

## August 2013

Welcome to August'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.

In July, we were very interested in "More Affordable Childcare" published by the DFE, the latest report on the evaluation of children's centres, the government's response to the riots, and the DCLG's progress report on the neighbourhood community budget pilot programme. More about these and a wide array of other developments can be seen in more detail in this month's Pulse.

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](mailto:stephenboxford@cordisbright.co.uk) or 020 7330 9170.



## Children and young people's services

### Policy / News

#### **Cabinet Office and DfE: Cabinet Office to take on responsibility for cross-government youth policy**

The government is putting young people at the heart of policy-making by asking the Cabinet Office to lead the next phase of cross-government youth policy. Responsibility for youth strategy and policy will move from the Department for Education to the Cabinet Office and be led by Nick Hurd, the Minister for Civil Society. The government is aiming to drive forward its youth agenda in which civil society, local and national government support young people to realise their potential and have the supportive relationships, skills and ambitions they need to succeed.

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

#### **DfE: Childcare qualifications overhaul**

As part of the government's overhaul of training and qualifications in childcare and early education, the National College of Teaching and Leadership (NCTL) set out more detail on what will be expected of the new early years teachers and educators. Early years teachers will be graduate leaders in early years settings on a par with school teachers. They will need to meet new standards, which closely mirror the standards for classroom teachers, and trainees will need to take the same skills tests taken by classroom teacher trainees. These measures aim to raise the status of the profession and help attract high-quality graduates into early education.

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

#### **DfE: Civil Service Reform - One Year On (Department for Education)**

In June 2012, the Minister for the Cabinet Office and Head of the Civil Service jointly published the Civil Service Reform Plan. To mark the anniversary of this publication, the Cabinet Office has published the Civil Service Reform: One Year On report, which provides a candid assessment of progress on implementing the 18 actions in the original plan (see Adult Social Care and Health). The DfE has also published a short summary of implementation progress within their department.

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

#### **DfE: More affordable childcare**

For families across Britain, finding the right care for their children can present huge difficulties; whether that be availability, price or suitability. The government published 'More great childcare' in January, which set out plans to improve the quality of childcare. More affordable childcare builds on this, setting out the government's plans to: help families to meet the costs of childcare; increase the amount of affordable provision; and give parents the right information so they can make informed choices about childcare.

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

#### **DfE: Pupil premium evaluation paves way for new raft of measures**

Schools Minister David Laws announced a raft of pupil premium measures to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils. He set out a package of measures to help schools further narrow the unacceptable gap in attainment between disadvantaged pupils and their peers. The measures include: increasing schools' accountability on disadvantaged pupils' attainment; detailing the support available



to schools as part of the pupil premium review; and the appointment of John Dunford as the National Pupil Premium Champion. These measures will come into effect from September 2013.

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

A related independent research report looking at how schools spent pupil premium funds since 2011 and what they plan to do with funding in future years was also published.

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

### **Ofsted: School improvement arrangements in Norfolk and Isle of Wight unfit for purpose**

The support and challenge provided to local schools by the first two councils visited under a new Ofsted inspection regime were branded as 'ineffective'. The verdicts follow five-day inspections of local authority arrangements for school improvement carried out in Norfolk and the Isle of Wight. These local authorities were chosen for assessment under a new inspection framework amid concerns about the poor quality of education being offered by too many schools in the two areas.

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

### **Third Sector: Eighteen charities join forces to fund adoption services for hard-to-place children**

The Consortium of Voluntary Adoption Agencies have launched a 10-year scheme to help hundreds of children in local authority care find permanent homes with adoptive families. Local authorities seeking adoption for children in their care will be able to sign up to the 'It's All About Me' (IAAM) scheme. Delivered by a network of voluntary adoption agencies, the service will find, train and provide on-going support to families choosing to adopt children who are considered hard to place – either because of their age, ethnic background, or because they are seeking placement with siblings.

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

If you do not have access to Third Sector: [Please click here](#)

### **Welsh Government: Building a Brighter Future - The Early Years and Childcare Plan**

'Building a Brighter Future: Early Years and Childcare Plan' sets out its commitment to improving life chances for children in Wales. The plan addresses children's and family services for children from 0 up to the age of seven, when they reach the end of the Foundation Phase. Actions for the year ahead include: More support and encouragement for parents to be involved in their children's learning; developing a more consistent approach to tracking a child's development; supporting two pilot projects to increase childcare provision by providing advice and support to new business starts; ensuring healthier meals are available in schools; and offering seasonal flu vaccinations to two and three year olds.

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

## **Reports**

### **DfE: Evaluation of children's centres in England, strand 3 - delivery of family services by children's centres**

This is the fourth report from the evaluation of children's centres in England, a 6-year study commissioned by the Department for Education. The evaluation of children's centres in England aims to provide an in-depth understanding of children's centre services, including their effectiveness for children and families, and an assessment of their economic cost in relation to different types of



services. The findings presented are from the first wave of detailed fieldwork regarding the organisation and delivery of children's centre services. This fieldwork aimed to assess: the range of activities and services that centres deliver; partnership working methods; leadership and management; evidence-based practice; and area profiling of centre 'reach'.

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

#### **DoH: Infant feeding profiles 2010 to 2011**

This analysis shows a correlation at Primary Care Trust level between higher rates of breastfeeding prevalence and lower rates of inpatient admissions among infants under one year old for the following ten conditions: lower respiratory tract infections, infant feeding difficulties, wheezing, gastroenteritis, noninfective gastroenteritis, eczema, otitis media (ear infection), infant feed intolerance, lactose intolerance, and asthma. This publication updates the trends and analysis published in the first report issued in September 2011. It also takes into account many of the ideas and suggestions received as feedback from the NHS and other interested parties.

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

#### **NFER: What works in supporting children and young people to overcome persistent poverty? A review of UK and international literature**

This review was undertaken by NFER for the Office for the First Minister/Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM) in Northern Ireland. Key review findings include that: The concept of 'intergenerational poverty' is more imagined than real – the notion is rebutted on two counts: concerns about the concept itself; and an evidence-based assessment of the reality of the phenomenon; There are a variety of more useful ways of defining poverty – 'persistent' poverty being a less politicised means of conceptualising the problems faced by families living in communities besieged by poverty over a long time period; and there are a range of factors that can support positive outcomes for persistently poor children – it is critical that at least equal policy attention is given to structural barriers to equality, as to the concept of a 'behaviour' of poverty or worklessness.

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



## **Criminal Justice**

### **Policy / News**

#### **DCLG, BIS, DfE, DWP, DoH, Home Office, and MOJ: Government response to the Riots, Communities and Victims Panel's final report**

Following the riots two years ago, the government and opposition set up the independent Riots Communities and Victims Panel to explore the causes of the riots and how communities can be made more socially and economically resilient, in order to prevent future disorder. The panel published their final report in March 2012. This document provides information on the action taken since the riots and in reaction to the panel's report, including summarising what the government has done to provide support to those affected by the riots and the actions that the government is taking forward to address some of the more entrenched issues highlighted in the panel's report.

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

#### **MOJ: Civil Service Reform - One Year On (MOJ)**

In June 2012, the Minister for the Cabinet Office and Head of the Civil Service jointly published the Civil Service Reform Plan. To mark the anniversary of this publication, the Cabinet Office has published the Civil Service Reform: One Year On report, which provides a candid assessment of progress on implementing the 18 actions in the original plan (see Adult Social Care and Health). MOJ has also published a short summary of implementation progress within their department.

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

#### **YJB: Guidance on amendments to Code C of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984**

As mentioned in an earlier issue of the Pulse, a judicial review last summer resulted in a judgement in April 2013 in relation to the treatment of 17-year-olds in custody. It is now the Home Office's intention to amend Code C of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE) by October 2013 to ensure compliance with the ruling. The Association of Chief Police Officers has provided a letter of guidance detailing how forces should treat 17-year-olds detained in custody before the revisions to Code C of PACE are made.

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



## Reports

### **MOJ: Does Supervision After Release From Prison Reduce Re-offending? - Analytical summary**

Currently, in England and Wales, adult prisoners serving a sentence of 12 months or more are supervised by the Probation Service “on licence” upon release from custody, whilst those serving a sentence of less than 12 months are not. This paper summarises work exploring the use of a Regression Discontinuity Design to assess the impact of this supervision on re-offending rates. The analysis compares the re-offending rates of offenders on either side of the 12 month licence supervision threshold. It is based on offenders with one or no previous convictions and sentenced to around a year in custody.

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

### **MOJ: Enabling Features of PIPEs - research report**

NOMS and NHS field tested the Psychologically Informed Planned Environments (PIPE) approach between April 2011 and March 2013. PIPEs are specifically designed, contained environments where staff members have additional training to develop an increased psychological understanding of their work. This understanding enables them to create an enhanced safe and supportive environment, which

can facilitate the development of those who live there. The research employed a qualitative observational approach to identify the key enabling features of the PIPE, as observed by staff, offenders, and objective observers, in order to develop and refine the PIPE model through the field test stage and inform future roll-out.

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

### **MOJ: Re-offending by offenders on Community Orders - Preliminary findings from the OMCCS**

The Offender Management Community Cohort Study (OMCCS) is a longitudinal cohort study of adult offenders who started Community Orders between October 2009 and December 2010. This report summarises preliminary findings from the OMCCS on levels of re-offending among offenders who received Community Orders. These initial findings suggest that addressing offenders’ attitudes, their needs and the nature of their relationship with their Offender Manager are important in reducing re-offending. These findings are provisional; the figures may change once the analysis is finalised.



## Adult Social Care and Health

### Policy / News

#### **Cabinet Office et. al.: Civil Service Reform Plan - one year on**

In July a number of reports were published in response to the Civil Service Reform Plan, which set out a series of actions intending to bring about an exceptional Civil Service. To mark the anniversary of this publication, a number of departments (e.g., Cabinet Office, DCLG, DoH) have published reports that provides a candid assessment of progress on implementing the 18 actions in the original plan. (See also the Children's and Young People's Services section for DfE and the Criminal Justice section for MOJ.)

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

#### **DCLG: Funding package to deliver thousands of new homes**

Ministers announced a multi-million pound boost to build thousands of new affordable homes across the country. Sixty-nine different housing associations and developers will each receive a share of £220 million to deliver almost 14,000 new affordable homes outside London. Work on the new properties will be started by March 2015 and completed by 2017. The funding is part of the expanded £450 million Affordable Housing Guarantees which will support up to £3.5 billion in government debt guarantees to deliver thousands of new homes. Of the almost 14,000 homes this money will help deliver, the majority will be available at an affordable rent with 2,000 of those available to buy through shared ownership.

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

#### **ESRC: New 'What Works Centre for Local Economic Growth'**

A new 'What Works Centre for Local Economic Growth' is being funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), and the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). The Centre, which will be a collaboration between LSE, the Centre for Cities and Arup, will gather, evaluate and disseminate evidence across a wide spectrum of interventions that promote local economic growth - such as employment, skills, regeneration and transport initiatives.

It's one of the four new centres to be funded as part of the wider What Works Network, a new initiative which aims to improve the use of high quality evidence in government decision making about public services. The four new centres will join two existing centres of excellence - the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) and the Educational Endowment Foundation (EEF) to form the network. The network of centres intend to be world leading and provide robust, comprehensive evidence to guide decision making on tackling crime, promoting active and independent ageing, effective early intervention and fostering local economic growth.

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

#### **DWP, BIS & DfE: Drive to get more disabled people into mainstream jobs**

Disabled people will get more support to gain the skills and experience they need to get a job under changes to the government's specialist disability employment scheme. Disabled people on traineeships, supported internships, work trials and work academies will for the first time get additional help through the Access to Work scheme – which provides funding towards the extra costs disabled people face in work, such as travel costs, specially adapted equipment or support workers.



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

### **HCA: New housing to help older and disabled people to live independently**

Building projects up and down the country have been given the green light to start producing homes that will support older and disabled people to live independently for as long as possible. Last year the government asked local authorities to bid for a share of £300m to boost the supported housing market. The Department of Health has now allocated funding to build more than 3,500 new homes. In London specifically, the Department will award the Greater London Assembly just over £29m for 35 successful bidders who will be building 669 homes.

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

### **Welsh Government: Delivering Safe Care, Compassionate Care**

'Delivering Safe Care, Compassionate Care' is the Welsh Government's response to the report by the Francis Inquiry, which made a number of recommendations for the NHS in England, following failures in standards of care at the Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust. The report re-states the core values of the NHS in Wales, and how they will be preserved in the future. Measures addressed include: a commitment to update the current complaints procedures; a review of the Fundamentals of Care standards by focusing them on individuals and their needs, and; a continued ban on gagging clauses in the Welsh NHS.

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

### **Welsh Government: Integrating services to meet the needs of older people**

Health Minister Mark Drakeford and Gwenda Thomas, Deputy Minister for Social Services, issued a joint statement outlining plans to move resources to community care with a commitment to coordinate health and social care. The statement highlighted their requirements of health boards and local authorities for successful integration as: A set of outcomes measures across health and social services, starting with older people with complex needs; more say for individuals and their carers in the care they receive; strong shared leadership across organisations at all levels; systems to share information safely across organisations and geographical boundaries; bringing early intervention, out-of-hours, reablement, intermediary care and frailty services together in a single system in which dignity and privacy are paramount. A consultation on the proposals runs until 15 October 2013.

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

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

### **DoH: New proposals to improve care for vulnerable older people**

The health secretary has announced he is seeking views on a set of proposals to radically improve care for vulnerable older people. The proposals set out improvements in primary care and urgent and emergency care. They look at establishing ways for NHS and social care services to work together more effectively for the benefit of patients, both in and out of hospital. Comments are being sought from NHS, social care and public health staff, carers and patients, up until 27 September 2013.

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

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



## Reports

### **DCLG: Neighbourhood Community Budget pilot programme**

Community Budgets are a way for local public service providers to work together to meet local needs. Community Budgets allow providers of public services to share budgets, improving outcomes for local people and reducing duplication and waste. Pilots for neighbourhood Community Budgets were announced in December 2011, aimed at giving communities more power and control over local services and budgets. This report provides progress on the 24 pilots, which can inform new areas.

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

### **DoH: Response to the Confidential Inquiry into learning disability**

This corporate report is the government response to the recommendations in the Confidential Inquiry into premature deaths of people with learning disabilities. This response sets out a range of actions across the 18 recommendations in the Confidential Inquiry to improve access, experience and outcomes for people with learning disabilities and family carers.

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

### **DoH: Review of Liverpool Care Pathway for dying patients**

This report sets out recommendations regarding the Liverpool Care Pathway and end of life care following an independent review of the LCP chaired by Baroness Julia Neuberger. The recommendations include: phasing out the LCP and replacing it with an individual end of life care plan; a general principle that a patient should only be placed on the LCP or a similar approach by a senior responsible clinician in consultation with the healthcare team; unless there is a very good reason, a decision to withdraw or not to start a life-prolonging treatment should not be taken during any 'out of hours' period; an urgent call for the Nursing and Midwifery Council to issue guidance on end of life care; an end to incentive payments for use of the LCP and similar approaches; a new system-wide approach to improving the quality of care for the dying.

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

### **JRF: Commissioning care and support for older people with high support needs**

How can different models of care and support benefit older people and offer value for money? This report provides practical guidance for commissioners of older people's services on the range of models and approaches available for supporting older people with high support needs. The study describes the options that are available, what makes them successful and beneficial, and suggests five priorities for commissioners: communicating and demonstrating the benefits; raising public awareness and engagement; tackling interfaces with other services; replication; and mobilising resources.

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