



# CordisPulse

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## September 2017

Welcome to September'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.

We have been working on a number of evaluations of innovative new care models recently, so we were really interested by the recent report from the Kings Fund on the development of accountable care systems in Canterbury, New Zealand. Although it does clearly identify that the approach taken has had a positive impact in terms of increasing care available in the community, engendering closer links between primary and secondary care, reduction in hospital spend, particularly on diagnostic services, and a general reduction in demand for hospital services and residential care services, it has not saved significant amounts of money.

However, what it appears to have done is manage over an extended period of time (around 10 years) a transition of funding from one type of provision and support to another, albeit one that appears to offer better quality outcomes for citizens. The concern for the NHS, therefore, in its accelerated adoption of accountable care systems is that sufficient time needs to be provided for new models of care to be implemented and embed before conclusions about their success or otherwise are drawn. More importantly their principle outcomes should be an improvement in service design, quality and value for money, rather than as a means to save money.

In children's services, the Department for Education's omnibus research highlights that nearly 1 in 5 local authorities are not able to analyse need/demand for children's social care and 2 in 5 do not have a team or function in place to assess the impact of different interventions.

Given the squeeze on children's services budgets and the increasing focus on evidence-based practice, we believe that this shortfall needs to be quickly addressed. We are working with a number of local authorities to help them assess the impact of practice with children and families with complex needs. We hope to



help embed this way of working so that teams have in-house capacity to do this on an ongoing basis.

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](mailto:stephenboxford@cordisbright.co.uk) or 020 7330 9170.

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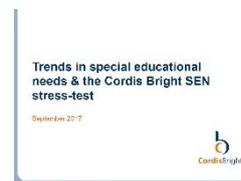
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## Cordis Bright News

### Special Educational Needs (SEN) trends analysis and stress-test

In April 2014, Cordis Bright produced its first analysis of SEN trends in England and developed the SEN stress-test. This new document provides an update for 2017.



The analysis of SEN trends examines:

- Numbers and rates of children with SEN
- Types of need
- Profile of provision used to respond to these needs
- Spending on Independent and Non-Maintained Special Schools (typically more specialist provision that is used when children's needs cannot be met locally).

The SEN stress-test was developed in recognition that national trends often disguise very different local trends and pressures. It uses seven indicators to identify local authorities that may be experiencing most pressures in relation to SEN provision.

## Adult Social Care and Health

### Reports

#### **The King's Fund. *Developing accountable care systems: lessons from Canterbury, New Zealand***

This is a case study of recent health care system transformations in Canterbury, New Zealand, where more people are now being supported in the community and demand for hospital care has been dampened, particularly among older people. The King's Fund suggest the Canterbury case offers some key lessons in approach and strategy for the NHS, including: sustained investment and support for staff to innovate; new models of integrated working and new forms of contracting; and a clear vision of 'one system, one budget'.

The King's Fund

Developing accountable care systems  
Lessons from Canterbury, New Zealand

Anna Darlin  
August 2017



#### **Public Health England. *Commissioning Cost-Effective Services for Promotion of Mental Health and Wellbeing and Prevention of Mental Ill-Health***

This report aims to inform local commissioners as to which investments in mental health services are best able to deliver better mental health in a sustainable way. It summarises the findings of modelling work to estimate the financial cost of investing in six interventions that have already been shown to reduce the risk and/or incidence of mental health problems and/or promote good mental health and wellbeing. These interventions include school-based anti-bullying programmes, mental health support integrated into pathways for people with long term physical health problems, and financial advice services for people in primary care. The report finds that there is a strong case for investing in these interventions, with each providing a good return on investment compared to current programmes.

#### **Crisis. *Homelessness projections: Core homelessness in Great Britain***

This study examines current and projected levels of 'core' homelessness, the factors driving these levels and the potential impact of policy measures to address the issue. An estimated 160,000 households in Great Britain were 'core' homeless at any one time in 2016, a group that includes families and individuals who are sleeping rough, sofa surfing, squatting, living in hostels and unsuitable temporary accommodation, sleeping in cars and tents, and those who are in night shelters. The study finds that 'core' homelessness has been rising for the past five years, and is projected to continue to rise. The most important drivers, after poverty, include availability and affordability of accommodation, the extent to which prevention measures are used and demographic factors. The modelling shows that the positive impact of prevention activity and cessation of welfare cuts is limited if it is not accompanied by investment in the affordable housing supply.



August 2017  
Professor Glenn Bramley



## Briefings

### **The Health Foundation. *Targets, trajectories and waiting times: how is NHS spending affected by its performance?***

The Health Foundation explores the latest annual accounts from the Department of Health. Their analysis shows that NHS providers are increasingly unable to keep up with demand for elective treatment. The purchase of health care from non-NHS bodies by NHS providers almost doubled in cash terms between 2012/13 and 2015/16. Likewise, both waiting times and waiting lists are increasing year on year. The headline finding is that despite overspending on its budget last year, the NHS is unable to meet the rising demand for health care while maintaining care quality.

## Tools and Guidance

### **NICE. *Moving between hospital and home, including care homes***

This quick guide is aimed at registered managers of care homes and home care. It outlines how they can best support people as they are transferred in and out of hospital, as well as what they can expect from the hospital team regarding discharge planning.



### **Public Health England. *Better mental health: JSNA toolkit***

This toolkit is intended to support the development of mental health and wellbeing joint strategic needs assessments in local authorities and CCGs. It helps users consider factors that affect mental health and wellbeing and identifies some of the key data, information and knowledge sources that can be used to build local pictures of need. It also includes a specific mental health and wellbeing JSNA data profile that includes a range of metrics across six domains: prevalence and incidence; risk factors; protective factors; services; quality and outcomes; and finance.

### **NHS England. *Delivering high quality end of life care for people who have a learning disability***

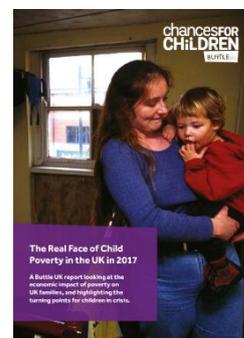
In May 2016 the CQC identified that people with learning disabilities sometimes experience poorer quality of care at the end of their lives because providers do not always understand or fully consider their needs. This guide aims to support commissioners, providers and clinicians to reduce these inequalities in line with NHS England's six Ambitions for Palliative and End of Life Care. The guide offers simple guidance, resources and good practice examples for achieving each of the ambitions for people with a learning disability. It was developed in consultation with Public Health England and a range of commissioners, providers and professionals working within palliative and end of life care and learning disability settings.

## Children and young people's services

### Reports

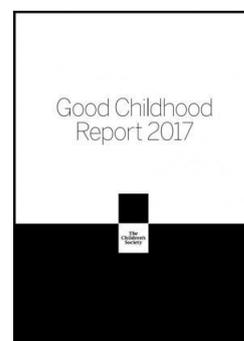
#### **Buttle UK. *The Real Face of Child Poverty in the UK in 2017***

This report looks at the economic impact of poverty on UK families, and highlights the turning points for children in crisis. The analysis is based on a variety of data collected from the projects and organisations that Buttle UK has funded, including survey data and 10 years of grant-giving data. Key findings include the changing profile of struggling families, with more experiencing in-work poverty and more living in private rented housing than was previously the case; and an analysis showing that low-income families are the hardest hit by recent economic changes and also subject to a 'poverty premium'. The report advocates a Chances for Children grant of £1,500 for disadvantaged families or young people as a means to reducing absence and exclusion from school and creating safer homes.



#### **The Children's Society. *The Good Childhood Report 2017***

This report, produced in conjunction with the University of York, is the sixth in a series of annual reports published about how children in the UK feel about their lives. It finds that young people's happiness is at its lowest since 2010. Fear of crime, living in a family struggling to pay the bills and not having enough emotional support at home are some of the serious problems that leave teenagers more likely to be unhappy.



#### **Department for Education. *Early rollout of 30 hours free childcare: evaluation***

This report provides the main findings from an independent evaluation of the early rollout of 30 hours of free childcare for three and four year olds with working parents. (The policy is being rolled out nationally this month.) Overall the evaluation concludes there is no specific reason to believe that the policy will not be a success. Key findings include that a high proportion of providers were willing and able to offer extended hours places; and parents were keen to take up the extended hours, with the number of children receiving extended hours close to the estimated number of eligible children. Recommendations for national rollout include that the DfE provide sufficient support to LAs for implementation, and that there is positive promotion of the policy's ultimate objectives of encouraging parents to work and supporting the welfare and financial wellbeing of working families.

#### **Department for Education. *Children's Services Omnibus: Wave 1 Research Report***

This report presents the findings from the first wave of the new DfE Children's Services Omnibus Survey. The survey aims to understand the key issues facing local authority children's services and how policy is being implemented. The report explores the perceptions and activities of senior local authority leaders regarding a range of policy areas, including demand for and commissioning of children's social services; information sharing; support for adopters and guardians; and sufficiency of childcare and SEND places.

### **Department for Education. *The Evaluation of the Adoption Support Fund***

This report presents the results of a two-year independent evaluation of the Adoption Support Fund (ASF), through which 10,000 families were funded to receive a range of post-adoption therapeutic services. Overall, the evaluation found the fund to answer a genuine need. Key findings include initial indications that children receiving support through the ASF benefit from small but significant improvements in behaviour and mental health and predicted prevalence of psychiatric disorders. A very high proportion of parents believed that ASF had helped their child. In addition to providing a resource for meeting the needs of adoptive parents, the ASF has raised awareness about adoption support and created an incentive for parents to seek help.

### **Department for Education. *Supporting Mental Health in Schools and Colleges***

This report summaries the key findings from DfE research into mental health provision in schools and colleges. The research, including a survey of provision as well as case studies, aimed to understand what educational institutions in England are currently doing to promote positive mental health and wellbeing, to identify pupils who may have mental health needs, and to support those with identified needs. It also aimed to explore their experiences of implementing this provision. The research revealed a broad range of relevant activities in operation, but a lack of time and capacity were highlighted as problematic. Institutions felt shared vision, strong leadership, trusting relationships and high quality training as key to the success of this kind of mental health support. However further research is required in order to assess the quality or effectiveness of this provision.

### **Department for Education. *Inter-agency Adoption and the Government's Subsidy of the Inter-Agency Fee***

Local authorities are liable to pay a minimum £27,000 inter-agency fee if they go outside of their own “in-house” adopters, i.e. to another local authority or to a voluntary adoption agency, in order to find a suitable adopter to meet a child’s needs. This fee can act as a barrier to inter-agency placements and particularly affects children who are “harder to place”. In response, the government has been subsidising fees for “harder to place” children since July 2015. This study investigates the impact of this subsidy. It finds that the financing of inter-agency placements can help in the process of timely matching for harder to place children, however it is just one small component in a very complex picture.

## **Tools and Guidance**

### **Local Government Association. *Partnership approaches to improving health outcomes for young people***

This set of nine case studies showcases different multi-agency approaches to supporting the health of young people. These projects have a range of different foci and approaches such as children in the criminal justice system; a collective impact approach, with schools, charities, community groups and public services working together to improve the life chances of children and young people across a small geographic area; a co-operative approach to running youth services, with young people co-producing their own services; and a project ensuring every 18 to 25-year-old is supported into a job, training or education.



## Criminal Justice

### Reports

#### **The Children's Society. *An Update to Cut off from Justice: The impact of excluding separated and migrant children from legal aid***

This report updates findings from an initial 2015 report, *Cut off from Justice*, which explored the consequences of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (LASPO). Both reports seek to understand the impact of changes to eligibility criteria on unaccompanied and separated children who are now removed from legal aid scope unless their claim is for asylum or they have been identified as a victim of child trafficking. The 2017 report finds that, despite improvements in success rates for Exceptional Case Funding, there are still far too few applications being made. Additionally, local authorities have failed to adapt adequately to provide the immigration advice that children in their care or known to them require. The study also finds that legal professionals are taking on increasing financial risk to work these cases and children are particularly struggling to appeal for their rights as they turn 18.

#### **The Prison Reform Trust. *Counted Out: Black, Asian and minority ethnic women in the criminal justice system***

This report explores racial discrimination and over-representation of ethnic minorities among women in the criminal justice system. The Prison Reform Trust finds that black and mixed ethnicity women are more than twice as likely as white women in the general population to be arrested. Once arrested, black women are more likely than other women to be remanded or sentenced to custody. Once convicted, black women are 25% more likely than white women to receive a custodial sentence. *Counted Out* contributes to the growing evidence base on racial discrimination within the criminal justice system. It has been submitted to the Lammy Review.

