conversion of some existing homes to extend the provision of shared social housing, enabling greater access to the sector ([summary report](#) / [technical report](#)).
- Provision of basic decoration and floor coverings, and access to furniture packages in the social sector, to reduce moving-in costs for tenants ([summary report](#) / [technical report](#)).
- A proposal to deliver consistent comprehensive housing advice services across England, Wales and Scotland ([summary report](#) / [technical report](#)).

Statistics for Wales, *National Survey for Wales 2016-17: Poverty*

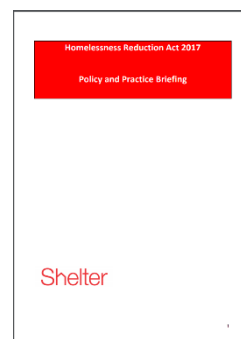
This latest bulletin from the National Survey for Wales presents results on material deprivation among Welsh households in 2016-17. It finds that 19% of non-pensioner adults and 6% of pensioners (i.e. 15% of adults overall) were classified as being materially deprived, while 6% of parents were classified as having materially deprived children. The bulletin:

- Identifies demographic, household, health and mental wellbeing factors that were significantly linked with material deprivation.
- Presents results on debt problems, people going without substantial meals and people receiving food from a food bank.
- Provides detailed analysis for each group: pensioners, non-pensioner adults and children.
- Compares the results with the National Survey for Wales 2014-15 and with the UK-wide [Family Resources Survey](#) 2016-17.

Briefings

Shelter, Briefing: Homelessness Reduction Act 2017

Most of the Homelessness Reduction Act came into force on 3 April 2018, with the final section (s.10: duty to refer) due to come into force on 1 October 2018. This briefing summarises the main changes resulting from the Act, gives Shelter's overall view on successful implementation and provides detail on new duties, including what is recommended in statutory guidance and Shelter's initial suggestions for best practice.



The briefing is aimed at local housing authorities, local councillors with housing responsibilities and those who advise and support people who are homeless or threatened with homelessness. There will need to be a major change in the way local housing authorities respond to homeless people, and this briefing is designed to raise awareness of the changes among those who advise and support homeless households.

The Health Foundation, Chart of the month: Productivity of UK Health Care

This month's 'Chart of the Month' from the Health Foundation shows how productivity has changed in the UK health sector since 1997, compared to the total public sector and the whole UK economy. It shows that, since 2010, productivity growth has been higher in the health care sector (2% average annual growth) than in the whole economy (1% average annual growth).



Tools and Guidance

Department of Health and Social Care, *Personal health budgets and integrated personal budgets: Open consultation on extending legal rights*

The Department of Health and Social Care is looking into how personal health budgets and personal budgets in social care can be aligned into a single, integrated personal budget. Ministers want to expand the right to a personal health budget to more groups; the minister for care, Caroline Dinéage, has said [this could improve care and value for money and reduce pressure on emergency care](#).

The DHSC is seeking views from individuals on:

- Extending the right to have a personal health budget to specific groups of people;
- Extending the right to have an integrated personal budget to specific groups of people;
- Whether individuals would welcome the opportunity to incorporate additional funding streams into integrated personal budgets.

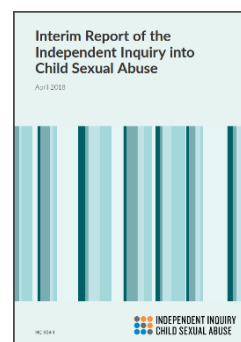
The consultation is being held [here](#). It closes at 11:59pm on 8 June 2018.

Children and young people's services

Reports

Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA), *Interim Report*

The IICSA, chaired by Prof Alexis Jay, published its interim report on 25 April 2018. The interim report provides an overview of the work undertaken by the IICSA so far, sets out what the Chair and Panel consider to be the key emerging themes and includes recommendations for specific changes to better protect children from sexual abuse.

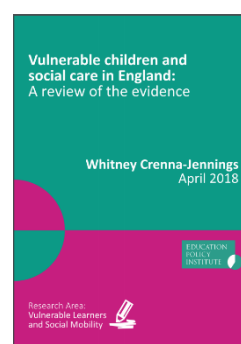


There are 18 recommendations from the interim report, which relate to child migration programmes, the criminal justice system, the civil justice system, the health sector, and professional, political, structural and financial steps to help protect children.

Annexed to the report are the IICSA's reports on the [child migration programme case study](#) (March 2018) and [Cambridge House, Knowl View and Rochdale](#) (April 2018).

Education Policy Institute, *Vulnerable children and social care in England: A review of the evidence*

This report from the Education Policy Institute brings together data on children in need, intervention rates, staffing levels and funding provision, to paint a picture of the state of the children's social care system in England. The report concludes that the provision of support to vulnerable children is 'unstable':



- Early intervention services have not survived funding cuts, despite a solid evidence base for improved outcomes and cost-benefit. The most deprived areas have faced the greatest fall in early intervention funding since 2010/11.
- The quality of provision is currently very poor.
- There is a strong relationship between deprivation and contact with social services, as well as with the areas of need identified in Child In Need assessments, including family mental illness. Child poverty is predicted to rise.
- There are stark inequalities in short- and long-term outcomes for children in contact with social services. This is worrisome given the rising number of children at the highest risk of harm.
- There is a lack of data on vulnerable children who are not in contact with services, i.e. those at the highest risk of poor outcomes.

The Sutton Trust, *Stop Start: Survival, decline or closure? Children's centres in England, 2018*

Latest research from a team at the University of Oxford has used administrative data, a survey of local authorities and a series of case studies to paint a picture of what has happened to Sure Start children's centres across England. The report highlights the difficulty of keeping track of trends, since the decision by Ofsted to stop acting as a register for children's centres, but draws out some interesting findings: as many as one third of centres have closed and more are closing, although the proportion of centres in the most disadvantaged areas appears to have been maintained. Other centres have diversified (e.g. offering services to older children too), moving away from the original idea of an open access neighbourhood centre.

Briefings

The Children's Society, *Thinking about adolescent neglect*

As part of a review of research and practice around adolescent neglect for the Luton Safeguarding Children Board, the Children's Society have produced the following reports:

- A [full review report](#), which describes the challenges for defining and working with adolescent neglect, looks at the impacts of neglect, and explains how it can be identified, assessed and responded to in practice.
- A [briefing for professionals](#) aimed at all frontline practitioners whose work may bring them into contact with young people and parents or carers. This provides a summary of key points on why adolescent neglect is important, when it is more likely to happen, what to look for and how to respond.



Tools and Guidance

DfE and Local Government Association, *Early years social mobility peer review programme*

The DfE and the Local Government Association are delivering a new peer review programme to spread best practice on improving early language outcomes, as part of '[Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential](#)', the DfE's plan for improving social mobility through education. If you are interested in taking part in the programme, or becoming a peer reviewer, this guidance covers what a peer review is, what it will focus on,



what you will get from participating, what being a peer reviewer involves and how to express an interest in participating.

Provision of accommodation for 16 and 17 year olds who may be homeless and/or require accommodation

This publication updates guidance from 2010 on the duty of children's services and housing services to secure or provide accommodation for children aged 16 and 17 who are homeless or in need of accommodation. This guidance has been issued jointly by the Secretary of State for Education and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government. It has been updated to reflect changes in homelessness and children's legislation.

Criminal Justice

Reports

HM Government, *Serious Violence Strategy*

April saw the Government's new Serious Violence Strategy published. The strategy is framed around:

- **Tackling county lines and misuse of drugs**, including developing a new National County Lines Co-ordination Centre.
- **Early intervention and prevention**, including a new Early Intervention Youth Fund for communities, expanding Redthread's Youth Violence Intervention Programme to Nottingham and Birmingham, and continuing to fund Young People's Advocates to work with gang-affected young women and girls.
- **Supporting communities and partnerships**, including work with PCCs, media campaigns and funding for the Community Fund and the Ending Gang Violence and Exploitation fund and review programme.
- **Effective law enforcement and criminal justice response**, including changes to PEEL inspections, thematic inspection of county lines in 2018/19 and improving police capability for street testing for corrosives.



The Home Office plans to establish a new cross-sector Serious Violence Taskforce to oversee delivery and impact of the Serious Violence Strategy. The current Inter-Ministerial Group on Gangs will also be refocused to oversee and drive delivery of the strategy.

Two pieces of research and evaluation work by Cordis Bright were cited in the Strategy: an evaluation of the Enhanced Case Management approach (commissioned by the Welsh Government; final report [here](#)) and resources produced with the Early Intervention Foundation on preventing gang and youth violence, available [here](#).

Clinks, *The Good Prison: Why voluntary sector coordination is essential*

In 2016-17, Clinks supported voluntary sector staff in three prisons to implement bespoke models of voluntary sector coordination to reflect the needs of each prison's population. This report summarises learning from the project and outlines how it can be applied – and the outcomes achieved replicated – in order to deliver safer and more rehabilitative prisons. It makes policy and practice recommendations for prisons, Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons and the voluntary sector working in prisons.

Prison Reform Trust and University of Leeds, *Behaviour that challenges: Planning services for people with learning disabilities and/or autism who sexually offend*

This new report, jointly published by the Prison Reform Trust and University of Leeds, examines sexual offending among people with learning disabilities and/or autism. It looks at the challenges faced by individuals and the professionals and practitioners who work with them. The report concludes that an effective response requires professional health, social care and justice services to integrate support. It recommends that a focus on prevention and early intervention would improve outcomes for individuals, make communities safer and reduce the number of victims, and lessen the high cost of crisis intervention and secure care or imprisonment.

