



CordisPulse

June 2017

Welcome to June's edition of the CordisPulse - a monthly digest of key research and policy developments from May 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.

The General Election of June 2017 will go down in political history as the only election result where proposed national policy on social care played a decisive role in elector's final voting choice. The misfiring manifesto proposal by the Conservatives to abolish free homecare for every older person that owned a home worth more than £100,000 proved to be a clear vote loser. The announcement in the Queen's speech of further consultation on possible funding solutions and a vague commitment to a 'cap on costs' suggests that yet again the issue of how to secure a sustainable and equitable funding solution for social care may be kicked down the road for a future government to address.

The Queen's speech also contained a commitment to review the Mental Health Act 1983 which has not had a comprehensive review and update for 34 years. One of the biggest drivers for this review has been the rising number of people detained under the act, sometimes inappropriately in police cells, and the over representation of black people being detained. Changes to the act are likely to impact on how collaborative working between different sectors evolve and the report from the King's Fund on the learning from Vanguards looking at new models of care gives useful insight into the current state of play.

Standing behind all this however is a more concerning report from the Mental Health Foundation, which based on a survey amongst panels members suggest that the prevalence of poor mental health is increasing. A clear indication of the growing political consensus that change is needed to mental health services is that even an unpopular and weak minority government believes that it can count on cross party support to try and improve the situation.

Concerning Children's Services, The Education Policy Institute's paper on manifesto commitments highlighted that a Conservative government would result in



a c3% reduction in per pupil funding in real terms over the course of the next parliament. There are mixed indicators from the general election about what will happen in reality: retaining Justine Greening as Secretary of State implies policy continuity; whilst the lack of a clear majority means that MPs whose constituencies may lose out from reforms may be able to extract concessions or reversals in policy plans. Cordis Bright's view is that a policy reversal, rather than a patchwork of compromises, is the best solution: not just for schools but also for statutory social services which can benefit from an education sector which is able to fully participate in parental engagement, prevention, and early intervention.

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

Delayed transfer of care – new LinkedIn group

If you would like to see our updates regarding DToC, and share your own updates and ideas, please join our new DToC LinkedIn group. To do this, search for 'Cordis Bright's Delayed Transfer of Care (DToC) forum' on the search bar on [LinkedIn](#), and you will find it under 'Groups'.

Looked After Children 'stress-test'

Our analysis uses publicly available data to examine recent trends in the numbers, rates and spend on Looked After Children (LAC) in England. The first section presents national trends from 2012 to 2016. The second section examines trends across local authorities. As part of this, it highlights those local authorities that we think, from the data, may be experiencing the most pressures in catering for LAC. To read this document, click [here](#).

Children and young people's services

Reports

NSPCC. *Minding the baby: qualitative findings on implementation from the first UK service*

Minding the Baby (MTB) is a mentalisation-based preventative parenting programme. It is an inter-disciplinary programme which involves visits from a health and social work practitioner, and starts in the third trimester of pregnancy lasting until the child is two-years-old. This report summarises qualitative findings from the first pilot cohort in three UK sites, and focuses on practitioners' experiences of using the MTB model and parents' experiences of receiving the service.



Education Policy Institute. *General election 2017: An analysis of manifesto plans for education*

In this report, analysis of the education policy proposals contained within the 2017 General Election Manifestos of the Conservative Party, Labour Party and Liberal Democrat Party is provided, including any risks in relation to the funding of programmes. It was reported that the Conservatives made the most modest pledges on education funding of the larger parties. However, it was reported that the Conservatives have set themselves the toughest rules on reducing government borrowing, therefore in the face of an economic downturn it was reported that they would face a choice between accepting higher government borrowing, raising taxes or cutting back on public spending, including education.

Nuffield Foundation. *Understanding the lives of separating and separated families in the UK: what evidence do we need?*

This report presents findings from a study to establish the evidence needs in relation to family separation in the UK, and to assess whether the existing data infrastructure is sufficient to meet them. Findings included that a lack of data on the lives of separating and separated families is hindering effective policymaking for children and families. Further, it was reported that whilst families are central to social policy, research and policy has not kept up with the pace at which family structures have become increasingly diverse.

National Foundation for Educational Research. *Teacher retention and turnover research: teacher retention by subject*

This NFER Research Update 'Teacher retention by subject' is the first publication in a series that form part of a new research project – funded by the Nuffield Foundation – to gain a deeper understanding of the dynamics within the teacher workforce in England. Key findings included that rates of early-career teachers in science, maths and languages leaving the profession are particularly high. Further, high leaving rates of science and modern foreign languages teachers, and shortfalls in the number of entries to teacher training in these subjects compared to the Government's target, may make it difficult for the Government to achieve its aim for 90 per cent of pupils to be entered for GCSEs in English Baccalaureate subjects.



[The Sutton Trust. Mobility Manifesto 2017](#)

The Sutton Trust's Mobility Manifesto sets out ten practical policy steps to put social mobility at the heart of the 2017 election campaign. The manifesto urges better provision for disadvantaged pupils in early years and school settings, alongside dedicated funding for the highly able and fairer admissions to comprehensives, grammar schools and independent schools. It also urges a ban on unpaid internships, along with more advanced and higher apprenticeships, as well as best practice in widening access in employment.

Briefings

[Buttle UK. Increase in baby victims of domestic abuse](#)

Analysis of Buttle UK's grant-giving was reported to have shown a "staggering" growth in the number of young victims exposed to domestic abuse, with figures showing that the number of grants awarded to families affected by domestic abuse rose by 22% between 2015 and 2016.

[Children and Young People Now. Number of young people receiving mental health support rises to 240,000](#)

Children and Young People Now have reported that, based on figures published by the NHS, that the number of young people in contact with mental health services has passed 240,000. It was reported that the Young Minds chief executive blamed this rise on cuts to early intervention support for a number of years, and called for the next government to ensure schools do more to support children's mental health and emotional wellbeing.

Tools and Guidance

[NSPCC. A guide to safeguarding in England for leaders of groups in the voluntary and community sector](#)

The NSPCC have written guidance for leaders of a wide range of voluntary, community and faith groups working with children and young people of all ages and providing a range of activities, support or services, from arts activities and hobbies to faith-based education or community work.

Adult Social Care and Health

Reports

Mental Health Foundation. *Surviving or thriving? The state of the UK's mental health*

This report outlines findings from a survey conducted amongst panel members in England, Scotland and Wales, and aimed to understand the prevalence of self-reported mental health problems, levels of positive and negative mental health in the population, and the actions people take to deal with the stressors in their lives. Key findings included that current levels of good mental health are “*disturbingly low*”, and collective mental health is deteriorating with most respondents reporting experiencing a mental health problem in their lifetime.



The King's Fund and the Royal College of Psychiatrists. *Mental health and new models of care: Lessons from the vanguards*

This report draws on research with vanguard sites in England, conducted in partnership with the Royal College of Psychiatrists. It was found that where new models of care have been used to remove the barriers between mental health and other parts of the health system, local professionals saw this as being highly valuable in improving care for patients and service users. However, it was reported that there remains much to be done to fully embed mental health into integrated care teams, primary care, urgent and emergency care pathways, and in work on population health.

The King's Fund. *Cascading Leadership: a new model to support leadership in the voluntary and community sector*

The Cascading Leadership pilot was launched in March 2016, in partnership with GSK and Comic Relief, to enable high-performing leaders of voluntary and community organisations to share their learning with the wider sector. This report outlines the importance of investing in leadership within this sector, looks at key features of the Cascading Leadership programme and shares the results of an external evaluation along with the author's own reflections.

The King's Fund. *NHS estates: review of the evidence*

This report sets out the findings of an evidence review in relation to estates strategy, commissioned to support the work of Sir Robert Naylor's review. It includes evidence on the approach to developing a strategy, and the different components required for an effective strategy. It also identifies the skills and capability involved in estates strategy development, and provides examples of some of the models for estates development that have been used in the NHS and elsewhere in the public sector.

Social Care Institute for Excellence. *Changing together: brokering constructive conversations*

This report summarises the findings from a research study which sought to explore how we can better broker constructive conversations with citizens to tackle 'wicked' issues when implementing new models of care. Key messages included that there is no one-size-fits-all methodology at the system level, and best results are achieved when the engagement



process begins at an early stage of planning service change and is maintained during implementation.

[The King's Fund. *Caring to Change: How compassionate leadership can stimulate innovation in health care*](#)

This paper identifies compassion as a core cultural value of the NHS, and looks at how compassionate leadership results in a working environment that encourages people to find new and improved ways of doing things. It also describes four key elements of a culture for innovative, high-quality and continually improving care, and what this may mean for patients, staff and the wider organisation: inspiring vision and strategy; positive inclusion and participation; enthusiastic team and cross-boundary working; support and autonomy for staff to innovate. This report also present case studies regarding how compassionate leadership has led to innovation.

[Nuffield Foundation and Cardiff University. *In-work poverty in the UK: Problem, policy analysis and platform for action*](#)

This report contains the final results of a research project examining in-work poverty in the UK, funded by the Nuffield Foundation. Findings included that more than half (60%) of people living in poverty in the UK live in a household where someone is in work. Further, this research found that that the number of workers in a household, and not low pay, is the primary determinant of in-work poverty.

[The Work Foundation. *Addressing the health obstacles to employability: a mid-term evaluation of the Bridging the Gap programme*](#)

The Bridging the Gap programme (BTG) is a Department of Health 'Innovation, Excellence and Strategic Development' (IESD) funded initiative. The programme builds on the available evidence base and seeks to support the integration of health and employment services in order to support people with health conditions. This mid-term evaluation found very good health improvements for people with LTCs, and good improvements in terms of work readiness and other employment-related outcomes.

Briefings

[Joseph Rowntree Foundation. *General Election: Parliamentary seats where people are at highest risk of poverty*](#)

Analysis undertaken by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation has highlighted the parliamentary constituencies where high levels of working-age poverty are likely to exist. It also highlights how issues such as low wages and skill levels are trapping millions of people in poverty.

[The Health Foundation. *Election briefing: NHS and social care funding*](#)

The Health Foundation published a briefing aiming to clarify the debate on three main challenges surrounding NHS and social care: how big of a problem funding and social care is; whether the NHS faces two years of famine ahead; and how much funding for social care and the NHS might be needed beyond 2020. It includes commentary regarding the best route to a long-term sustainable future for the NHS and social care.

The King's Fund. *Organising care at the NHS front line: Who is responsible?*

Comprising of a series of essays by frontline clinicians, managers and patients, this report looks at caring for acutely ill medical patients at the NHS front line, and asks how care in hospitals can be improved.

The Health Foundation. *Provision of community care: who, what, how much?*

This briefing analyses information on community care contracts in England, to enable better understanding of the provision of these services. Key findings included:

- NHS providers hold over half of the total annual value of contracts awarded for community services;
- Private providers held 5% of total annual value, but 39% of total number of contracts issued; and
- Whilst private providers tended to hold much smaller contracts, the majority of very large contracts were held by the NHS.

The Health Foundation. *Election briefing: a sustainable workforce*

This report highlights that a quarter of the adult social care workforce left their jobs last year. The briefing on the current state of the health and social care workforce identifies the fundamental challenges facing the workforce today, and considers what steps might be needed to make sure the NHS and social care in England have enough of the right people to deliver high quality care in the future.

National Assembly for Wales. *Paying for adult social care in Wales: Debate and Reform*

This research briefing outlines some of the work that has been undertaken to examine options for reforming social care charging in England and Wales. It also sets out the work of the Welsh Government on charging issues, including the reforms it has introduced since devolution.

Tools and Guidance

The King's Fund. *Leading across the health and care system: lessons from experience*

This report offers leaders of new systems of care guidance on how to address the challenges they face. Included in this report is the identification of five factors which frame the challenge that system leaders are facing, and guidance regarding bringing these factors together. The five factors highlighted in this report are: develop a shared purpose and vision; have frequent personal contact; surface and resolve conflicts; behave altruistically towards each other; and commit to working together for the longer term.





Local Government Association. *How do you know your council is performing well in adult social care?*

Guidance from the Local Government Association into how councils can explore how well they are performing in adult social care.

Local Government Association. *How do you know you are making the best use of scarce resources?*

Guidance from the Local Government Association into how councils can explore whether they are making the best use of scarce resources.



Criminal Justice

Reports

House of Lords House of Commons Joint Committee on Human Rights. *Mental Health and Deaths in Prison: Interim Report*

The Joint Committee of Human Rights have published a report on mental health and deaths in prison, which calls for a legal framework to be introduced in the next parliament, including a mechanism to hold the Secretary of State accountable for reducing overcrowding, to help ensure the needs of people with a mental illness are recognised and met.

Prison Reform Trust. *Self-harm and suicide rising as prisons struggle to meet mental health need*

Prison Reform Trust released figures to mark the start of Mental Health Awareness Week, which revealed that overcrowded and overstretched prisons are struggling to meet the needs of the high numbers of people in their care with a mental health need or learning disability. Further, it was reported that rising levels of self-inflicted deaths and record numbers of incidents involving self-harm point to the “urgent need” for the next government to address the decline in prison’s safety and standards, and to increase support in the justice system for vulnerable defendants.

Briefings

Centre for Crime and Justice Studies. *Trapped in the Justice Loop? Past, present and future of the woman-centred services at the heart of the systems-change called for in the Corston Report*

Ten years on from the publication of the Corston Report, this review offers an analysis of the role envisaged for woman-centred services in the systems-change proposed by Baroness Corston. This review sets out reflections from a policy perspective, and thoughts on how future policy and practice can reclaim and realise the original Corston vision. Further, it highlights how a sustainable model for women-centred services might be developed in the future.