

Keeping Connected - Issue 0 -w 001 Tw 030 0 T

June 2021

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

Welcome to Issue 0 of Keeping Connected.

This week I would like to draw your attention to the Learning Review Community of Practice event on **1st July** to discuss the findings of the Care Inspectorate Triennial review of initial case reviews and significant case reviews (2018-2021)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1 Triennial Review of initial case reviews and significant case reviews (2018-2021) – Learning Event 1st July

The Care Inspectorate's Triennial review of initial case reviews and significant case reviews (2018-2021) will be published on 14 June. A learning event, facilitated by the Care Inspectorate and CELCIS will be held on the Learning Review Community of Practice (Knowledge Hub) on **1 July between 10am – 12pm**.

The session will provide an overview of the report and a short input on what works in supporting learning and practice change. This will be followed by three workshops which will explore key points for discussion.

The event is open to members of CPCScotland and colleagues from Child Protection Committees and other partners, who have a role in leading, undertaking and contributing to significant case reviews and learning reviews.

Please book onto the learning event by close of business on Thursday 24 June using the link below. You will then receive a calendar invite to attend. Places are limited so please book early.

[Learning event booking form](#)

2 Scottish Social Services Awards

Social Work Scotland has announced that the Scottish Social Services Awards, led by the Scottish Government and supported by Social Work Scotland and the Scottish Association of Social Workers (SASW), will take place after the Social Work Scotland conference on 26 October 2021. The deadline for nominations is 9 August, and finalists will be announced on 13 September.

<https://socialworkscotland.org/event/scottish-social-services-awards-2021/>

3 Best Start Grant

The Scottish Government has announced that this year's Best Start Grant School Age Payment opened on Tuesday, 1 June, to families who get tax credits or certain other payments and have a child who was born between 1 March 2016 and 28 February 2017. Even if the child is not starting school, eligible parents and carers should still apply before the closing date on 28 February 2022. Best Start Foods payments are set to increase to £4.50 per week on 1 August to support low income families to buy healthy food for children under the age of three. To maximise the support available to families, income thresholds that apply to certain qualifying benefits are also set to increase.

<https://www.gov.scot/news/best-start-grant-boost-for-parents/>

Guidance, Resources and Information

4 Contextual Safeguarding -

Training, Learning Events and Resources

7 Working with dangerous behaviours - managing fear and containing behaviour

On 18 June from 10:00am-1:00pm, the Mulberry Bush, together with Orb8, is hosting an online seminar

Rights Lab – exploring the effect of COVID-

14 2021's Day of General Discussion: Children's Rights and Alternative Care

Care experienced children and/or those with experience of the child protection system are encouraged to feed into the next UN Committee on the Rights of the Child Day of General Discussion 2021 which is on the theme of Children's Rights and Alternative Care. The closing date for submissions is 14th June 2021
<https://www.childrightsconnect.org/day>

18 Babies in care proceedings (England and Wales)

The Nuffield Family Justice Observatory has published a report providing new evidence about the number of newborn babies and infants in care proceedings in England and Wales, as well as the frequency of urgent hearings in these cases. Figures show that: in England, the number of newborn babies in care proceedings increased by 20% between 2012/13 and 2019/20, rising from 2,425 to 2,914 per year; in Wales, the number increased by 40 %, rising from 145 to 203 babies per year; London differs significantly from both Wales and many regions of England having the lowest numbers of newborn babies in care proceedings. <https://www.nuffieldfjo.org.uk/resource/newborn-babies-urgent-care-proceedings>

21 Children's helplines

Child Helpline International has published a report looking at the impact the coronavirus pandemic has had on the children and young people who contact child helplines around the world. Findings from quarterly surveys covering January to December 2020 include: globally, child helpline members received 25% more contacts in 2020 compared to 2019; violence and mental health were important reasons for contact globally; and requests for information about Covid-19, contacts relating to family relationships, access to essential services and the caller's own physical health were other main reasons for making contact.

<https://www.childhelplineinternational.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Voices-Covid-19.pdf>

22 'Dropped into a cave' How families with young children experienced lockdown

A report by Save the Children which aims to understand the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on families with young children living on low incomes in Scotland. By sharing their experiences, they hope to help inform how families can best be supported as we emerge from life in lockdown and begin our recovery.

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/content/dam/gb/reports/dropped-into-a-cave-compressed.pdf>

News and Opinion

23 In the Media

The BBC has reported that the number of children and young people in Scotland waiting at least a year for mental health treatment has almost trebled since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Scottish Children's Services Coalition (SCSC) described the figures as the "worst on record"

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-57315731>

BBC News reports on findings from a survey of more than 1,500 UK teachers carried out by BBC Radio 4's File on 4 and NASUWT, the Teachers' Union looking at sexual abuse in schools. Findings include: almost a third of teachers surveyed said they had witnessed peer-on-peer sexual harassment or abuse; almost one in 10 said they saw it on a weekly basis; and more than half said they did not think adequate procedures were in place in their schools to deal with abuse. The File on 4 programme is available on BBC Sounds.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-57231920>

Social workers and children's charities in Wales are warning that a 20% decrease in

25 Finding the confidence to be creative

Ahead of the 'Voice & Vision' celebration of the creative work of young people with care experience, Laura Graham, Senior Evidence and Influencing Officer at the Life Changes Trust, reflects on the role creativity plays in working with young people in the latest blog post from CELCIS.

<https://www.celcis.org/knowledge-bank/search-bank/blog/2021/06/finding-confidence-be-creative/>

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.