

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN**  
**INFORMATION UPDATE - 273**  
7<sup>th</sup> March 2016

**Child abuse whistleblowing helpline**  
(13/02/16)

The Minister for Preventing Abuse, Exploitation and Crime has launched a new whistleblowing helpline for employees to speak out about child protection failures.

The NSPCC will deliver this service, which includes a helpline and email support, on behalf of the HO. The Government has provided £500,000 to set up the helpline.

The helpline will be open Monday to Friday. It will handle calls from employees from any sector, who are afraid to raise concerns about the way their organisation is dealing with cases of child abuse, or who feel they have exhausted all avenues with their employer.

The Minister said:

- The new NSPCC whistleblowing helpline will be a vital service in our fight to end child abuse, including CSE.
- Every child deserves to be safe from abuse, and organisations that are trusted to protect our children must work as effectively as possible to achieve this.
- Some employers are making great strides in strengthening whistleblowing processes. But more can be done to encourage employees to report malpractice without fear of victimisation - particularly in relation to children where the cost of failure is so high.
- No one should be afraid to report concerns about failures in child protection.

Employees will be offered advice about the whistleblowing process and will be legally protected from any future workplace



discrimination arising as a result of their concerns. Any concerns raised will be passed on to relevant investigatory bodies to pursue.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-office-launches-child-abuse-whistleblowing-helpline>

**Consultation on a new CSE definition**  
(15/02/16)

A consultation seeking views on a new definition of CSE was launched on Friday.

There are a number of definitions currently in use by voluntary organisations and agencies. This has led to confusion and additional challenges for practitioners working with children and families, creating inconsistencies in risk assessment and data collection. The government aims to provide clarity so all professionals are using the same definition of CSE in their work to prevent abuse and investigate offending.

The proposed definition is:

‘Child sexual exploitation is a form of child abuse. It occurs where anyone under the age of 18 is persuaded, coerced or forced into sexual activity in exchange for, amongst other things, money, drugs/alcohol, gifts, affection or status. Consent is irrelevant, even where a child may believe they are voluntarily engaging in sexual activity with the person who is exploiting them. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact and may occur online.’  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/consultation-on-a-new-child-sexual-exploitation-definition>

See consultations

### **£1.5m to help young people spot signs of mental illness (17/02/16)**

A £1.5m fund driven by young people to help them develop support networks and talk about mental health, with online advice and workshops to help set them up, has been announced by the Education Secretary. Within this, a digital innovation fund will be used to provide new and engaging online resources for parents and young people such as mobile phone apps.

We know that young people are often the first to spot when something is wrong with their friends and often confide in each other first - whether that's a friend who is suffering from an eating disorder or someone not coping with exam stress at school. That's why we must train them in how to spot the signs so they can then get the help they need.

A new advisory group will gather evidence from young people about their experiences and work with schools that are running successful peer to peer support networks, so this approach can be extended to thousands of schools across the country. The group will be supported by experts from charities, including Young Minds; headteachers, and young people themselves.

Young people want to be involved and to share their views, and often turn to social media to do this. So today, Education Secretary Nicky Morgan is urging young people to get involved and tell the government what help they would need to set up peer support networks.

The call for evidence has been launched on social media platforms to make it easier for young people to get involved.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/15-million-to-help-young-people-spot-signs-of-mental-illness>

### **Children and young people's mental health: peer support (17/02/16)**

Young people have told us they would like to see more peer support as a way of supporting mental wellbeing, and that they need more opportunities and help in how to provide it effectively. So we have launched this call for evidence to find out more about:

- what works in peer support for children and young people's mental wellbeing;
- the approaches that are currently available;
- how things might be improved.

Peer support can be a variety of things - from helping a friend to discuss their problems, through buddying and befriending schemes, to 1:1 and group support sessions. It can happen face to face or be online. It's about promoting emotional wellbeing as much as supporting those with problems. We define 'peers' to mean friends or other young people, including those who may be older.

We don't intend peer support to be a replacement for specialist support from a mental health professional, but we do think that good peer support might be able to help to ensure young people get the help that they need. We want to create an environment, in schools, colleges, community groups and online, which promotes good mental wellbeing and helps young people to have the knowledge and confidence to be able to support one another.

We particularly want to hear from young people as they understand better than anyone the pressures that their peers face.

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/children-and-young-people2019s-mental-health-team/peer-support-for-children-and-young-people-s-menta>

See consultations

### **New investment in mental health services (15/02/16)**

An extra £1 billion will be invested in mental health care by 2021 and a million more people will get mental health support.

The announcement follows the publication of a report by the Mental Health Taskforce, chaired by Paul Farmer, Chief Executive of Mind. The taskforce has reviewed mental health care and has set out its vision for preventative, holistic mental health care and making sure that care is always available for people experiencing a crisis.

The recommendations to be delivered by 2021 include:

- an end to the practice of sending people out of their local area for acute inpatient care
- providing mental health care to 70,000 more children and young people
- supporting 30,000 more new and expectant mothers through maternal mental health services
- new funding to ensure all acute hospitals have mental health services in emergency departments for people of all ages
- increasing access to talking therapies to reach 25% of those who need this support
- a commitment to reducing suicides by 10%

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-investment-in-mental-health-services>

### **Children's mental health: new online resources for adults (11/02/16)**

Alistair Burt outlines why adults should talk to children and young people about mental health and introduces new online resources. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/childrens-mental-health-new-online-resources-for-adults>

### **Youth Select Committee report on Young People's Mental Health receives Government response (25/02/16)**

The Government has released its response to the Youth Select Committee's report into Young People's Mental Health. The joint response comes from the DfE and the DH.

Alistair Burt MP, Minister for Community and Social Care, and Sam Gyimah MP, Minister for Childcare and Education, praised the Committee for a "well-informed and thoughtful report", highlighting the Youth Select Committee's "professionalism, passion and ability to ask the right questions".

The response follows the Youth Select Committee's 2015 inquiry into Young People's Mental Health, which concluded that mental health services for young people are critically underfunded.

The report offered recommendations across three key areas:

- funding and the state of services
- a role for education and awareness
- stigma and digital culture

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/news/2016/february/youth-select-committee-report-on-young-peoples-mental-health-receives-government-response/>

### **Disabled young people that identify as LGBT+ bullied and silenced in our schools**

The Anti-Bullying Alliance, hosted by the National Children's Bureau, is publishing new resources for school staff to help tackle the homophobic, biphobic and transphobic (HBT) bullying of disabled young people and those with special educational needs.

<http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/latest-news/disabled-lgbtplus-young-people-bullied-in-school/>

**The Education and Adoption Bill has passed through Parliament (24/02/16)**

New measures allowing swifter intervention where a school is coasting or failing have been approved by Parliament.

The bill will see more schools becoming academies - transforming the education system by giving power and responsibility to teachers on the front line, empowering schools themselves to spread excellence everywhere.

Measures within the bill will speed up the transformation of our worst schools, removing bureaucracy and delaying tactics that have made it difficult for successful, expert sponsors to offer support to underperforming schools.

Academies operate under the strictest possible system of oversight and accountability - more robust than in council-run schools - and are challenged to bring about rapid and sustained improvements when they do not reach the high standards we expect.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/landmark-education-bill-completes-passage-through-parliament>

**Proportion of young people in England NEET plunges to record low (25/02/16)**

Almost 100,000 fewer 16- to 24-year-olds classified as not in education, employment or training (NEET) compared to same period last year.

The proportion of young people NEET in 2015 reached a record low for the time of year, according to official figures.

The figures show that almost 100,000 fewer 16- to 24-year-olds were classed as NEET between October and December last year, compared to the same period in 2014. ↑

This brought the NEET rate to its lowest for the time of year since comparable records began in 2000, providing further evidence the government is delivering on its pledge to abolish youth unemployment and ensure all young people are earning or learning.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/proportion-of-young-people-in-england-neet-plunges-to-record-low>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-neet>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/neet-statistics-quarterly-brief-october-to-december-2015>

**Children's Social Care Innovation Programme grant (05/02/16)**

These letters set out:

- how much funding LAs are getting as part of the Children's Social Care Innovation Programme
- the purpose of the Children's Social Care Innovation Programme grant

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/grant-determination-childrens-social-care-innovation-programme>

**Government response to the Education Select Committee's report on personal, social, health and economic education, and sex and relationships education. (10/02/16)**

This command paper lists the select committee's conclusions and recommendations, and gives the government's response to each.

A letter from the Secretary of State for Education to the Education Select Committee, giving an update on the government's actions, is also available.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pshe-and-sre-in-schools-government-response>

**The lives of young carers in England**  
(11/02/16)

Research on young carers and the effect caring has on their lives.

The report summarises research into young carers and their families in England e.g.

- access to support and services
- nature of care young carers provide
- effect of caring responsibilities on young carers' health, school life and social life

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-lives-of-young-carers-in-england>

**School organisation (local-authority-maintained schools)** (11/02/16)

This statutory guidance, for governing bodies, LAs and decision makers, describes opening, closing, or making school organisation changes to local-authority-maintained schools. It sets out how those changes can be made, and the areas where a statutory process must be followed.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-organisation-maintained-schools>

**Counselling in schools** (17/02/16)

Departmental advice for schools about setting up and improving counselling services for pupils. It relates to all primary and secondary schools in England.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/counselling-in-schools>

**Children looked after return 2015 to 2016**  
(19/02/16)

List of validation checks and technical specification for LAs completing the children looked after return 2015 to 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-looked-after-return-2015-to-2016-validation-rules>  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-looked-after-return-2015-to-2016-technical-specification>

**SEND: guide for health professionals**  
(24/02/16)

This guide explains the duties and responsibilities of health professionals who deal with children and young people with special educational needs and disability and their families.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-health-professionals>

**Child death overview panels: contacts**  
(26/02/16)

Contact details of the people in child death overview panels (CDOPs) who are responsible for receiving child death notifications.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-death-overview-panels-contacts>

**Special guardianship guidance** (29/02/16)

Statutory guidance on the special guardianship services LAs need to provide in accordance with the Children Act 1989.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/special-guardianship-guidance>

**Childcare and early years survey of parents: 2014 to 2015** (03/03/16)

Report providing the main findings of the October 2014 to July 2015 survey of parents on childcare and early years.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-and-early-years-survey-of-parents-2014-to-2015>

**Children's social work workforce 2015**  
(03/03/16)

This statistical first release covers the:

- number of social workers
- vacancy rate of social workers
- number of agency workers
- turnover rate of social workers
- sickness absence of social workers

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childrens-social-work-workforce-2015>

**FGM prevention week of action (12/02/16)**

Following the International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM, public health minister Jane Ellison has launched an FGM prevention week of action and is urging health and care professionals to help prevent FGM.

The department is working to understand the specific mental health needs of FGM survivors. We are working with the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy to survey the experiences of professionals treating women and girls affected by FGM.

Health professionals can access a new NHS Choices training video to help them understand the specific mental health needs of women with FGM. New e-learning for healthcare professionals, from Health Education England, about the mental health impacts of FGM will be available from March 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/female-genital-mutilation-prevention-week-of-action>

**FGM: mandatory reporting in healthcare (08/02/16)**

Resources explaining healthcare professionals' duty to report cases of FGM in girls under 18.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-mandatory-reporting-in-healthcare>

**Children, families and maternity e-bulletin (15/02/16)**

Newsletters providing guidance and advice on children, families and maternity.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-families-and-maternity-e-bulletin>

**Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (standing committee B update) (Feb 2016)**

This guidance will partially update Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder: diagnosis and management (CG72).

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/indevelopment/GID-CGWAVE0775>

**Transition from children's to adults' services for young people using health or social care services (Feb 2016)**

This guideline covers the period before, during and after a young person moves from children's to adults' services. It aims to help young people and their carers have a better experience of transition by improving the way it's planned and carried out. It covers both health and social care.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng43>

<http://www.nice.org.uk/news/article/place-young-people-moving-into-adult-services-at-the-heart-of-decisions-about-care>

**Meningococcal B: vaccine information for healthcare professionals (18/02/16)**

From September 2015, a new vaccine will be introduced to protect infants against meningococcal B.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/meningococcal-b-vaccine-information-for-healthcare-professionals>

**Routine childhood immunisation schedule (12/02/16)**

Information for health professionals on childhood immunisations.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/routine-childhood-immunisation-schedule>

### **Review of the youth justice system**

(09/02/16)

Plans to transform youth custody in England and Wales have been set out by child behavioural expert and former head teacher Charlie Taylor.

As part of his review of youth justice, Charlie Taylor has recommended that young offenders should serve their sentences in secure schools rather than youth prisons.

Interim findings suggest the youth justice system would be more effective and better able to rehabilitate young people if education was at its heart. Smaller, local, secure schools would draw on educational and behavioural expertise to rehabilitate children and give them the skills they need to thrive on release.

The report has found:

- since 2006/07 the number of children in custody has declined by 64% to its lowest recorded level
- of those children who remain in custody, almost two thirds reoffend within a year of release
- around 40% of young people in under-18 Young Offender Institutions have not been to school since they were aged 14, and nearly 9 out of 10 have been excluded from school at some point
- children in YOIs are only receiving 17 hours of education every week against an expectation of 30 hours

In response to these findings, interim proposals include:

- re-designing the youth estate so that it can cater for a smaller, but more challenging, group of children in custody placing education at the centre of youth custody, by drawing on the culture of aspiration and discipline which is evident in

- the best alternative provision schools
- replacing youth prisons with smaller secure schools which help children master the basics in English and maths as well as providing high quality vocational education in a more therapeutic environment
- giving local areas greater say in the way children are managed by devolving responsibility, control and money from Whitehall

Charlie Taylor will continue his engagement with experts, exploring these ideas further before producing a final report in July.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/review-of-the-youth-justice-system>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-youth-justice-system>

### **Updated template to help social workers prepare for court**

(26/02/16)

The ADCS and Cafcass have launched an updated template for LA social workers to use when submitting evidence to support an application for a care or supervision order to the courts.

<https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/news/2016/february/updated-template-to-help-social-workers-prepare-for-court-is-launched.aspx>

### **Road injury prevention: resources to support schools**

(04/03/16)

This document set out the resources available to support schools in promoting safe and active travel.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/road-injury-prevention-resources-to-support-schools>

### **Youth custody data**

(12/02/16)

Monthly statistics on the population in custody of children and young people within the secure estate.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/youth-custody-data>

**Child outcomes after parental separation: variations by contact and court involvement** (19/02/16)

This report presents findings from the Millennium Cohort Study. It describes variations in contact between children and non-resident parents, and use of court for settling contact or financial arrangements. The report also explores gaps in different child outcomes by their parents' marital status and whether post-separation contact with non-resident parents is associated with children's outcomes at age 11.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-outcomes-after-parental-separation-variations-by-contact-and-court-involvement>

**Support for separating families** (05/02/16)

Public information materials for organisations that support separating families, including the mediation sector and advice organisations.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/family-mediation>

**DBS barring decision process: autobar with representations template** (15/02/16)

Template used by Disclosure and Barring Service caseworkers in autobar with representation cases.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-barring-decision-process-autobar-with-representations-template>

**DBS barring referrals: making representations** (15/02/16)

How to make representations to the DBS as part of the barring decision process.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-referral-guide-making-representations>

**DBS barring referral form** (18/02/16)

Form to refer a person to the DBS with guidance and additional information sheet

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications> 

**DBS barring: local authority referral duty and power** (04/03/16)

Guidance for LAs and bodies about duty and power to refer a person to the DBS.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-barring-referrals-local-authority-referral-duty-and-power>

**New guidelines published on the prosecution of those who abuse victims online**

(03/03/16)

The CPS is updating its guidelines on social media to incorporate new and emerging crimes that are being committed online and to provide clear advice to help the prosecution of cyber-enabled crime.

The revised guidelines cover cases where offenders set up fake profiles in the names of others, as well as advising prosecutors on the use of social media in new offences, such as revenge pornography and controlling or coercive behaviour in an intimate or family relationship.

The CPS has today launched a ten-week public consultation about the proposed revisions to the updated Social Media Guidelines.

It is vital that prosecutors and the public are aware of what could constitute a criminal offence when using social media. With the increase of smart technology, new and emerging methods are being used to abuse individuals online.

[http://www.cps.gov.uk/news/latest\\_news/new\\_guidelines\\_published\\_on\\_the\\_prosecution\\_of\\_those\\_who\\_abuse\\_victims\\_online/](http://www.cps.gov.uk/news/latest_news/new_guidelines_published_on_the_prosecution_of_those_who_abuse_victims_online/)

See consultations

### **National guidance on reporting concerns (01/03/16)**

For the first time, national guidance has been published to help police officers and staff report concerns about colleagues.

The guidance, developed by the College of Policing in consultation with the independent whistleblowing charity Public Concern at Work, sets out the routes officers and staff can take to raise issues and what they should expect from the process. It also provides a clear guide to good practice for forces when it comes to supporting those who have reported concerns.

The policing Code of Ethics, published in 2014, makes it clear that all those who work within the service are expected to report concerns they may have about wrongdoing or poor practice. Police regulations also require officers to challenge or report improper behaviour.

However, until now all forces have had individual policy on how this should be done. The aim of the new national guidance is to provide a consistent approach across England and Wales. It sets out that:

- If a person raises a genuine concern, there should be no risk of reprisal or consequence if they are mistaken.
- Forces need to put robust processes in place to ensure harassment or victimisation of those reporting concerns is not tolerated.
- Reports should be kept confidential and if a person reporting a concern wishes to remain anonymous, they should be able to do so
- The person reporting concerns must be consulted and kept updated throughout the investigation

[http://www.college.police.uk/News/College-news/Pages/reporting\\_concerns.aspx](http://www.college.police.uk/News/College-news/Pages/reporting_concerns.aspx)



### **How police should investigate allegations of sexual abuse or exploitation (12/02/16)**

The Police College CEO, Chief Constable Alex Marshall said beginning an investigation from a position of doubt would not encourage victims to come forward. He said:

- "We want victims to know that they will be listened to and their disclosures treated seriously and sensitively. Great effort has gone into building public trust in police investigations into reports of sexual abuse or exploitation and this work needs to continue.
- "Our national guidance makes it clear police operate on the basis of proving or disproving the credibility of an allegation, not the credibility of a victim. Every allegation of this nature must be carefully investigated.
- "Officers should work to ensure victims are fully supported and any ongoing risks to other potential victims are identified and addressed. While careful consideration should be given to ensuring the integrity of the evidence, to begin an investigation from a position of doubt is unlikely to encourage victims to come forward.
- "It is part of the College's role to set the national standards of investigation and we will be interested to see the outcome of any review commissioned by the Metropolitan Police."

[http://www.college.police.uk/News/College-news/Pages/victim\\_treatment.aspx](http://www.college.police.uk/News/College-news/Pages/victim_treatment.aspx)

### **Ofsted to directly manage early years inspections** (01/03/16)

Ofsted's early years inspections and regulatory work will be managed directly from April 2017, when the current contracts end.

At present 2 companies undertake early years inspections on Ofsted's behalf. These contracts run until 31 March 2017.

Bringing early years inspection under direct management means that Ofsted will have full control over the selection, training and management of inspectors, and complete oversight of the quality of inspection.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofsted-to-directly-manage-early-years-inspections>

### **Alternative provision: progress made, but more still to be done** (10/02/16)

A new Ofsted report finds that schools still need to do more to ensure both the quality of education and the safety of pupils in alternative provision. Alternative provision refers to education a pupil receives away from their school, arranged by LAs or by the schools themselves.

Today's report was carried out over a 3 year period and follows up the results of an initial survey in 2011, which found significant weaknesses in the way schools used alternative provision.

Ofsted inspectors visited 165 schools and 448 of the alternative providers they used.

The survey reveals that:

- more schools are refusing to use alternative provision if they do not think it is of a good enough standard
- schools have developed in-house alternatives when good quality provision is not available locally

- more schools are working together to find and commission good quality alternative provision
- providers are usually safe, with reasonable accommodation and resources available to students
- a small number of providers are contravening regulations regarding registration, and schools are not always checking providers' registration status.

The report also finds that, although schools are more aware of their responsibilities when selecting a provider than they were in 2011, they still lack clear guidance regarding safeguarding. The absence of such specific guidance leaves schools uncertain about what is considered good practice with regard to safeguarding checks on potential providers. Providers also lacked guidance on the use of social media and general e-safety.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/alternative-provision-progress-made-but-more-still-to-be-done>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/alternative-school-provision-findings-of-a-three-year-survey>

### **Conduct of inspectors during Ofsted inspections** (29/02/16)

Guidance on the conduct of Ofsted inspectors and Ofsted's expectations of providers during inspection.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/conduct-of-inspectors-during-ofsted-inspections>

### **How to appeal: guidance for childcare providers** (25/02/16)

How a prospective or registered childcare provider can appeal if Ofsted plans to take steps that will affect their registration.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-appeal-guidance-for-those-registered-as-or-applying-to-be-a->

**Registering school-based childcare provision (25/02/16)**

Factsheet about registering school-based provision of childcare with Ofsted.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/factsheet-childcare-registering-school-based-provision>

**How to object: guidance for childcare providers (25/02/16)**

This leaflet explains how and when someone applying to register or already registered can object to Ofsted's intention to take steps that will affect their registration.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-object-guidance-for-registered-childminders-and-childcare-providers>

**Safeguarding concerns: guidance for inspectors (25/02/16)**

This guidance explains what an inspector should and should not do if they learn during an inspection that a child or young person is being harmed or at risk of harm.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-concerns-guidance-for-inspectors>


**Non-association independent school inspection handbook (22/02/16)**

Guidance for inspecting non-association independent schools under the common inspection framework.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/non-association-independent-school-inspection-handbook-from-september-2015>

**Inspecting independent fostering agencies: guidance for inspectors (12/02/16)**

Guidance for Ofsted inspectors when conducting inspections of independent fostering agencies.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inspecting-independent-fostering-agencies-guidance-for-inspectors> 

**Services for children and vulnerable adults: information sharing by inspectorates (09/02/16)**

Protocol for sharing of pre-publication reports and other information.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/services-for-children-and-vulnerable-adults-information-sharing-by-inspectorates>

**Social care compliance: guidance for Ofsted staff (05/02/16)**

This handbook sets out the legal background to Ofsted's social care compliance work and Ofsted's powers.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/social-care-compliance-handbook-from-september-2014>

**SI 2016/244 - The Modern Slavery Act 2015 (Consequential Amendments)**

**Regulations 2016 (01/03/16)**

These Regulations are consequential on the commencement of sections 1 to 3 and 8 to 10 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (c. 30) (the Act), which make provision for offences of slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour, human trafficking and slavery and trafficking reparation orders.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2016/244/contents/made>

**SI 2016/243 - The Modern Slavery Act 2015 (Commencement No. 4) Regulations 2016 (01/03/16)**

These Regulations are the fourth commencement regulations made under the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (c. 30).

Regulation 2 brings into force consequential amendments to the Administration of Justice Act 1970 (c. 31), the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (c. 29) and the Prevention of Social Housing Fraud Act 2013 (c. 3).

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2016/243/contents/made>

**SI 2016/96 - The Child Minding and Day Care Exceptions (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016 (15/02/16)**

Part 2 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 enables the Welsh Ministers to specify by Order, exceptions to what constitutes “child minding” and “day care for children”.

This Order is made under section 19(4) and (5) of the Measure. It amends the Child Minding and Day Care Exceptions (Wales) Order 2010 (“the 2010 Order”) to extend the circumstances in which a person whose activity would otherwise fall within the definition of “child minding” or “day care for children” is excepted from it and who is not therefore required to register.

Articles 3 and 4 of this Order make consequential amendments to articles 2 and 8 of the 2010 Order.

Article 5 of this Order excludes youth service provision for young persons who have attained the age of eleven from the requirement to register.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2016/96/contents/made>



## Consultations

### **Statutory definition of CSE (12/02/16)**

This consultation seeks views on proposed changes to the current statutory definition of CSE. We are seeking views on 2 proposals:

- revising current statutory definition of CSE
- including the revised definition in the statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015)

Our aim is to provide clarity on the definition of CSE as a form of child sexual abuse. This will ensure that all professions are using the same definition of CSE, as they create joint risk assessments and work together to target disruption and investigate offending.

Closing date: 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/statutory-definition-of-child-sexual-exploitation>

### **Child Safety Online: Age Verification for Pornography (16/02/16)**

This consultation is seeking views on protecting children from seeing pornographic material online.

The UK is a world leader in the work it does to improve child safety online, but we cannot be complacent. Government has a responsibility to protect citizens from harm, especially the young and most vulnerable. That is why we committed in our manifesto to requiring age verification for access to pornographic material online, and are now seeking views on how we deliver on our commitment.

Closing date: 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/child-safety-online-age-verification-for-pornography>



### **Children and young people's mental health: peer support (17/02/16)**

We're seeking views on the most effective support methods to help improve the mental health of children and young people and how to help young people safely give each other appropriate advice and support.

Closing date: 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-peer-support>

### **Consultation on Interim Revised CPS Guidelines on Prosecuting Social Media Cases (03/03/16)**

We have decided to refresh the CPS Guidelines on prosecuting social media cases, to reflect a number of recent legal and social developments and to clarify various aspects of the Guidelines.

The main revisions are:

- Additions to the section on Category 2 offences, which previously related only to harassment and stalking. The section now includes guidance on the new offences of Controlling or coercive behaviour and Revenge pornography; offences under the Sexual Offences Act 2003; and Blackmail.
- New sections on: Violence Against Women; Hate Crime; False or offensive social media profiles; Ancillary Orders; and Victim Personal Statements.
- Greater clarity around the application of the Evidential and Public Interest stages of the Full Code Test, and Article 10 ECHR considerations.

Closing date: 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016

<http://www.cps.gov.uk/consultations/index.html>

## Consultations (continued)

### **Supporting learners with healthcare needs (24/02/16)**

We are seeking views on the revised draft version of the Supporting learners with healthcare needs guidance document.

The revised draft version, now titled Supporting learners with healthcare needs, is shorter and takes account of changes to equalities legislation and new guidance on keeping Salbutamol Inhalers on school premises.

Medical conditions can have a lasting effect on children and young people's social development, ability and confidence in educational attainment. It is important to ensure seamless support services are available to meet their needs and allow continuity in accessing educational opportunities at school, at home, in hospital, or another setting and in cooperation with parents/carers and the school the learner normally attends.

The current guidance document "Access to education and support for children and young people with medical Needs" provides advice and guidance on meeting the educational needs of children and young people with medical needs in the education setting. The guidance offers advice on how schools formulate policies to support children and young people with medical needs.

Closing date: 29<sup>th</sup> April 2016  
<http://gov.wales/consultations/education/supporting-learners-with-healthcare-needs/?lang=en>

### **Consultation on the refreshed Autistic Spectrum Disorder Strategic Action Plan (04/03/16)**

We are seeking views from people with autism and their parents, carers and professionals who provide services and support. We have identified priorities and proposed actions including:

- raising awareness , information, advice and training
- assessment, diagnosis and support
- addressing support needs
- education and employment

Closing date: 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016  
<http://gov.wales/consultations/healthsocialcare/autism/?lang=en>

### **School Pupil Eye Care Service for Wales (08/02/16)**

We are proposing that eye tests will be offered to pupils who are learning in a special school setting. It will form a new part of the existing primary care Wales Eye Care Services.

Special School Ophthalmic teams, consisting of optometrists, orthoptists and dispensing opticians will provide the service to pupils during the school day.

Visual impairment and blindness is relatively rare in children. However, children with learning disabilities are at a much higher risk of sight problems, eye health disorders and refractive errors. There is also evidence of barriers to accessing eye care and hence high unmet need.

Closing date: 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016  
<http://gov.wales/consultations/healthsocialcare/eye-care/?lang=en>

## Consultations (continued)

### **Re-inspection of inadequate local authorities** (09/02/16)

Proposals for a more proportionate approach for LAs to show they are no longer delivering inadequate services to children.

We propose to use the single inspection framework more proportionately for re-inspection.

We are seeking your views on:

- whether re-inspection should focus on weaknesses
- the timing of the re-inspection
- which aspects of the single inspection framework arrangements we could be more flexible about on a re-inspection
- how we should report our findings

Closing date: 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/re-inspection-of-inadequate-local-authorities>

## Conferences

### **Multi-Agency Information Sharing**

21st March 2016      London

£250 - £575 + VAT

This conference comes as the EU Data Protection Regulation is finalised, creating a greater responsibility on organisations to be more proactive in approaches to sharing data.

Bringing together best practice from local authorities, health, fire and rescue and the Information Commissioner's Office, this event addresses the key barriers to effective information sharing protocols and provides guidance on building strong, simple and secure data sharing systems. Key topics covered include:

- Building strong relationships between agencies to break down the barriers to data sharing
- Developing single points of contact, including the creation of Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs for sharing crucial information
- Examine methods for establishing information sharing agreements with third and private sector organisations

Attend this conference to ensure that you are best placed to create collaborative information sharing agreements, drive down expenditure and increase the amount of accessible data. Do not miss this chance to hear from key organisations leading the way in developing practical solutions for achieving successful multi-agency information sharing procedures.

<http://www.capitaconferences.co.uk/public-sector-conferences/detail/article/multi-agency-information-sharing-conference-5.html>



### **Legal Essentials for Information Sharing**

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016      London

£250 - £445 + VAT

With a focus on the EU Data Protection Regulation and existing Data Protection legislation, our Half-Day Workshop provides insight into statutory requirements surrounding data sharing agreements and transferring data to external organisations.

<http://www.capitaconferences.co.uk/public-sector-conferences/detail/article/legal-essentials-for-information-sharing-half-day-briefing-1.html>

### **School Inspections**

23rd March 2016      London

£250 - £575 + VAT

With the introduction of new short inspections and Common Inspection Framework, learn first-hand experience from schools who have successfully gone through both the shorter and fuller inspections.

Learn how to prepare your SEF, choose and present robust evidence and identify priorities for improvement for each new focus area of the CIF, including:

- Evaluating leaders and their role in promoting school improvement
- Demonstrating the quality of teaching, learning and assessment
- Ensuring a culture of safeguarding and preventing radicalisation
- Measuring the progress of pupils rather than attainment
- Effective provision for personal development, behaviour and welfare

<http://www.capitaconferences.co.uk/public-sector-conferences/detail/article/school-inspections-conference-10.html>

## Conferences (continued)

### **Spotlight on neglect**

15<sup>th</sup> March 2016    Cardiff    Free

Neglect is the most common reason for a child to be on the Child Protection Register and enter care. In 2010 NSPCC created a team of policy, research and development staff to focus, research and evaluate what could work to address child neglect.

We would like to share this latest evidence about what works to improve outcomes of neglected children. The aims of the conference are:


- To share our new learning about how to assess and intervene in child neglect, and how it can be applied to professional practice
- To share evidence about the different types of neglect, how to recognise signs and symptoms, the scale and impact of child neglect
- To provide a forum for bringing together experts and practitioners from a variety of disciplines to learn from one another about neglect research and evidence based practice

The conference is aimed at multi-agency professionals and managers who work with children and families together with policy makers and academics.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/spotlight-on-neglect-sbotolau-ar-esgeulustod-registration-21007935300>

### **How safe are our children? 2016**

21st and 22nd June 2016    London    £199

This conference will provide child protection professionals with the opportunity to debate, question and share insights about the latest strategies, policies and programmes to prevent child abuse and protect children. 

It will also be the launch event for the How safe are our children? report 2016 - which assesses how effective UK child protection is at protecting children from abuse and neglect.

No child should have to suffer abuse or neglect and as social care, health, education and criminal justice professionals it is you who best understands the issues the sector faces. We want you to be part of the debate.

This will be your chance to gain insight into the latest safeguarding and child protection research and to examine the innovative solutions being used in the UK and globally to tackle the issues which are most prevalent in our society today.

The conference will bring together politicians and experts speakers for two days of discussions that we hope will help shape the child protection sector of 2016 and beyond. You might be interested in this event if you are a:

- social worker.
- service provider or practitioner.
- education professional; head teacher, school safeguarding lead, nursery school teacher.
- health professional including; doctor, nurse, school nurse.
- local authority worker, policy advisor, researcher, local safeguarding board representative.
- criminal Justice professional, chief constable, police, CEOP.
- professional or volunteer within the voluntary, community or faith sectors

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-you-can-do/events/how-safe-conference-2016/>

## Conferences (continued)

### **Improving Outcomes for Youth Offenders**

24<sup>th</sup> March 2016      London  
£250 - £575 + VAT

This event offers strategies from best practice case studies on tackling youth crime and reducing reoffending rates including:

- Utilising the Prevent duty guidance to reduce the radicalisation of youth offenders
- How the allocation of £1.25bn for children's mental health services will be used to support offenders
- Impacting reoffending rates through targeting the hold of gangs on vulnerable young people
- Implementing procedures in young offender institutions to reduce cases of violence and abuse

<http://www.capitaconferences.co.uk/public-sector-conferences/detail/article/youth-offenders-conference.html>

### **Safeguarding Teenagers**

18<sup>th</sup> May 2016      Birmingham  
£349 - £459 + VAT

Practical strategies and expert guidance for protecting students aged 14-19

Teenagers are innately risky. Now add to this the new risks and duties facing your institution such as radicalisation, increasing mental health issues, revenge porn, FGM, homelessness... coupled with a lack of external support, how is your school or college working to keep your students safe?



- Radicalisation - Know how to identify and assess the risk of radicalisation amongst your students and meet your legal duties in line with the Prevent agenda
- Mental Health - Gain practical strategies to recognise, support and prevent common mental health issues amongst older students
- Online Safety - Communicate new risks in a way that resonates and empower students to protect themselves online

<http://my.optimus-education.com/conferences/safeguardingteenagers>

### **Child Protection in Education**

15<sup>th</sup> September 2016      London  
£279 - £469 + VAT

This conference will provide an update on your new legal safeguarding obligations and child protection law.

- Clarify the impact of the latest 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' guidance for 2016/17
- Prevent: Know your latest obligations, what training is required and how to deliver 'Prevent' in practice
- E-Safety: Clarify your responsibility to monitor students internet use and spot early warning signs
- In-depth sessions covering CSE, FGM, forced marriage and honor based violence.

<http://my.optimus-education.com/conferences/CPLondon16>

This newsletter collates information from various sources that is relevant to safeguarding children. Anyone working in this area who would like to be added to the circulation list can forward their details to – [keithdriver@btinternet.com](mailto:keithdriver@btinternet.com)