



CordisPulse

April 2020

Welcome to this month's edition of the CordisPulse.

In March the WHO designated Covid-19 a global pandemic and the UK started to grapple with arguably the greatest health crisis in 100 years and an associated severe real-economy challenge. We hope whatever your role in supporting and delivering public services during this time that you are keeping safe and that it is going as well as it can given these unique circumstances.

Over this period, we have also been taking time to discuss and reflect with our clients how best we can help and provide support. This has included thinking about how the pandemic may affect the future of adult social care and the integration of health and social care. Our colleague Tom Noon produced a blog piece on this which he is discussing with a number of clients. This can be seen [here](#).

It has also included developing real-time evaluation approaches with clients. More about this is summarised in a post by our colleague Jane Harris [here](#).

During March a range of useful resources were published in relation to Covid-19. We have highlighted a selection that we think are most useful. We would also welcome hearing from you what resources concerning Covid-19 you have found most useful so that we can share them as part of the Pulse. Please do send these to stephenboxford@cordisbright.co.uk.

There have also been other resources, not connected to Covid-19 and we have highlighted key resources in this edition too.

We hope you all stay safe and well over the coming weeks. If there is anything we can do to help with your work we would welcome the opportunity to discuss. 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

Real time evaluation

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Cordis Bright is working with clients to develop and deliver evaluation approaches that capture real-time evidence concerning how systems are responding. Capturing this evidence in real-time ensures that lessons are learnt and practice is improved both as the pandemic evolves and in the future. More about our thinking can be seen [here](#).

COVID-19: early thinking on the legacy for adult social care

It now seems inevitable that the coronavirus pandemic will reshape many aspects of life in the UK.

The purpose of this short piece is to start to look beyond the end of extreme social distancing and begin to think about the possible legacy of the pandemic for adult social care. Find out more by clicking [here](#).



Covid-19 Pandemic Resources

This section provides resources that our team have found most useful during the pandemic.

- All up-to-date guidance from the government about coronavirus is available [here](#).
- The government's action plan for how it will support the adult social care sector in England is available [here](#).
- NHS England and Improvement are compiling advice and guidance [here](#).
- Specific guidance for local authorities is available [here](#) and the LGA are also assembling useful materials [here](#).
- NICE are compiling guidance [here](#).
- Useful advice for those working in social care is being collated by SCIE [here](#).
- Coronavirus case tracker data is available [here](#).

Our team members have also found the following resources useful:

- [Analysis and insight](#) of Covid-19 by Edge Health
- A blog on [deploying innovation and learning](#) alongside the Covid-19 response.

We would also welcome hearing from you what resources concerning Covid-19 you have found most useful so that we can share them as part of the Pulse. Please do send these to stephenboxford@cordisbright.co.uk.

Adult Social Care and Health

Reports

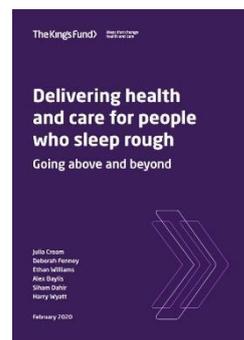
The King's Fund. Health and care: the first 100 days of the new government

The new government arrived in office on 13 December 2019 with the health and care system facing significant and persistent challenges, many of which the government committed to addressing in its manifesto. However, the King's Fund state that these challenges have been dwarfed by the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak, which has emerged as the biggest public health emergency and most significant challenge to health and care services since the NHS was established. How the government responds to the outbreak will define its first few months in office and will have an impact that goes way beyond this period.

The time will come for an analysis of the impact of the outbreak and the response to it. However, at some stage in the months ahead, the country will return to something approaching normality. The King's Fund therefore thought it would be useful to provide a record of the progress made towards meeting the government's manifesto pledges and campaign commitments during its first 100 days in office.

The King's Fund. Delivering health and care for people who sleep rough: going above and beyond

As part of current government efforts to reduce rough sleeping, there is a focus on improving health care for people sleeping rough. This piece of research by The King's Fund explored how four different local areas are delivering effective health and care services to people sleeping rough and what other areas might be able to learn from them.



They found five shared principles that the four areas had in common. They think that any area can make progress if it: takes steps to find and engage people sleeping rough; builds and supports its workforce to go above and beyond existing service limitations; prioritises relationships; tailors the local response to people sleeping rough; and uses the full power of commissioning.

The Health Foundation. Feeling the Strain: What the Commonwealth Fund's 2019 international survey of general practitioners means for the UK

This publication presents UK-focused analysis of *The Commonwealth Fund's 2019 International Health Policy Survey of Primary Care Doctors in 11 Countries*. This includes responses to several UK-specific questions funded by the Health Foundation.



The 2019 Commonwealth Fund survey compares perspectives from GPs across 11 high-income countries. The survey asked GPs' views on their working lives, changes in how they deliver services, and the quality of care they can

provide to patients. The results are presented for the UK as a whole, with differences between UK countries highlighted only when they are of particular interest. The final section of this analysis discusses the implications of the results and what they mean for policy in England, though the implications identified are likely to be broadly relevant across the UK.

Briefings

Department of Health and Social Care. NHS mandate 2020 to 2021

The government's mandate to NHS England with its remit for NHS Improvement confirms the objectives and budget for the year ahead. The financial directions provide further details on how NHS England's budget is broken down.

Local Government Association. Adult Safeguarding and Homelessness: a briefing on positive practice

The purpose of this briefing is to assist senior leaders, such as members of Safeguarding Adults Boards (SABs), as well as commissioners, practitioners and operational managers who are working across relevant sectors and agencies in this field, to support people who are homeless and at risk of or experiencing abuse or neglect.

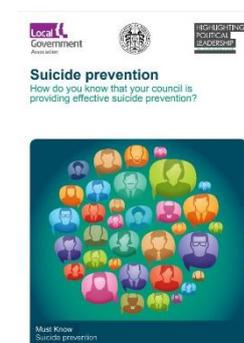


There are 11 sections in this briefing. Particular focus is given to working with people experiencing multiple exclusion homelessness. The sections include an outline of relevant law and a summary of learning from safeguarding adult reviews. Effective practice is explored through a focus on working with individuals, the multi-agency and multi-disciplinary team around the person, organisations around the team, and governance.

The briefing forms part of a sector-led improvement project. The briefing concludes with a list of resources and identifies how the project will be taken forward to further inform policy, service and practice development.

Local Government Association. Suicide prevention: How do you know that your council is providing effective suicide prevention?

This guide is part of the Local Government Association's wider sector-led improvement programme and is an opportunity for councils and their partners to access leading expertise, learn from one another and share good practice. The wider programme can be accessed in the Suicide prevention sector-led improvement prospectus 2019/20.



Local Government Association. The lives we want to lead: Towards change, towards hope

Published shortly before the new Government's first Budget, this short publication sets out the main issues that the Local Government Association believe need to be addressed to ensure that people can live the lives they want to lead, and the kind of action they want to see from Government.



Care Quality Commission (CQC). Getting safer faster: key areas for improvement in maternity services

Every pregnant woman wants a positive birth experience. Every member of staff working in a maternity service wants to provide safe, high-quality care.

The work underway to improve the safety of maternity services is welcome, but CQC's inspections have found there is more that needs to be done to ensure that women and babies get consistently safe care.

This briefing highlights three key areas for improvement: the development of the board level maternity safety champion role is crucial to ensure a proactive approach to the maternity services that the organisation provides; the issues of staff competencies, teamworking and training will require support from professional organisations and regulators; finally, CQC want to see evidence from all providers of maternity care that there is true engagement and involvement with individuals and groups who use maternity services through Maternity Voices Partnerships.

The King's Fund. What role do taxes and regulation play in promoting better health?

The use of regulatory and fiscal policy tools in improving public health has long generated heated debate, and is rising up the agenda once more. This briefing aims to contribute to the debate, looking at how a range of policy levers might be used effectively to reduce consumption of tobacco and alcohol, and unhealthy consumption of food and drink, and ultimately improve people's health.



Tools and Guidance

Public Health England. Improving outdoor air quality and health: review of interventions

Public Health England published a review of interventions to improve outdoor air quality and public health in March 2019. The review provides local practitioners and policy-makers with an indication of the broad range of available interventions across 5 focal areas: vehicles and fuels, spatial planning, industry, agriculture and people's behaviour. It outlines principles that can be applied to strategies and the design and evaluation of new interventions.

In March 2020, Public Health England released a document supplement to the review. It provides a guide for practitioners and policy-makers when choosing and implementing interventions, drawing from the principles, recommendations and findings of the review.

St Mungo's. Homeless Couples and Relationships Toolkit

The St Mungo's Homeless Couples and Relationships Toolkit is the first of its kind. Based on the Couples First? research carried out by the Brighton Women's Centre, it offers advice for anyone working in the homelessness sector. With support from Tower Hamlets, Mayor of London, City of London, the new toolkit raises awareness of the barriers faced by homeless couples; providing guidance for staff working with couples, requirements for accommodation options for people, and outlining recommendations for supporting couples.



Drink and Drugs News. COVID-19: Advice for people who use drugs

An advice sheet for people who use drugs during the coronavirus outbreak has been prepared by EuroNPUD, INPUD and Respect Drug User Rights.

The document includes essential COVID-19-related harm reduction advice, as well as wider health information around the virus. It also contains guidance on successfully managing opioid substitution therapy during the crisis, including what to say to prescribing services.



Children and young people's services

Reports

Public Health England. 2020 Child Health Profiles

The child health profiles provide an overview of child health and wellbeing, in each local area in England.

The profiles can be used to: understand the needs of local communities, improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people and reduce health inequalities. They are intended for use by local government and health service professionals.

NHS England. Better Births Four Years On: A review of progress

Since the publication of Better Births in 2016 and of the Report of the Morecambe Bay Investigation in 2015, the NHS and its partners have come together through the national Maternity Transformation Programme to implement its vision for safer and more personalised care across England and deliver the national ambition to halve the rates of stillbirths, neonatal mortality, maternal mortality and brain injury by 2025. As they reach the fourth anniversary, this report takes stock of progress, reflects on successes and remaining challenges, and considers where further action is needed.



National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER). How aware are schools of T Levels? A survey of senior leaders and classroom teachers



This is the third of NFER's suite of reports on T Levels, focusing on awareness of T Levels in schools. It reports the findings of a survey of 732 senior leaders and classroom teachers administered at the end of 2019.

Key findings include: although the majority of senior leaders surveyed (85%) had heard of T Levels, less than half of classroom teachers (41%) had heard of them; although awareness was highest amongst respondents located close to T Level provision, two-fifths of respondents (39%) located less than five miles away from a T Level provider had not heard of T Levels; of the half of senior leaders and classroom teachers who had heard of T Levels, the majority (83%) were 'not very well informed' or 'not informed at all'.

Teachers can play an important role in careers awareness raising, both in their interactions with students as teachers and in pastoral roles, and in their work engaging with parents/carers. Although the NexT Level awareness raising campaign is welcomed, these survey findings suggest that further and speedier progress in informing schools about T Levels is needed.

The Children's Society. The Wrong Blazer 2020: Time for action on school uniform costs

The Wrong Blazer 2020 provides updated findings on rising school uniform costs in the UK. Based on a survey of 1,000 parents of school age children in February 2020, it highlights how unnecessarily high uniform costs have negative impacts on children, including children being sent home from school or affecting what school their parents choose for them. It calls on government to change the law on uniform policy to make schools give highest priority to cost.



Rees Centre and Coram Voice. Challenging stigma in the care system

This report, published as part of the Bright Spots Programme, explores how stigma affects children in care and care leavers and how local authorities can help prevent stigma towards children in care and care leavers, and outlines key messages from children and young people.

Children's Commissioner. Childhood in 2020

What matters most to children today? What makes them feel good? What do they worry about? These are the questions the Children's Commissioner asked young people across England over the last few months. Their answers help the Children's Commissioner to plan their work for the coming year.



Department for Education. Evaluation of adoption support fund: Local authority and provider experiences

This report covers early findings from a 3-year evaluation of the adoption support fund (ASF), outlining the experiences and views of local authorities, regional adoption agencies and provider stakeholders.

Briefings

Children and Young People Now. A review of the risks associated with children and young people's social media use and the implications for social work practice

This study reviewed the research literature to understand what the research tells us about the nature of the risks posed to children and young people by their social media use.



Children's Commissioner. Health inequalities in childhood

The Institute of Health Equity's '[Marmot Report: 10 Years On](#)', published in February 2020, outlined the stark realities of health inequalities in Britain. It also demonstrated how these inequalities originate in childhood and persist through adult life.

This paper highlights some of the main inequalities in child health, and the key responses to address this. Including measures that the Children's Commissioner would like to see within the NHS Long Term Plan and wider measures from the Government.

Criminal Justice

Reports

Office for National Statistics. Modern Slavery in the UK: March 2020

The hidden nature of modern slavery makes producing an accurate prevalence measure difficult. This article explores the issue and brings together data sources linked to modern slavery from a range of organisations.

Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel. Safeguarding children at risk from criminal exploitation

This review sets out recommendations and findings for government and local safeguarding partners to protect children at risk of criminal exploitation.

It is a qualitative study of 21 cases from 17 local areas regarding children who died or experienced serious harm where criminal exploitation was a factor.

CHILD SAFEGUARDING PRACTICE REVIEW PANEL

It was hard to escape

Safeguarding children at risk from criminal exploitation

Women's Aid. The Domestic Abuse Report 2020: The Annual Audit

This report presents an overview of the domestic abuse support services available in England and information on the provision and usage of domestic abuse services in England during the financial year 2018–19. It is the latest in The Domestic Abuse Report series, which builds on the Women's Aid Annual Survey to provide a comprehensive evidence base on provision in the domestic abuse support sector year on year.



This report examines the work of domestic abuse services in 2018–19 and the survivors they have supported through the analysis of statistics about the sector from three of Women's Aid's data sources. This includes data on the availability and accessibility of services, information on the women they support and survey responses from service professionals which give information about the survivors they have supported, the work they are proud of and the challenges they have faced.

Briefings

Clinks. The target operating model for probation

This briefing summarises the key points in Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service's (HMPPS) target operating model for probation, to support voluntary organisations to stay up-to-date on the most important information for them and the people they support. It also includes Clinks' analysis of how the future proposed model will impact the voluntary sector. They are





providing feedback on these implications to HMPPS and will advocate for them to be taken into account as the model develops further.

Tools and Guidance

Home Office. Domestic Abuse Bill 2020: factsheets

These factsheets contain details on the measures in the Domestic Abuse Bill 2020. They explain why they are needed and what impact they will have.

Documents for the 2019 version of the Domestic Abuse Bill can be found on the [National Archives website](#).