



CordisPulse

February 2018

Welcome to February'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.

At a time when 'innovation' is being seen as the key to successful adjustment to lower spending on public services it is timely that the Innovations Unit and the Health Foundation have looked at the issue of scaling good ideas. Their report is built on reviewing 10 case studies and then drawing from these eight key enablers whilst being clear there is not fixed formula for success.

In essence the report suggests that for an innovation to be successfully scaled it requires substantial third-party endorsement in the form of creating specific vehicles for scaling, using policy and financial levers, gaining full support from commissioners and critically the use of external funding.

This looks like a tall order in terms of where public services are now and if the report is correct it suggests that only a very few innovations will actually get the support they require to scale and become embedded.

The report makes a very telling point in that much of the focus by government is on those agencies that create the innovation in the first place rather than those that manage to adopt and scale it. The health and social care sector has never been short of good ideas but achieving wider traction even for innovations with proven impact has been a challenge. This report provides some useful insights in how this situation might be improved.

In children's services, the importance of support for young people's mental health and wellbeing was emphasised in three reports this month. The Youth Index 2017 highlighted that 45 per cent of young people did not believe in themselves when they were at school; a UCL study found that 20 per cent of children and young people experienced emotional problems; and an LGA report highlighted that 40 per cent of young carers reported feeling sad in the past week. The challenge is



not just the scale of the problem but also the multi-disciplinary, multi-sectoral aspect of effective services and support. This is made real in two other reports this month, i.e. NFER's school funding report which shows that schools face significant cost-increases, especially connected to staffing; and Action for Children's report showing nearly 1,000 children's centres have not been inspected for over five years.

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.

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Cordis Bright News

[Lessons from NHS Vanguard for the Social Care Institute for Excellence](#)

This month, Cordis Bright's Jane Harris wrote an article for SCIE regarding lessons from NHS Vanguard:

'Blueprints for the NHS moving forward.' That's how NHS England describes the Vanguard sites that aim to improve the care of millions across England. Through the New Care Models programme, complete redesign of whole health and care systems are being considered. This means, for instance, fewer trips to hospitals with cancer and dementia specialists holding clinics in local surgeries, having one point of call for family doctors, community nurses, social and mental health services, or access to blood tests, dialysis or even chemotherapy closer to home.

But how is this sizing up? Over the last two years we've evaluated seven NHS Vanguard projects across the range of models. As the programme moves into a new phase of trying to scale and replicate successes, have the Vanguard succeeded in demonstrating better ways of working? Here are our top five lessons from the Vanguard we've supported.

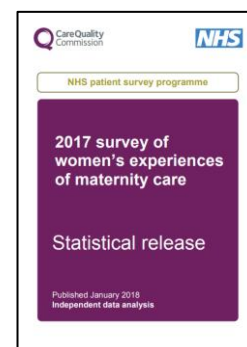
Read more by clicking the link in the title above.

Adult Social Care and Health

Reports

Care Quality Commission. 2017 survey of women's experiences of maternity care.

This report presents findings from a survey of more than 18,000 women who had given birth in February 2017 in services run by NHS trusts across England, published by the Care Quality Commission (CQC). The results show that across the country women were generally more positive about their experiences at every stage of their care, with most responses having improved or stayed the same since the survey was last carried out in 2015. Compared with previous maternity surveys, small incremental improvements were seen in results across almost every question that women were asked in the questionnaire. The most striking improvements in results are within the area of postnatal care, where results have historically been the most negative. However, results for questions on postnatal care, either in the hospital or once they returned home, continue to remain less positive than other aspects of the maternity pathway.



The Innovation Unit and the Health Foundation. Against the odds: Successfully scaling innovation in the NHS.

This report from the Innovation Unit and the Health Foundation calls for new approaches to scaling tried and tested health care innovations. It highlights the need to create the right conditions to spread these successfully across the NHS. Through a public crowdsourcing campaign and an expert working group the report's authors identified a shortlist of 10 innovations that have successfully spread across the NHS in recent years. From these, the authors have drawn out insights into how scale might be more effectively pursued and supported in the future, which are detailed in the report.

Local Government Association. High Impact Change Model: Managing Transfer of Care – Examples of Emerging and Developing Practice.

This resource supplements the High Impact Change model for managing transfers of care, by bringing together examples of work being undertaken across the country for each of the eight system changes identified by the model. It references a range of initiatives where there is already evidence of impact, points to examples of emerging practice that are starting to make a difference and includes links to published guidance, and further information.

Social Care Institute for Excellence. Carers in Employment.

The Carers in Employment (CiE) project was a government-funded project which ran from 2015-2017 and looked at what works to support carers to remain or return to the workplace. The project took place in nine local authorities, which were encouraged to develop local solutions to support carers to remain in or return to work; work involving employers was found to be a central to the project's success. The evaluation of this project reported that, out of nearly three thousand carers who took part in the project, CiE sites said they had

supported nearly 60% to stay in work. Further, the evaluation saw improvements in outcomes for carers, such as increased morale and reduction in isolation for carers provided with emotional and practical support, and for employers including awareness of the realities facing working carers.

[Joseph Rowntree Foundation. How to build lasting support to solve UK poverty.](#)

This is a summary of a two-year investigation by the FrameWorks Institute, exploring public attitudes towards poverty in the UK. It recommends a set of tested strategies to build a deeper understanding of how poverty happens and the changes needed to address it.

[Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. English Housing Survey: Headline Report, 2016-17.](#)

The English Housing Survey (EHS) is a national survey of people's housing circumstances and the condition and energy efficiency of housing in England. Key findings included:

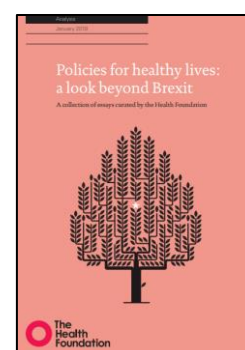
- Owner occupation rates remain unchanged for the fourth year in a row.
- While the overall rate of owner occupation has not changed in recent years, the composition of the group has. There are now more outright owners while the proportion of those buying with a mortgage is down.
- The private rented sector remains larger than the social rented sector, and is now the most prevalent tenure in London.
- Rates of overcrowding did not change but remained higher in the rented sectors.

Briefings

[The Health Foundation. Policies for healthy lives: a look beyond Brexit.](#)

This collection of essays curated by the Health Foundation invites contributors with expertise in public health, employment standards, local government, consumer rights and food policy to share their insights on the potential public health risks and challenges ahead following the UK's departure from the EU.

This collection of essays underlines the value of taking a health-in-all-policies approach to the legislative programme that will follow the UK's departure from the EU. Health in all policies is a strategy for improving population health and reducing health inequalities by engaging policy sectors – mainly outside of the health sector – at all levels of government, to address the social determinants of health. The essays in this collection also address the impact that Brexit could have on people's health through food and farming, employment and consumer protections, international trade agreements, economic support, and the shape of the labour market.



Community Care. Almost quarter of large provider care homes are inadequate or require improvement.

Consumer charity Which?'s ranking of the largest providers of residential care homes for people over 64 found that 24% of the 1,914 homes required improvement or were inadequate. Which? also ranked the providers it examined by the percentage of their homes that it classed as 'failing' due to the CQC rating them as inadequate or requiring improvement. Inadequate and requiring improvement ratings counted equally to the rankings of the providers. Avery and North Yorkshire County Council topped the list with no homes classed as 'failing'. Ideal Care Homes came bottom of the list with 63% of its 16 homes deemed inadequate or requiring improvement.

Social Care Institute for Excellence. Tackling loneliness and social isolation: the role of commissioners.

This briefing draws on discussions from a seminar with commissioners, local authorities and third sector representatives to explore the opportunities and barriers faced by commissioners seeking to address social isolation in older people. This briefing:

- Identifies the evidence that points the way to a better understanding of effective interventions;
- Provides examples of practice emerging in different parts of the country; and
- Examines what needs to happen next in order to create a more conducive commissioning environment.

Social Care Institute for Excellence. Growing innovative models of health, care and support for adults.

The briefing is based on research conducted during the spring of 2017 by Nesta, SCIE, Shared Lives Plus and PPL, with the intention of informing work carried out by the Cabinet Office and the Department of Health on emerging plans for the care and support green paper. Overall, the review found that that whilst innovative, often small-scale models of health, social care and support for adults could be scaled up to benefit as many people as possible, the challenge is to make scaling up successful. This briefing provides recommendations for Government and national partners.

The King's Fund. Funding and staffing of NHS mental health providers: still waiting for parity.

In 2013 the Government made a commitment to achieving parity of esteem between physical and mental health. This briefing considers the current situation in relation to parity based on: an analysis of the annual financial accounts of NHS trusts; an analysis of the national workforce data; a review of Care Quality Commission inspection reports; and a review of board members of mental health trusts. This reports finds that the spending gap between NHS acute hospitals and NHS mental health providers is widening.



The King's Fund. *Reimagining community services: making the most of our assets.*

This reports looks at the current organisation of community health services and considers how the health and care system needs to change to meet the needs of populations now and in the future.

Tools and Guidance

The King's Fund. *Delayed transfers of care: a quick guide.*

This guide provides an overview of:

- What delayed transfers of care are;
- How are they measured;
- Why they occur; and
- Why they are important.

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). *New online and mobile app for depression should be trialled on the NHS, says NICE.*

NICE says that an online and mobile programme could help adults with depression get faster access to care and it should be tested out in NHS services. Around 200 people in England could benefit from free access to this digital therapy after NICE recommended that it is trialled in specialist services selected by NHS England. The online and mobile programme, called Deprexis, uses the principles of cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) to help people assess their own situation and find effective ways of coping. It can be used on any device that has internet access including smartphones, tablets and desktops. NICE says Deprexis could be an effective alternative therapy for adults with mild to moderate depression. In advice published to NHS England, NICE is recommending that the therapy is trialled for up to two years in at least two of the specialist services that were set up to improve access to psychological therapies.

Children and young people's services

Reports

[The Prince's Trust Macquarie. Youth Index 2017.](#)

The Prince's Trust's annual youth index takes an in-depth look into the views and outlooks of young people aged 16 to 25. The Index gauges young people's feelings about their lives today and in the future. The 2017 Index found that the overall wellbeing of young people in the UK has dropped to its lowest level since the study was launched in 2009. Further, this report found that more than a quarter of young people do not feel in control of their lives, and that a crisis of confidence in their own abilities and future prospects is preventing them from realising their true potential.



[UCL Institute of Education and the University of Surrey. Evaluating the Impact of Nursery Attendance on Children's Outcomes: Final Report.](#)

Researchers from the University of Surrey and University College London have completed a five-year study on Early Childhood Education and Care, funded by the Nuffield Foundation. Using administrative data on all children in preschools and the first years of schooling they found that the policy for free part-time nursery places for three-year-olds in England, introduced by the Labour government in 1998, has had little impact on the educational outcomes of children who have participated. One reason for the lack of effect on educational outcomes is reportedly that for every four children given a free place, only one child attended nursery as a consequence of the policy. The researchers also concluded that there is no evidence to suggest that the policy helped disadvantaged children to catch up with their peers in the longer term. The authors of this research have called on the Secretary of State for Education to focus on improving the quality of the free entitlement to part-time nursery care for 2-year olds.

[Welsh Government. Review of the Childcare Sector in Wales.](#)

The Welsh Government has published a report aiming to deliver an economic assessment of the childcare sector in Wales. The research undertook primary and secondary research to and found the following findings:

- The total number of childcare places in Wales increased from 76,000 in 2012 to 84,000 in 2017.
- Childcare enables a large number of parents to work, and these parents go on to collectively generate an estimated £1.2 billion in income per year, supporting economic growth and poverty reduction across Wales.
- It is estimated that there are around 17,300 childcare workers in Wales with further expansion expected in coming years.
- In 2016-2017, approximately a quarter of the providers surveyed expected to operate at a loss, which is consistent with data from the previous two financial years.

Welsh Government. *The attitudes of parents towards managing young children's behaviour.*

The report presents findings from research with parents of children aged six or under about their attitudes towards managing young children's behaviour. Overall, the authors summarised that traditional ways of explaining smacking as part of an explicit parenting philosophy may be less relevant in modern Wales, and the majority of parents report that they think smacking is unnecessary. Further, there are indications that more people may support legislative change around smacking than are against it, although this idea does not currently represent a majority.

The British Journal of Social Work. *Barriers Facing Social Workers Undertaking Direct Work with Children and Young People with a Learning Disability Who Communicate Using Non-Verbal Methods.*

This paper analyses data drawn from a small group of qualified social workers specialising in work with disabled children who communicate using non-verbal methods. This paper highlights the complexity of communication techniques when seeking to accommodate diverse service user and carer needs, as well as creative responses used by practitioners despite significant barriers that include limited available training, technology and financial resources. Despite policy initiatives and legal requirements emphasising the importance of direct work and participation with disabled children, the authors report that this conclusion reiterates the narrow focus of current risk-averse social work around disability, as well as a need for additional resources and training to improve relationships, communication and meaningful support for children and young people who meet basic legal requirements.

Children & Young People Now. *Exclusive: Adoption breakdowns on the rise.*

An investigation by CYP Now has found that the number of adoptions that break down, resulting in a child being removed from a placement, have risen in recent years, despite government attempts to tackle the issue. Figures obtained following a Freedom of Information (FoI) request to all English local authorities indicated that since 2012, across all council areas, there has been as many as 679 breakdowns within the first year of a placement. The statistics show that the number of breakdowns has been rising since 2012/13, peaking in 2015/16.

Local Government Association. *Enabling school improvement.*

The LGA commissioned a research organisation to undertake this research project into the ongoing role of local authorities in school improvement. The report is informed by fieldwork discussions with a sample of eight local areas. This report summarises:

- Context of current education landscape;
- Key issues encountered during fieldwork discussions;
- Key conditions identified as important in establishing effective local school improvement systems; and
- Ways in which local authorities can support the development of effective local school improvement systems.



Education Policy Institute. *Evaluation of Universal Infant Free School Meals.*

The aim of this study was to evaluate the potential impact of the University Infant Free Schools Meals (UIFSM) policy, introduced in September 2014, on educational, social and health effects. The study found that:

- UIFSM was perceived by all types of school staff to have led to an increase in take-up of school meals, particularly among Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils.
- Schools and caterers have incurred significant costs and have made many revisions to the delivery of food, in order to implement UIFSM.
- Parents have cited significant financial benefits as a result of UIFSM and have appreciated the time that has been saved from not having to make packed lunches.
- Some, though generally less than half, of the school and parent/carer respondents to surveys have perceived positive impacts in the short term on educational, social and health outcomes, but such effects have not been tested for statistically in this study.
- In a central modelling scenario, the estimated economic resource costs of the policy are smaller than the value of financial and time savings for families, making UIFSM a potentially cost-effective educational intervention on these terms.

University College London. *Girls at high risk of emotional problems.*

First findings from a survey of over 30,000 young people (aged 11 to 14) collected as part of the National Lottery funded HeadStart programme by the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families and UCL's Evidence Based Practice Unit found that:

- Around one in five children and young people said they experienced emotional problems, and the same was true for behavioural problems.
- Girls are more than twice as likely to say they had experienced emotional problems but in contrast, boys are one-and-a-half times more likely to say they have experienced behavioural problems
- Young people from Asian, Black, Mixed and other ethnic groups were significantly less likely to indicate they were experiencing emotional problems than young people in the White ethnic group.
- Young people with special educational needs, those eligible for free school meals and those classified as children in need were also more likely to say they were experiencing both emotional and behavioural problems.

Local Government Association. *Meeting the health and wellbeing needs of young carers.*

Being a carer takes its toll on a young person's education, physical health and emotional wellbeing. This report provides case studies of good work being undertaken in supporting the health and wellbeing needs of young carers.

Briefings

National Foundation for Education Research (NFER). *School Funding in England Since 2010 – What the Key Evidence Tells Us.*

This report presents the findings from a rapid review of the evidence on how recent changes (2010 onwards) to the level of school funding in England have impacted on school spending and attainment. Findings included:

- Despite recent funding freezes and cuts, real-terms per pupil funding is still expected to be over 50 per cent higher in 2019-20 than in 2000-01.
- Schools face significant cost increases moving forward, especially in terms of staffing.
- Additional school resources may have a modest positive influence on attainment.
- The observed benefits of higher spending are typically greater for pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Action for Children. *Government 'letting down' families as 1,000 children's centres not inspected for over five years.*

According to analysis undertaken by Action for Children nearly 1,000 children's centres across England have not been inspected for over five years. The Government suspended Ofsted inspections in September 2015 'on a short-term basis' pending a consultation on the future of children's centres, which has not taken place. Had inspections not been suspended, the charity estimates 969 children's centres - around 40 per cent of the total - would now have been assessed for quality of performance and impact. While the suspension has been in place, Ofsted has still been responsible for emergency inspections of centres if a safeguarding concern is raised. However, a Freedom of Information request sent to the inspectorate by Action for Children, in July 2017, revealed no such emergency inspections were carried out as none were required.

Criminal Justice

Reports

[Youth Justice Board. Youth Justice Statistics: 2016 to 2017.](#)

This publication looks at the Youth Justice System (YJS) in England and Wales for the year ending March 2017 in terms of the number of children and young people (those aged 10 – 17) in the system, the offences they committed, the outcomes they received, their demographics and the trends over time. Key findings included:

- The number of first time entrants has fallen by 85% compared with 10 years ago, and 11% in the last year.
- The number of CYP who received a caution or sentence has fallen by 81% compared with 10 years ago, and by 14% in the last year.
- Children and young people from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) background are overrepresented in custody.
- 42% of CYP reoffended, compared to 28% for adults.



An infographic representing the statistics can be found [here](#).

[Ministry of Justice. Safety in Custody Statistics, England and Wales.](#)

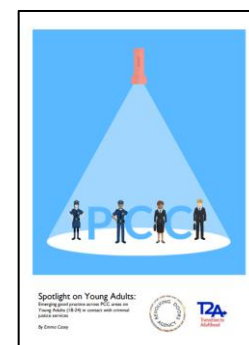
Safety in custody statistics cover deaths, self-harm and assaults in prison custody in England and Wales found:

- Number of deaths in custody continues to fall.
- Self-harm incidents and assaults/serious assaults (including prisoner-on-prisoner and assaults on staff) continue to rise, reaching record highs.

Briefings

[Revolving Doors Agency and Transition to Adulthood Alliance. Spotlight on Young Adults: Emerging good practice across PCC areas on Young Adults \(18-24\) in contact with criminal justice services.](#)

Through the Second Generation Project, Revolving Doors Agency and the Transition to Adulthood Alliance (T2A) aim to show how Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) across the country can help cut crime, end 'revolving door' offending, and improve responses to young adults and people who, as a result of multiple unmet needs, come into repeated contact with the police. This spotlight report highlights promising work on young adults that is being commissioned and supported by PCCs across the country.





Tools and Guidance

[Prison Reform Trust. New resources launched to highlight impact of maternal imprisonment on 17,000 children a year.](#)

It is estimated that 17,000 children every year are affected by maternal imprisonment in England and Wales. A partnership supported by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), Oxford University and the Prison Reform Trust have come together to create new resources, including films and briefings, for criminal justice professionals to help improve their understanding of the impacts of maternal imprisonment. Launched nationwide on 24 January, the resource includes short films and briefing papers, which will be used across the criminal justice professions including by the Judicial College, Magistrates Association, Law Society, Criminal Bar Association and Probation services.