



CordisPulse

February 2019

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.

The human and financial cost of domestic abuse is explored in a Home Office report published this month. We regularly undertake research and evaluations on domestic abuse, sexual violence and violence against women and girls: for central government, local authorities, police and crime commissioners, and independent sector organisations. For instance, we are undertaking research with victims, users of violence, and children about the impact of domestic abuse and whether and how new Department for Education Social Care Innovation Programme projects are helping to improve outcomes. We are also conducting evaluations of a regional whole-system response to domestic abuse, a regional perpetrator programme as well as victims needs assessments which focus on domestic abuse, sexual violence and violence against women and girls.

As the Home Office report makes clear, the financial cost of domestic abuse, sexual violence and violence against women and girls – to individuals, to services and to communities as a whole – is huge (and for an interesting perspective on these numbers listen to More or Less on BBC Radio 4: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m00025g0>). We are helping to identify how new programmes and approaches can offer taxpayers value for money. That said, what is clear from our research is that the human cost of domestic violence is massive. That alone should be sufficient motivation to invest significant resources in evidence-based programmes and approaches that tackle domestic abuse when it occurs and also work to prevent it from arising in the first place.

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

Cordis Briefing January 2019

January's Cordis Briefing is available [here](#) and covered:

- Some more detail and analysis from CQC's State of Health and Social Care Report: Population projections using healthy life years; what difference does this make to future plans and investments?
- Update concerning the Local Government Ombudsman.
- A review of the Adult Social Care Service User Survey and CQC Mental Health Patient Satisfaction Survey.
- Analysis of local authority financial performance.

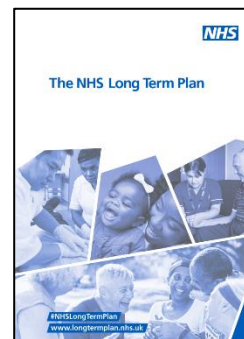
If you would like to hear more about our Cordis Briefings please contact Lucy Asquith on: lucyasquith@cordisbright.co.uk

Adult Social Care and Health

Reports

NHS. NHS Long Term Plan.

As the NHS enters its seventh decade, the Long Term Plan for the next ten years of the service has been released. The plan notes that this comes at a time when the service has secured funding averaging 3.4% over the next five years, up from 2% in previous years, as well as widespread consensus across patients, professionals and NHS leaders on the changes required for the NHS. The changes outlined include a new service model; more action on prevention and health inequalities; further progress on care quality and outcomes; support to NHS staff; digitally-embedded care; and using taxpayers' investment to the maximum effect.



Department of Health and Social Care. GP partnership review: final report.

The final report of the independent review of the GP partnership model, in which GPs operate as self-employed independent contractors, is based on a review of the challenges facing partnerships, the benefits and drawbacks of the model and how the model can be changed to benefit patients and staff. The report recommends a series of changes including reducing the personal risk associated with GP partnerships; increasing the number of GPs; increasing the capacity and range of healthcare professionals in the community; increasing the amount of medical training time spent in GP practices; establishing Primary Care Networks; giving GPs a strong voice; and making use of new digital technologies.

Shelter. Three million new social homes key to solving housing crisis.

This report by Shelter calls for 3.1 million new social homes to be built for those who do not qualify for social housing under the current system. This would include homes for those in greatest housing need (e.g. those living with a disability or long-term illness), trapped renters (including younger families) and older private renters over the age of 55. The report was produced through a commission of 16 independent commissioners, including politicians, experts and individuals with lived experience, who were brought together by Shelter following the Grenfell Tower Fire to scrutinise the housing crisis.



Briefings

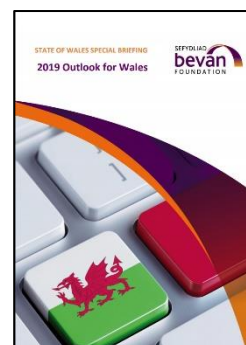
Local Government Chronicle. Fair funding formula proposals spark concern from urban areas.

The briefing provides an overview of the new 2019-20 provisional local government finance settlement and describes it as one of the “biggest shake-ups of council funding in living memory”. Under the new system, funding for authorities will be decided by a single per capita formula driven by population, alongside seven service-specific formulae, including adult

social care and children and young people's services. The briefing describes how a new adjustment to the foundation formula for rurality has been welcomed by rural areas, while urban areas are concerned that deprivation is only being taken account of across four of the service-specific formula.

Bevan Foundation. State of Wales special briefing. 2019 Outlook for Wales.

The Bevan Foundation here offers an overview of some of the key issues which it expects will face Wales over 2019, based on UK and Wales forecasts. However, the report notes that it is difficult to make full predictions given the unknowns surrounding Brexit and the impact it will have on Wales. The report predicts that pressures on health and social care will continue, with A&E and treatment waiting times likely to rise, but does not expect that this will be addressed through any significant reorganisation of care in Wales.



Tools and Guidance

The King's Fund. The NHS long-term plan explained.

The King's Fund offers an overview and analysis of the main points outlined in the NHS Long Term Plan. The report discusses how despite the substantial improvements to NHS funding announced by the Prime Minister in June 2018, the 3.4% annual increase to the NHS budget over the next five years is not enough to meet rising care and demand. The King's Fund finds the most notable commitments offered by the plan to be a group of clinical priorities, including mental health, and increased focus on children and young people's health. While the report praises these commitments, it also recognises that this will require significant increases in workforce capacity, investment in diagnostic equipment and clear national leadership.

The King's Fund. Community health services explained.

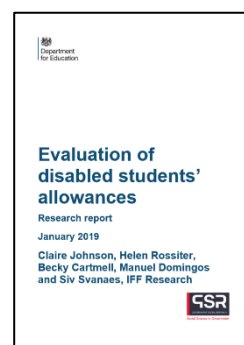
The NHS Long Term Plan has committed to delivering more and better health services in the community, including improved out-of-hospital care, integrating primary and community health services and increasing annual spending on community and primary care services by £4.5 billion by 2023/24. This King's Fund explainer offers an overview of what community services are and how they could be changing, and in particular warns that without addressing increasing gaps in the community workforce, efforts to deliver more community health services could be challenged.

Children and young people's services

Reports

Department for Education. Evaluation of Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs).

This report presents the findings of an evaluation of the current model of Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs) conducted by IFF Research for the Department for Education. Several changes have been made to DSAs in recent years, with the most current model including transferred responsibility for less specialist non-medical help to higher education providers. Using qualitative case studies of higher education providers, an online survey of disabled higher education providers and follow-up qualitative interviews, the evaluation found that DSAs had little impact on disabled students' decisions to pursue higher education. This was partly due to less than half of the students reporting having heard of DSAs before applying for their course. Additionally, there was an even divide when students were asked whether they could have done their course without getting support from DSAs or not.



Department for Education. Exploring flexible working practice in schools.

This report presents a literature review on the use of flexible working practices in education. The review is based on literature around flexible working practices in teaching and learning roles across England and includes six comparator case studies exploring flexible work in higher education, health and social care and the wider private sector, including three international studies from Australia, Finland and Singapore. The review found evidence for the benefits of flexible working to teacher retention and recruitment but that take-up was often dependent on the attitude of senior leadership teams towards it.

Education Policy Institute. The impact of recent government policies on early years provision.

This report from the Education Policy Institute (EPI) examines the impact on the early years sector of policy changes including the Early Years Pupil Premium, Universal Credit, the introduction of the tax-free childcare scheme to replace childcare vouchers, and the 30 hours entitlement policy. EPI's research explores whether these policy changes have impacted the take-up of different childcare entitlement groups and on the total number of funded places. Key findings include a possible trade-off by local authorities in deciding whether to provide the entitlement for disadvantaged two-year olds or the 30 hours free entitlement for three- and four-year olds; some evidence that the 30-hours policy does not increase the supply of new places; and no evidence that changes to funding have impacted on take-up of the 15 hours or 30 hours free entitlements.

Welsh Government. Evaluation of the Implementation of the Pupil Development Grant for Looked After Children. Final Report.

This is the final report of a two-year evaluation of the implementation of the Pupil Development Grant (PDG) for Looked After Children (LAC) in Wales conducted by ICF Consulting, Arad Research and Cardiff University. The grant provides funding to schools through four regional educational consortia to help mitigate disadvantage for LAC pupils in



schools. The evaluation involved interviews with stakeholders and service users, an e-survey, case studies, a literature review and secondary data collection. It found that some positive impacts on LAC were being achieved through specific activities, including interventions co-produced with LAC, the use of strategic monitoring and evaluation tools, training activities for school staff, capacity building throughout the wider system and tutoring interventions. The research also found that implementation could be improved through changes to the management and monitoring of the programme, and specifically more effective management and delivery of grant funding.

Briefings

Education Policy Institute. Comparing GCSE performance in England and Wales – equivalent or not?

This analysis from EPI finds that across a range of measures, pupils in Wales display worse educational outcomes than pupils in England. It is only at ages 3, 5 and 11 that children in Wales and England show similar levels of literacy while by the end of secondary school there is overall lower educational performance in Wales than in England. Welsh pupils also score lower in reading and maths than the OECD average and there is a wider gap in performance between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils in Wales than in England. This is based on data from GCSE results, PISA tests and cognitive tests in surveys.

Action for Children. The challenges facing children's centres.

Action for Children runs over 100 children's centres across England and here summarises the results of a survey sent to centre managers which aimed to explore work on the ground in light of growing coverage of the pressures facing children's centres. The survey found that while 49% of centres had experienced a decrease in the number of families using their service in the last twelve months, the majority of centres also noted that the families they work with now have more complex needs. Centres are now prioritising groups including children in low income families and children living with domestic abuse and as a result of this the programmes they offer are changing to meet this demand, including 50% of centres increasing support for those experiencing domestic violence.

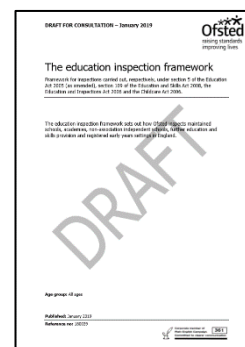
London School of Economics and Political Science. Care leavers in higher education: how many are there and why does it matter?

In light of media coverage suggesting that only 6% of care leavers go on to higher education, this briefing explores whether this is a true estimate and what the evidence behind the figure is. The briefing describes how the 6% figure refers only to those care leavers who enter higher education up to the age of 21, which misses those who start a course later than this or who have completed a shorter course before the age of 21. It also finds that the data the 6% figure is based on is incomplete and misses about 10% of care leavers. Taking this into account, the report suggests a new figure of 12%, although it acknowledges that even this is likely to be an underestimate.

Tools and Guidance

Ofsted. The education inspection framework.

This is the draft education inspection framework for use from September 2019 during the inspection of different education, skills and early years settings. It is currently open for consultation and is based on [research](#) conducted by HMCI's Research and Evaluation team into curriculum and teacher wellbeing as well as reviews of existing research related to quality of education, behaviours and attitudes, personal development, and leadership and management.



Department for Education. New site to help schools save thousands on recruitment costs.

This briefing covers the announcement by the Education Secretary of a new online tool for schools that will allow them to see the fees that recruitment agencies charge on top of staff wages. The latest data on the amount that schools spend on supply agencies is from 2016/17 and shows that schools in England spent £825 million on supply agencies. The tool is designed to help schools avoid choosing agencies that charge excessively high supply fees and has already reportedly helped one school save £2,500 in three months.

Criminal Justice

Reports

The Nuffield Foundation. What could a public health approach to family justice look like?

This report explores calls for a ‘public health’ approach to family justice and what this would look like in practice, with a focus on private law cases. One third of separating families now use private law courts to resolve disputes over living arrangements for children. The high proportion of families using private law suggests a strong rationale for taking a population-level public health approach, which considers the wider system and emphasises prevention and early intervention. The report explores how implementing this would require changes including: helping services recognise and respond to the signs of parental conflict; finding effective ways for professionals, particularly family justice and health professionals, to work together; and making an economic case for early intervention.



Ministry of Justice. A Process Study of the Horizon Programme.

This research report describes the results of a process evaluation of the Horizon Programme. The Horizon Programme is an intervention delivered in custodial and community sites for men who have committed a sexual offence and are at medium, high or very high risk of reoffending. The process study began in 2016 at six early implementation sites and involved focus groups with 22 facilitators and treatment managers, and individual interviews with 29 participants of the first completed programme. The study did not measure reconviction rates following the programme and focused only on capturing opinions on its implementation. Key findings include high completion rates (83% who started the programme completed it) and positive feedback from staff and participants who noted increases in confidence, assertiveness and problem-solving skills and improvements in their relationships.

HM Prison & Probation Service. Prisoner and staff perceptions of procedural justice in English and Welsh Prisons.

This report summarises research conducted with prisoners and staff members to measure their perception of procedural justice in English and Welsh prisons. This research is important as previous studies have shown that procedural justice perceptions among prisoners are relevant to outcomes including misconduct, wellbeing and reoffending, while perceptions among staff are relevant to outcomes including workforce maintenance, wellbeing and effectiveness. This study used questionnaire data gathered from 21,353 prisoners and 15,515 prison staff and found a wide variation in perceptions. Negative perceptions of procedural justice among prisoners were associated with more exposure to custody, self-reported self-harm and attempted suicide and, in some prisons, higher rates of prison-level assaults and disorder. Among staff, more positive perceptions were associated with greater organisational commitment, a higher rehabilitative orientation and less stress.

HM Inspectorate of Prisons. Children in Custody 2017-18.

This report, commissioned by the Youth Justice Board, is based on 686 surveys completed by children detained at every secure training centre (STC) and young offender institution (YOI) between 2017 to 2018. The survey findings show that there has been no statistically significant shift in children's perceptions of their treatment and conditions in STCs and YOIs since 2016-17, with 34% of children in STCs reporting feeling unsafe at some point since arriving and 40% of boys in YOIs reporting ever feeling unsafe in their establishment.



Home Office. The economic and social costs of domestic abuse.

This report summarises research into the costs of domestic abuse in England and Wales for the period 2016/17 and finds that overall the cost to victims was approximately £66 billion. The analysis is based on data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) and uses the 'cost of crime' approach to calculate: the cost in anticipation, the cost as a consequence, and the costs of the response to domestic abuse. Through this approach, the analysis found that the physical and emotional harm suffered by victims is the largest cost at £47 billion, while the cost of lost output (e.g. time taken off work and reduced productivity afterwards) is the second largest cost at £14 billion.

Briefings

Home Office and Ministry of Justice. Domestic abuse consultation response and draft bill.

This policy paper presents the draft Government response to the domestic abuse consultation and the draft Domestic Abuse bill. The consultation on proposals for the bill began in 2018 and identified nine areas requiring primary legislation which are being taken forward in the draft Domestic Abuse Bill, alongside a package of practical actions. The next step for the Bill is a pre-legislative scrutiny by a joint committee of both Houses of Parliament.

HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services. Public perceptions of policing in England and Wales 2018.

This report presents the findings of a large-scale survey conducted by BMG Research into current perceptions of the police among the general public. A total of 17,043 surveys were conducted. The research found that 61% of respondents are satisfied with the police, an increase from 2017, with reasons including that the police doing a good job and a recognition of the difficulty of the job. Those who expressed dissatisfaction with the police cited minimal police presence and feeling that the police were not taking action.