



CordisPulse

February 2020

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.

This month, we were pleased to see two reports produced for the Mayor's Office for London's Violence Reduction Unit concerning violent crime. The first provides an analysis of statutory reviews of homicides and violent incidents. The second provides a strategic needs assessment of violence across London. Both reports highlight the significant issue of violence and its associated issues.

The findings are timely, helpful and correlate with our own findings in work we have done for the Local Government Association ([click here](#)) the Early Intervention Foundation ([click here](#)), central government departments, a range of local authorities and multi-agency arrangements, and in our work supporting Youth Offending Teams. Conducting a robust strategic needs assessment is the basis for effective public health responses to violence and crime. Important also is implementing evidence-based interventions that address identified need and robustly evaluating the performance of interventions in achieving their desired outcomes and impacts.

If you would like to discuss or find out more about our work across criminal justice or any of the other 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 Bright Briefing January 2020

We delivered January's Cordis Bright Briefing, which is a subscription service for independent sector providers of adult social care and supported housing. Running for over 15 years, the Briefing provides quarterly events which help attendees keep up-to-date and on-track with major developments in the sector. January's briefing included topics such as: Boris Johnson and Social Care; Council Tax and Social Care Precept; Learning Disability Employment and Accommodation and Integrated Care Systems. Example slides can be seen [here](#).

Adult Social Care and Health

Reports

The King's Fund. The English local government public health reforms: an independent assessment.

This report, commissioned by the Local Government Association (LGA), aims to understand the impact and implications of the 2013 public health reforms which transferred responsibility for the commissioning and provision of some services to local government from the NHS.

The report looks at the effects of the reform, both in the short term and the long term, and the impact of changes which have brought opportunities for innovation and integration. It also discusses the challenges faced at a time when funding for public health has been cut. The report ends with a discussion on the future implications for public health in the wider context of the NHS long term plan, the government's prevention consultation and the wider shift to population health systems.



David Buck
January 2020

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

This report presents an overview of 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



Shared Health Foundation. Homeless Families: The Gold Standard.

Following a year of investigating the growing crisis of homeless families across Greater Manchester, the Shared Health Foundation have produced a report which shows that there are over 1,500 homeless families across Manchester. The Shared Health Foundation summarises a number of key points that should be implemented to address this issue: (1) New B&B standards implemented with repercussions for failure to do so. (2) Focused Care Worker (or equivalent) specific to homeless families to be appointed. The worker will support families during their transition through all housing stages. Worker capacity will allow the unpicking of problems exacerbated by homelessness. (3) Increased clarity for Housing, Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) assessment and expectations. Standards charter and actioning of HHSRS Category Two Hazards in privately rented accommodation, to minimize likelihood of retaliatory evictions. (4) Homeless children to have the same rights as Looked After Children.



This encompasses, smooth school transition, a process of alerting schools, continued provision of free school meals and transport and standardised support.

Briefings

House of Commons. Learning Disability: policy and services.

This briefing describes recent changes to policy and services for people with a learning disability in England, including recent policy changes to employment, welfare and education. The report discusses the NHS Long Term Plan's commitment to increasing annual health checks for people with a learning disability, introducing keyworkers for children and young people and halving inpatient care for this group by 50% by 2023/24. Also mentioned is the Government's commitment to introduce mandatory training on learning disabilities and autism for health and social care staff. Trials are due to begin in health and social care settings by April 2020, with a report published by March 2021, after which wider roll-out of training is expected for staff.

UK Parliament. Autism.

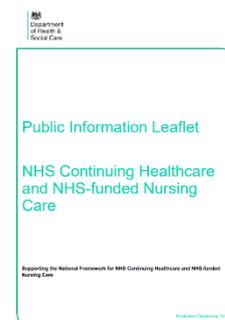
This recent publication in the UK Parliament Post provides an overview of policy issues that are relevant to autistic people and their families. It is based on a previous government 2014 publication, 'Think Autism'. The note outlines key facts and figures about autism, legislation and policy areas covered by autism, as well as a range of interventions available to autistic people.

Tools and Guidance

Department of Health and Social Care. NHS continuing healthcare and NHS-funded nursing care: public information leaflet.

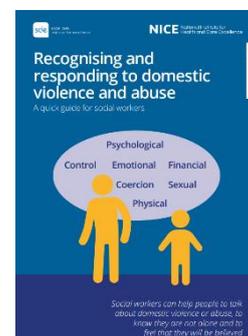
NHS Continuing Healthcare is a package of ongoing care that is arranged and funded solely by the NHS, specifically for the relatively small number of individuals (with high levels of need) who are found to have a 'primary health need'. These individuals are aged 18 or over and must meet health and associated social care needs that have arisen as a result of disability, accident or illness.

This public information leaflet was developed by the Department of Health and Social Care as a guide for people who may be in need of ongoing care and support from health and social care professionals. It explains the process used to determine whether someone is eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare.



NICE and Social Care Institute for Excellence. Recognising and responding to domestic violence and abuse: A Quick Guide for Social Workers.

NICE, together with SCIE, have produced a quick guide for social workers on recognising and responding to domestic violence and abuse. This publication aims to help to guide social workers towards asking the right questions about domestic abuse and violence, what they should do after a disclosure and which specialist services they can refer clients to. This quick guide also includes information on how to help and pick up on signs in children and young people directly affected by domestic violence and abuse.



Public Health England. The older adults' NHS and social care return on investment tool.

The aim of the project outlined in this report was to provide a return on investment (ROI) tool, to allow stakeholders and decision-makers to compare the return on investment of interventions to improve older people's health and reduce their need for NHS and social care services. The following 9 interventions are included in the ROI tool: (1) community singing, (2) a help at home scheme, (3) a befriending service, (4) the WHELD intervention for people living with dementia in a nursing home, (5) the INTERCOM intervention providing hospital discharge support for COPD patients, (6) a bundle of voluntary and community sector (VCS) services aimed at patients with long-term conditions, using social prescribing and other approaches to put patients in touch with services, (7) health coaching delivered by inter-professional health and social care service, (8) the BELLA intervention providing self-management support for COPD patients, and (9) a home care reablement service.

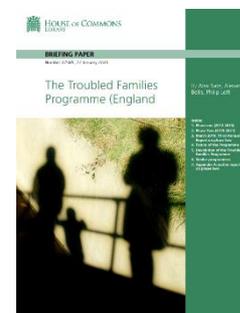


Children and young people's services

Reports

House of Commons. The Troubled Families Programme (England).

This report looks at the design, policy debate, outcomes and results of the Troubled Families programme in England, a targeted family intervention programme run by local authorities. Despite Ministers' continued support of the Programme's aims, including the January 2020 announcement of funding extending the Programme for a year, it is unclear if it will be funded beyond March 2021.



Educational Policy Institute and the Nuffield Foundation. Early years workforce development in England: Key ingredients and missed opportunities.

A new report from the Education Policy Institute (EPI), funded by the Nuffield Foundation, examines how the government can develop the early years workforce in England, in order to improve the quality of provision. Early years education can play a critical role in a child's life outcomes. Research shows that supporting and developing the early years workforce is central to delivering high quality provision for families. This study analyses the impact of major government policies affecting the sector over the past 15 years. It also makes a series of conclusions about whether the workforce policies of the current government are on the right track.

It suggests: (1) The present government lacks a long-term strategy to develop the early years workforce – which is central to improving the quality of early years education and supporting the outcomes of the most disadvantaged children. (2) The government should renew its commitment to improving the skills of the workforce and establish a long-term vision for developing the sector for the new decade. It should revive its Early Years Workforce Strategy, which provided an overarching framework for policy development, early years programmes and funding. (3) Information on the career paths and qualifications of early years workers in England is highly fragmented and often inaccessible. To support the development of the workforce the government should establish an online data collection system for all early year's workers, based on a similar model in the United States. This would give practitioners, providers, researchers and policymakers access to information regarding worker qualifications, skills, career paths and training.

Ofsted. Ofsted Annual Report 2018/19.

Ofsted's annual report for the academic year 2018-19 features evidence from more than 26,700 inspections and visits to schools, colleges and providers of social care, early years and further education services.



NSPCC. The Lighthouse Annual Report 2018-2019.

The Lighthouse project, run by NSPCC, is a multi-agency service offering a range of support services under one roof for young victims of sexual abuse. This report, covering October 2018 to September 2019, reveals that more than 500 frontline staff and team leaders in social care, education and the police across five local authorities, received intensive training and a total of 363 referrals were made in the first year of operation. The report states that the large increase in referrals is down to significant investment in communication with stakeholders and training. In total, there were 772 reports to police of child sexual abuse across the five authorities in the 12-month period, meaning that 47 percent of all reports were referred to The Lighthouse. The report also reveals that the complexity of children and families referred to The Lighthouse and the amount of significant vulnerabilities had been greater than anticipated, resulting in an increased demand for child and adolescent mental health services, placing pressure on resources.



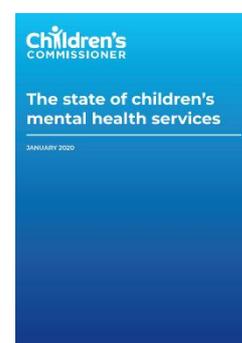
Education Policy Institute. Access to child and adolescent mental health service in 2019.

The Education Policy Institute (EPI) has published its Annual Report on access to child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS). The study examines access to specialist services, waiting times for treatment, and provision for the most vulnerable children in England. The research is based on new data obtained using freedom of information (FOI) requests to mental health providers and local authorities over the course of a year. This data is not published by the NHS. The majority of lifelong mental health problems develop early on, during childhood or adolescence. The wider economic costs of mental ill health in England are vast, estimated at £105bn each year.



Children's Commissioner. The state of children's mental health services.

This report analyses publicly available data from 2018-19 concerning the availability of mental health services for children in the UK. Among the key statistics presented include an average child waiting 53 days to enter treatment, as well as only 10% of total mental health spending going to children, despite them making up 20% of the population affected by mental health issues.



Education Policy Institute. The wellbeing of the school workforce in England.

This analysis from the Education Policy Institute finds that: (1) The average teacher in a mainstream school is happier, more satisfied with life, and finds life more worthwhile than the average graduate, though both have similar levels of anxiety. (2) Secondary teachers report lower levels of happiness, life satisfaction and worthwhileness than primary and early years teachers, but also lower levels of anxiety. (3) Further education lecturers stand out among educators as having high levels of anxiety and the lowest levels of wellbeing. (4) Senior leaders have among the highest levels of positive wellbeing but also the highest levels of anxiety. (5) Educators' wellbeing has increased over the past seven years,

tracking the trend of the graduate population. However, over the same period, their job satisfaction has fallen.

Briefings

House of Commons. Local authority support for children in need (England).

This briefing provides information on the definition and identification of "children in need" as set out in the Children Act 1989, the assessment process, and the services available to children in need and their families in England.



The Children's Society. European Union Withdrawal Agreement Bill.

This briefing outlines The Children's Society's views about the impact that exiting the EU could have on children and what areas of policy need development to ensure risks can be effectively mitigated. The Children's Society's concerns include immigration rights and the EU Settlement Scheme, cross-border cooperation on policing and criminal justice, as well as potential impact on children in poverty.

Tools and Guidance

Information Commissioner's Office. Age Appropriate Design Code.

The ICO's Age Appropriate Design Code sets out the standards expected of those responsible for designing, developing or providing online services, such as apps and social media platforms. The code will require digital services to automatically provide children with a built-in baseline of data protection whenever they download a new app, game or visit a website. This means that privacy settings should be set to high by default and nudge techniques should not be used to encourage children to weaken their settings. Location settings that allow the world to see where a child is, should also be switched off by default.

Criminal Justice

Reports

Youth Justice Board for England and Wales. Youth Justice Statistics Bulletin: 2018 to 2019.

These statistics concentrate on the flow of children (aged 10-17) through the Youth Justice System in England and Wales. The data described comes from various sources including the Home Office (HO), Youth Custody Service (YCS), Ministry of Justice (MOJ), Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and youth secure estate providers. The report is produced by the Information and Analysis Team in the Youth Justice Board (YJB) under the direction of the Chief Statistician in MOJ. Details of the number of children arrested are provided along with proven offences, criminal history, characteristics of children, details of the number of children sentenced, those on remand, those in custody, reoffending and behaviour management. An infographic summary of these findings can be seen [here](#). An associated guide to interpreting the statistics was published alongside this report. It is intended to be used as a guidance to understanding data sources, concepts and definitions within the report. The guide can be found [here](#).



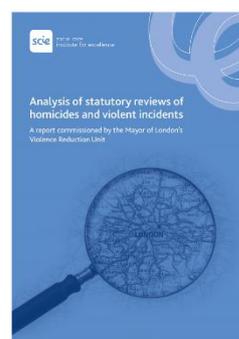
Centre for Crime and Justice Studies. Prison Service Journal: 247.

The Centre for Crime and Justice Studies publish an annual Journal containing a theme of lectures presented throughout the year. The theme of 2019 was 'What does leadership mean in prisons?'. Included within the Journal are five lectures covering topics including, humanity, leadership and home as well as the opportunity, challenges and politics of prison leadership.



Mayor's Office for London Violence Reduction Unit. Analysis of statutory reviews of homicides and violent incidents.

This report summarises findings from research commissioned by the Mayor of London's Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) with the aim of mapping and understanding violence in London. The report highlights six main areas for the VRU and its partners to consider in view of its goal to tackle violence in London at its roots. These are: youth peer violence, adult peer violence, intimate partner violence, adult family violence, within-family violence towards children and child sexual abuse. The research also finds that there is great potential for the quality of learning from homicides and other violence incidents in London, particularly incidents of youth violence, to improve. This report sits alongside a Strategic Needs Assessment, conducted by the Behavioural Insights Team, as reported below.



Mayor's Office for London Violence Reduction Unit. Violence in London: what we know and how to respond.

The VRU commissioned the Behavioural Insights Team to produce this Strategic Needs Assessment to inform its approach to violence prevention in London. The aim of this assessment was to identify the current and future needs of local populations to inform and guide the planning of services. This report presents findings to understand the problem the problem of violence in London, design solutions to respond to this violence and evaluate what works to prevent it in practice.

Tools and Guidance

HM Prison and Probation Service. Youth Resettlement Work in the Community Action Plan.

This action plan was published as a response to the October 2019 report: A thematic inspection of Youth Resettlement Work in the Community (which can be found [here](#)). This action plan aims to address the recommendations in the report. The action plan confirms whether recommendations are agreed, partly agreed or not agreed. Where a recommendation is agreed or partly agreed, the action plan provides specific steps and actions to address these. Actions are clear, measurable, achievable and relevant with the owner and timescale of each step clearly identified.

Howard League for Penal Reform. Supporting children from custody into the community: A step by step guide.

Designed by the Howard League for Penal Reform's legal service, this guide has been written to empower staff in custody to support children's positive reintegration into the community. The guide aims to help supporting adults to know when accommodation and support plans need to be in place; take steps to ensure relevant professionals are on notice of earliest possible release dates; understand children's legal right to support on release from custody; and understand when and how children can be supported to access independent legal advice and representation if there are concerns about reintegration planning.

Supporting children
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Howard League
for Penal Reform