

Safeguarding Children Information Update
Live Consultations
Updated 13th March 2018

Social Work England: secondary legislative framework (08/02/18)

This consultation seeks views on the policy underpinning draft regulations for the new regulator for the social work profession in England.

Social Work England will be the new professional regulator for social workers in England. It will undertake core regulatory functions including:

- setting standards
- holding the professional register
- approving initial education and training courses for social workers
- running a 'fitness to practise' system

This consultation seeks views on the:

- overall approach to creating a modern, proportionate regulatory framework
- specific approach taken in each of the regulatory areas
- possible oversight procedures for regulatory rules
- likely impacts of the proposed changes

Closing date: 21st March 2018

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/social-work-england-secondary-legislative-framework>

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/social-work-england-implementation-team/social-work-england-consultation-on-secondary-legi/>

Wales sets out plans to end the physical punishment of children (09/01/18)

The Minister for Children and Social Care, Huw Irranca-Davies, has today launched a 12 week consultation on the Welsh Government's proposal to remove the defence of reasonable punishment in Wales - part of a much wider package of measures the Welsh Government is taking to support children to have the best start in life, and to support their parents to do the best job they can.

The Welsh Government has a long standing record of working to ensure children have the best start in life and of promoting children's rights. This is why the Welsh Government is now intending to bring forward legislation to make it clear that physically punishing a child is no longer acceptable in Wales.

The proposed legislation would not involve the creation of a new offence. It would instead remove a defence to the existing offences of assault and battery. It would mean any adult looking after a child would no longer be able to use physical or corporal punishment against them.

The Minister said the Welsh Government's aim was to accelerate existing trends in the way parents in Wales discipline their children and to support them in feeling confident to choose positive and more effective methods of discipline.

Closing date: 2nd April 2018

<http://gov.wales/newsroom/people-and-communities/2018/180109-end-physical-punishment-of-children/?lang=en>

Domestic Abuse Bill (08/03/18)

The consultation sets out the government's approach to dealing with domestic abuse. It seeks to address it at every stage from prevention through to rehabilitation.

Since 2010, the government has made dealing with domestic abuse an absolute priority. We have worked closely with partners to introduce measures which deal with the fundamental drivers of domestic abuse, address the needs of survivors and victims, and ensure perpetrators are brought to justice.

The consultation sets out the government's approach to dealing with domestic abuse. It seeks to address it at every stage from prevention through to rehabilitation and reinforces the government's aim to make domestic abuse everyone's business. The consultation is wide-ranging and we are seeking views on both legislative proposals for a landmark draft Domestic Abuse Bill and a package of practical action.

Our main aim through this work is to prevent domestic abuse by challenging the acceptability of abuse and addressing the underlying attitudes and norms that perpetuate it.

This consultation asks questions under four main themes with the central aim of prevention running through each:

- promote awareness – to put domestic abuse at the top of everyone's agenda, and raise public and professionals' awareness
- protect and support – to enhance the safety of victims and the support that they receive
- pursue and deter – to provide an effective response to perpetrators from initial agency response through to conviction and management of offenders, including rehabilitation
- improve performance – to drive consistency and better performance in the response to domestic abuse across all local areas, agencies and sector.

Closing date: 31st May 2018

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/domestic-abuse-bill-consultation>