

Keeping Connected - The CPCScotland Weekly Bulletin

Issue 64 - Tuesday 13th July 2021

Issued to support Child Protection Committees and partners with up to date information on child protection issues.

Welcome to Issue 64 of Keeping Connected.

With Alan and Tam both on holiday it falls to me to write the introduction to Keeping Connected this week. For those who are reading this on return from annual leave I hope you had a lovely time and have returned healthy and refreshed. For those (like me) who have time off still to come then I hope the weather holds and you enjoy your holiday when it comes.

This week I have highlighted a seminar which takes place tomorrow (Wednesday 14th) where Alex McTier will present the findings of a review of the weekly Vulnerable Children and Young People (SOLACE) data along with data from in-depth interviews with colleagues from 7 local authority areas. If you would like to come along let me know and I can send you the joining details (cpcscotland-liaison@strath.ac.uk)

Please note we will continue with fortnightly publication of Keeping Connected over the summer holiday period.

Keep safe.

Susan Mitchell CPCScotland Co-ordination Team

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1 Hidden Harm Among Scotland's Children and Families? Making Sense of COVID Data.

This seminar from the University of Strathclyde will take place on 14th July between 12-1pm.

The weekly Vulnerable Children and Young People data submission from local authorities to Scottish Government has raised questions about a disconnect between higher levels of early stage child protection activity (e.g. increasing child protection concerns) and yet lower numbers of children becoming registered on the Child Protection Register or becoming looked after. Could this indicate instances of hidden harm where children and families' needs are not being fully assessed and then met?

In this session Alex McTier, Evidence and Evaluation Specialist at CELCIS will share research findings from interviews with 7 Scottish local authority areas and analysis of wider national data and evidence to help explain these divergent trends and what future priorities for action might be.

Contact Susan Mitchell at cpcscotland-liaison@strath.ac.uk if you would like the joining link.

Guidance, Resources and Information

2 Strengthening Families, Protecting Children (SFPC)

This journal and webpage connects activity across the Strengthening Families, Protecting Children programme of different initiatives taking place across England with wider research and policy, setting the scene for the role innovation has to play in children's social care

[Issue 02 | Strengthening Families Journal \(scie.org.uk\)](https://scie.org.uk/issue-02-strengthening-families-journal)

[About | Strengthening Families, Protecting Children \(SFPC\) \(scie.org.uk\)](https://scie.org.uk/about-strengthening-families-protecting-children-sfpc)

3 Forced marriage and FGM annual statistics

The Home Office and the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office have published annual statistics on cases reported to the Forced Marriage Unit (FMU). Of the cases the FMU provided advice or support to in 2020, 15% involved victims who were aged 15 or under and 11% involved victims who were aged 16-17. These figures include cases related to forced genital mutilation (FGM), which often involves children.

[Forced Marriage Unit statistics 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/forced-marriage-unit-statistics-2020)

4 Measuring what matters in child wellbeing

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has published a report setting out how governments and organisations can measure child wellbeing, collect data and develop effective child wellbeing policies.

[Measuring What Matters for Child Well-being and Policies | The OECD Forum Network \(oecd-forum.org\)](https://oecd-forum.org/measuring-what-matters-for-child-well-being-and-policies)

5 Child neglect

NSPCC Learning has published a statistics briefing on child neglect in the UK. It provides an overview of the data on neglect that is available and shares findings including: around 1 in 10 children in the UK have been neglected; concerns around neglect have been identified for half of children who are the subject of a child protection plan or register in the UK; and neglect was the most commonly mentioned form of abuse in contacts to the NSPCC helpline in 2020/21.

[Statistics on child neglect | NSPCC Learning](https://www.nspcclearning.org.uk/statistics-on-child-neglect)

6 National drug and alcohol treatment waiting times

This release by Public Health Scotland reports on the waiting times for people accessing drug and alcohol treatment services between 1 January to 31 March 2021. It contains information on the number of people seen for treatment, types of treatment accessed, and length of time waited.

[National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Waiting Times \(publichealthscotland.scot\)](https://publichealthscotland.scot/publications/national-drug-and-alcohol-treatment-waiting-times-2021/)

7 Poverty and Inequality Commission Publications

The Poverty and Inequality Commission has published their Child Poverty Scrutiny Report 2020-21 to the Scottish Government. The report states that unless very significant further action is taken now, the Scottish Government is going to miss the interim and final targets by a long way, leaving children and families locked into poverty. The Commission has also published their Annual Report, covering the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 and looks back at the work carried out during the past 12 months.

[Child-poverty-scrutiny-report-2020-21-Report-to-Scottish-Government-22-June-2021-003.pdf \(povertyinequality.scot\)](#)

[Poverty-and-Inequality-Commission-Annual-Report-2020-21.pdf \(povertyinequality.scot\)](#)

8 Adult Protection Monthly Newsletter

The June edition of the National Adult Protection Co-ordinator Monthly Newsletter is now available. To receive this publication please subscribe at the link below.

<https://khub.us18.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=cceb39733f2e9a839ef0e835f&id=603a96b0c2>

9 Refreshed Adult Support and Protection Code of Practice and associated Guidance for Adult Protection Committees - Consultation.

Scottish Government's Adult Support and Protection policy team are inviting people who have an interest in adult support and protection to respond to the above consultation. The consultation period closes on 28 September.

[Adult Support and Protection \(Scotland\) Act 2007: updated Code of Practice and Guidance for Adult Protection Committees - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](#)

10 Keeping Children Safe in Education - new statutory guidance for England published

The updated Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) guidance for England has now been published. The guidance comes into effect on September 1, 2021.

[Keeping children safe in education 2021 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

11 Mental health

The Department of Health (DoH) for Northern Ireland has published its mental health strategy for 2021 – 2031. The Strategy sets out the direction of mental health services in Northern Ireland, including child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS), covering: delivery of services, support for infants, improving access to services and transitioning to adult services.

[Mental Health Strategy 2021-2031 \(PDF\)](#)

12 Independent review of drugs in the UK

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has published part 2 of the independent review of drugs in the UK. The review focussed on treatment, recovery and prevention and the report includes a section on treatment for young people.

[Independent review of drugs by Professor Dame Carol Black - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-review-of-drugs-report)

For Children Families and Communities

13 Opportunities available for all 18+ adults in Scotland to get a coronavirus (Covid-19) vaccination

The Scottish Government have been working with partners to develop a range of opportunities for all 18+ adults in Scotland to get a coronavirus (Covid-19) vaccination.

[Registering for a coronavirus vaccine | The coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccine \(nhsinform.scot\)](https://nhsinform.scot/topics/coronavirus/covid-19/vaccine)

14 Children and Young People's views sought on protecting Children's Rights

Together Scotland are seeking children and young people's views on how they feel their rights could be better protected. The deadline is July 30.

[Help shape Together's State of Children's Rights Report 2021! | Together Scotland](https://together.scot/our-views)

15 Helping children and young people with care experience talk about their online lives

The Vulnerable Users Working Group (VUWG) has developed a Digital passport to help children and young people with care experience talk about their online lives with foster carers or other trusted adults as part of the UK Council for Internet Safety (UKCIS). The passport comprises of an introduction which explains how to use the resources and sections for both young people and adults to fill in and keep.

[Digital Passport supporting care experienced children | Internet Matters](https://www.internetmatters.org/digital-passport-supporting-care-experienced-children/)

16 Online privacy

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) has published new class resources for primary and secondary schools to help children and young people protect their online privacy. Topics covered include: what personal data is, issues that can arise from sharing personal data, and how to protect personal data. The resources include a suite of material specific to Scotland.

[School resources | ICO](https://ico.org.uk/for-children/online-safety/)

Training, Learning Events and Resources

17 Understanding the role of the designated lead for safeguarding in faith-based organisations

This webinar from SCIE (Socio Care Institute for Excellence) will explore the importance of the role of the designated lead for safeguarding in faith-based organisations, what the role should encompass and how to tackle some of the professional challenges that might be faced. At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity to have your questions answered. The webinar takes place on 14 July 2021, 10.00am – 11.30am

[Webinar: Understanding the role of the designated lead for safeguarding in faith-based organisations | SCIE](#)

18 Sexual Harm - Beyond Referrals: Addressing Harmful Sexual Behaviour in Schools

The Forensic Network Team are co-hosting a Sexual Harm webinar with NOTA Scotland on the 15th July 2021 from 10:30-12:00. NOTA Scotland, Chair Ms Lucy Coleman will welcome Dr Jenny Lloyd (Senior Research Fellow, University of Bedfordshire). Dr Lloyd's presentation will focus on Sexually Harmful Behaviour and the Beyond Referrals Project.

[Sexual Harm Webinar- Beyond Referrals: Addressing Harmful Sexual Behaviour in Schools \(eventsforce.net\)](#)

19 Social Justice and Health Equity Webinar

Glasgow Centre for Population Health are now happy to share the outputs of the above webinar by Professor Sir Michael Marmot, held 25.05.21.

[GCPH Seminar Series 17: Lecture 3 | Glasgow Centre for Population Health](#)

20 How coercive control harms child safety & wellbeing

For 15 years, the Safe & Together Model has trained professionals in the importance of centering coercive controlling patterns of behaviors if you want to understand the harm domestic abuse perpetrators create for their children & how that is a parenting choice. Failures to link coercive control to child abuse & neglect make it easier to blame adult survivors, who are being protective, with failure-to-protect & parental alienation. New research is backing up this approach by exploring how coercive control impacts children directly via multiple pathways to harm. Dr Emma Katz, a leading research specialist in the harms caused by perpetrators to mothers and children in the context of domestic abuse will discuss this research.

[How coercive control harms child safety & wellbeing: An interview with Emma Katz – Safe & Together Institute \(safeandtogetherinstitute.com\)](#)

21 Children's Health in Care in Scotland (CHiCS): Initial findings from linked administrative data research and Knowledge Café

This event from University of Glasgow MRC/CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit will introduce the findings from the CHiCS project and invites the participants to discuss these in small online cafés. It is planned over three days (three hours per day), each focusing on a specific aspect of health. As well as introducing results from the CHiCS project, the webinar also includes guest presentations by other researchers, including research from Wales and Northern Ireland. Our event is aimed at policy makers, health and social care workers, and everyone who works with or is interested in the lives of care experienced children. The webinar takes place from 21st-23rd September 2021 (3 hours per day).

[University of Glasgow - Research Institutes - Institute of Health & Wellbeing - Research - MRC/CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit - Events and study participation - Events](#)

Research and Evidence Based Reports

22 COVID Learning Report: Supporting Children's Wellbeing During COVID-19

Inspiring Children's Futures at the University of Strathclyde has released the first in its series of Learning Reports from the COVID 4P Log Project, which, using responses from 22 countries, provides findings about successes in supporting children's wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic; challenges to service provision and their impact on children and families; and lessons learned and recommended actions for improving outcomes for children.

[COVID Learning Report: Supporting Children's Wellbeing During COVID-19 – Inspiring Children's Futures at the University of Strathclyde \(inspiringchildrensfutures.org\)](#)

23 How Families with Young Children Experienced Lockdown

The findings of new landmark research by the charity Save the Children has revealed that families on low incomes struggling to survive before lockdown have been tipped into crisis by the pandemic - it warns that young people living in poverty must be a priority for the Scottish Government's post-Covid recovery plans.

[dropped-into-a-cave-compressed.pdf \(savethechildren.org.uk\)](#)

24 Inequalities in Child Development

Public Health England has published experimental statistics on inequalities in child development in England. The statistics provide data on the characteristics of children aged 2- and 3-years-old who have had their development assessed using the Ages and stages questionnaire (ASQ-3). Characteristics include: sex; ethnicity; looked-after children; disability; vulnerability; and children with a child protection plan.

[Inequalities in child development - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

25 Young, caring and struggling to make ends meet - The worsening economic circumstances of Scotland's young carers during Covid-19

This report from Too many young carers in Scotland are facing deepening money pressures and increasingly unable to make ends meet, according to a University of the West of Scotland and Oxfam report. The charity says it is 'deeply concerned' about 'escalating daily pressures'.

[Young, caring and struggling to make ends meet \(uwsoxfampartnership.org.uk\)](http://uwsoxfampartnership.org.uk)

26 Inequality and social care

Findings from research by Kingston University and Ofsted into the relationship between deprivation and social care intervention in England include: children from the poorest neighbourhoods were almost 14 times more likely to be referred to social care services than those from the richest areas; the shift in balance in children's social care provision from early to late intervention over the last decade has exacerbated this divide; and disparities were driven by a rising identification of neglect, which coincided with increased poverty and inequality.

[The social gradient in CSC Full Report Final June 2021.docx \(healthcare.ac.uk\)](#)

News and Opinion

27 In the Media

- The BBC report that the Covid control system in England's schools, where groups of pupils have to self-isolate if one tests positive, could be scrapped in the autumn. Ministers are looking at asking schools to introduce daily testing instead.

[Covid: School isolation rules could end in autumn - BBC News](#)

28 Funding for IVY project

The Interventions for Vulnerable Youth (IVY) project, which provides psychological and social work support to 12 to 18-year-olds who present a serious risk of harm to themselves or others, has received £280,000 of Scottish Government funding.

[Supporting young people - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://gov.scot)

29 Help with School Clothing Costs

Scottish Education Secretary Shirley-Anne Somerville has announced an increase in the grant to help families with the cost of school uniforms to a minimum of £120

[Help with school clothing costs - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://gov.scot)

Please let us know what you think about the bulletin and provide information for inclusion in future editions. Contact Alan Small or Susan Mitchell at cpcscotland-liaison@strath.ac.uk.

Please note that the information included in this bulletin is provided in good faith. Inclusion does not indicate CPCScotland endorsement of the content of the linked documents or websites.