

Safeguarding Information and Research Digest Issue 17 - October 2014

The LSCB Safeguarding Information and Research Digests provide a concise summary of recently published research knowledge, news, legislation and statistics on the topic of safeguarding. The digest provides hyperlinks to reports and further information.

The Safeguarding Information Research Digest is designed to provide access to research information to a varied audience working across children and young people's services. The information is drawn from relevant electronic resources and databases, journals and texts and where appropriate from alternative sources such as inspection reports and annual reports.

This digest does not provide a definitive statement of all the evidence on a particular issue. Clicking on the "Source" and "Further information" links within the digest will take you to the relevant document/site

News

Thresholds Guidance

The LSCB Guidance on **threshold criteria** for children's and family services in Leicester City is intended to assist professionals within the Leicester Children's workforce to identify suitable responses to needs and issues that they encounter amongst the children, young people and families they are working with. The document brings together, for the first time, the threshold criteria across Leicester City, Leicestershire and Rutland County Councils, under the responsibilities of the Leicester Safeguarding Children Board and the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children Board. The document is available here: <http://www.lcitylscb.org/information-for-practitioners/>

The Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC) has published a report looking at improving the health sector's response to **child sexual exploitation**.

Source: <http://www.collemergencymed.ac.uk/CEM/document?id=8016>

The **National Working Group** (NWG) has summarised the recommendations from a range of reports, inquiries, serious case reviews and research in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation, to make all the recommendations accessible in one document.

Source: <http://www.nwgnetwork.org/resources/resourcespublic?cat=97>

The **NSPCC's Child Protection in Sport Unit** (CPSU) has launched a new case management model. Issues covered include: safeguarding awareness, referring concerns and risk assessment.

Source: [Child Protection in Sport Unit \(CPSU\)](#)

Archives of Disease in Childhood has published an open access article about **fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS)** & fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD).

Source: [Archives of Disease in Childhood](#) 01 October 2014

The **British Association for Adoption and Fostering** (BAAF) is launching a new post-qualifying course on adoption for social workers. BAAF is expected to accept the first cohort for the programme in May 2015.

Source: [Community Care](#) 07 October 2014

A group of charities led by Kidscape has produced a **free anti-bullying resource** which aims to give young people an insight into the potential challenges being faced by their peers.

Source: [Kidscape](#) 22 October 2014

The NSPCC has published a first evaluation of 'Turn the page', its service for **young people with harmful sexual behaviour**.

Source: [NSPCC Website](#) 22 October 2014

NSPCC has launched the Flaw in the Law campaign to ensure that it is always illegal for an adult to send a **child sexual messages**. Please sign our petition to change the law and help prevent abuse.

Source: [NSPCC Website](#) 24 October 2014

Government

An Office of National Statistics **report analysing data on the well-being of children in the UK** has been published. Findings include: 77% of children aged 10-15 are satisfied with their lives; and 12% said they were frequently bullied.

Source: [BBC online](#) 08 October 2014

Further information: [Measuring national well-being: explaining the well-being of children in the UK, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)

The Office of the Children's Commissioner has published a report about the **children of parental alcohol misuse**.

Source: [The Office of the Children's Commissioner](#) 09 October 2014

Further information: ["I think you need to show someone what help there is": understanding parental alcohol misuse at a local level \(PDF\)](#).

The Home Office has given funding to the charity Redthread for a project which places youth workers in A&E units to tackle **gang-related violence**.

Source: [Home Office website](#) 20 October 2014

The government has published its response to the Education Committee's report **'Into independence: not out of care: 16 plus care options.'**

Source: [Parliament UK](#) 20 October 2014

Further information: [Into independence, not out of care: 16 plus care options \(2nd report\)](#)

The Government is to extend funding for the Pause project in Hackney which works to **support women with repeat children taken into care**.

Source: [Guardian](#) 20 October 2014

The Home Office has appointed panel members to the independent inquiry panel of experts, which will consider whether public bodies took their duty of care to **protect children from sexual abuse** seriously.

Source: [Home Office Press Release](#) 21 October 2014

The Government has published their response to the consultation on **looked after children: improving permanence**.

Source: [Department for Education](#) 23 October 2014

Further information:

[Consultation on looked-after children: improving permanence: government response \(PDF\)](#)

Safeguarding in Education Self-Assessment Tool (ESAT).

Self-assessment tool to be used by the designated safeguarding lead to audit their school's current safeguarding arrangements and identify areas for improvement.

Publication details: London: NSPCC, 2014

Authors: NSPCC

Guidance

The Crown Prosecution Service has released new guidelines on prosecuting cases of '**revenge pornography**'.

Source: [Guardian](#) 07 October 2014

Further information: [Crown Prosecution Service press release](#)

The Metropolitan Police has released guidance to help professionals respond to **abuse linked to belief in witchcraft and spirit possession**.

Source: [Community Care](#) 10 October 2014

Further information: [Metropolitan police - abuse linked with spirit possession](#)

Research

Child advocacy center based group treatment for child sexual abuse.

Examines the social validity of a group treatment programme for children who have been sexually abused, delivered at a child advocacy centre.

Publication details: Journal of child sexual abuse (Vol.23, Iss.3) April 2014 pp 304-325

Authors: Grace S. Hubel, Christopher Campbell, Tiffany West, Samantha Friedenber, Alayna Schreier, Mary Fran Flood and David J. Hansen

Social relationships in sexually abused children: self-reports and teachers' evaluations.

Reports on a study which explored the social relationships of children who had been sexually abused. It used both self-reports and teachers' assessments to compare 93 victims of child sexual abuse with 75 non-victims of a similar age.

Publication details: Journal of child sexual abuse (Vol.23, Iss.3) April 2014 pp 326-344

Authors: Claudia Blanchard-Dallaire and Martine Hebert

Asking women survivors about thoughts or actions involving sex with children: an issue requiring therapist sensitivity.

Looks at whether current counselling practice with women survivors of child sexual abuse include inquiry about thoughts and behaviour involving sex with children.

Publication details: Journal of child sexual abuse (Vol.23, Iss.4) May-June pp 442-461

Authors: Angela Hovey and Carol Stalker

Disclosure of sexual abuse among youth in residential treatment care: a multiple informant comparison.

Describes the sexual abuse experiences of 53 14-17-year-olds in residential treatment care using three informants.

Publication details: Journal of child sexual abuse (Vol.23, Iss.4) May-June 2014 pp 398-417

Authors: Lise Milne and Delphine Collin-Vézina

Predicting suicidal ideations in sexually abused female adolescents: a 12 month prospective study.

Investigates the contribution of posttraumatic stress symptoms to the prediction of suicidality among

female adolescent survivors of sexual abuse.

Publication details: Journal of child sexual abuse (Vol.23, Iss.4) May-June 2014 pp 387-397

Authors: Marie-Eve Brabant, Martine Hébert and François Chagnon

[The influence of childhood sexual abuse on adolescent outcomes: the roles of gender, poverty, and revictimization.](#)

Looks at the rate of child abuse revictimisation among children reported to child protection services for child sexual abuse and whether revictimisation impacts outcomes in adolescence.

Publication details: Journal of child sexual abuse (Vol.23, Iss.4) May-June 2014 pp 367-386

Authors: Karen M. Matta Oshima, Melissa Jonson-Reid and Kristen D. Seay

[The influence of medical and behavioural evidence on conviction rates in cases of child sexual abuse.](#)

Looks at how the presence or absence of evidence impacts on conviction rates in cases of child sexual abuse in a sample of 113 cases in Australia.

Publication details: Journal of child sexual abuse (Vol.23, Iss.4) May-June 2014 pp 431-441

Authors: Tiffany E. Lewis, Bianca Klettke and Andrew Day

Recurrent care proceedings: part 1: progress in research and practice since the Family Justice Council 6th annual debate.

Summarises progress in research and practice since the 2012 Family Justice Council debate on the motion 'Women who have children removed to care, year after year, are being failed by a system unable to respond to them as vulnerable adults needing support in their own right'.

Publication details: Family law (Vol.44, Iss.9) September 2014 pp 1284-1287

Authors: Mike Shaw, Karen Broadhurst, Judith Harwin, Bachar Alrouh, Sophie Kershaw and Claire Mason

The Royal College of Psychiatrists has published a report looking at **managing self-harm in young people**.

Source: [Royal College of Psychiatrists](#) The Royal College of Psychiatrists 01 October 2014

Further information: [Managing self-harm in young people \(PDF\)](#).

Domestic violence charity, CAADA, has published a report of evidence collected by frontline practitioners working with **young victims of domestic abuse**.

Source: [CAADA](#) 06 October 2014

Further information: [Young people and interpersonal violence: first findings from the Young People's Programme: January 2014- July 2014 \(PDF\)](#)

4Children has published an overview of **Sure Start Children's Centres** in England in 2014.

Source: [4Children](#) 13 October 2014

Further information: [Sure Start children's centres census 2014: a national overview of Sure Start children's centres in 2014 \(PDF\)](#).

Action for Children have published a report about **children leaving care in England and Wales**.

Source: [Action for Children](#) 13 October 2014

Further information: [Too much, too young \(PDF\)](#).

EU Kids Online has published a report looking at changes to **children's experiences online** over time.

Source: [EU Kids Online](#) 13 October 2014

Further information: [Children's changing online experiences in a longitudinal perspective \(PDF\)](#).

Rescuing girls from sexual violence

Looks at the work of the Safer London Foundation, St Giles Trust and other organisations aiming to support and empower young women who have been sexually exploited by peers through gangs.

Publication details: Children and young people now 14-27 October 2014 pp 23-25

Authors: Louise Hunt

Anti-bullying charity Ditch the Label has published report looking at how **13-25 year olds use smartphone technology**.

Source: [Ditch the Label](#) 15 October 2014

Further information: [The wireless report 2014 \(PDF\)](#).

End Child Poverty has published new data on local levels of **child poverty in the UK**.

Source: [End Child Poverty](#) 17 October 2014

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/research-and-resources/right-to-be-safe/>

Identifies key issues about safeguarding disabled children and looks at why disabled children are particularly vulnerable.

Publication details: [London]: NSPCC, 2014

Authors: David Miller and Jon Brown

[Engaging theatre for social change to address sexual violence on a college campus: a qualitative investigation.](#)

Explores the experiences of undergraduate students who participated in a theatre-based, peer-education, sexual assault prevention intervention.

Publication details: British journal of social work (Vol.44, Iss.6) 2014 pp 1454-1471

Authors: M. Candace Christensen

The Oxford Internet Institute has published a paper looking at how **social networking sites** have impacted on young people's attitudes towards privacy.

Source: [The Oxford Internet Institute \(OII\)](#)

Further information

Action for Children - Research, resources and information

<http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/policy-research>

Barnardos - Research and information including fact sheets

http://www.barnardos.org.uk/what_we_do/policy_research_unit/research_and_publications.htm

Sign up for regular Newsletter: http://www.barnardos.org.uk/email_subscription_form.htm

Community Care - News, information and research <http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Home/>

Sign up for regular Newsletter: <https://www.communitycare.co.uk/Register/registermain/>

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children Boards' Procedures (staff can register to be alerted on updates) <http://lrsccb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/contents.html>

National Children's Bureau - Policy, research and information

<http://www.ncb.org.uk/policy-evidence>

National Working Group Network (NWG) – tackling child sexual exploitation

<http://www.nwgnetwork.org/>

National Referral Mechanism (NRM)

The Government's National Referral Mechanism guidance and referral forms can be accessed at the link below. The referral and assessment forms should be used to report potential victims of human trafficking

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/human-trafficking-victims-referral-and-assessment-forms>

NSPCC inform - Child protection advice, support, information, factsheets and research

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/informhub_wda49931.html

NSPCC CASPAR - Current awareness service for policy, practice and research: regular mail outs for updates and information.

Sign up for the news service by following this link:

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/ExternalNewsServices/Default.aspx?NewsServiceID=2>

Office of the Children's Commissioner for England

<http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/>

Research in Practice - Research, information and resources to support evidence informed practice

<http://www.rip.org.uk/>

(Leicester City Council employees can register using their work email address)

The final report of the Office of the Children's Commissioner's **Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups** (November 2013)

http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/content/publications/content_743

Tri-x Child Care Ltd – Policy Briefings

http://www.trixonline.co.uk/website/news/news_index.html

(Tri-x Policy briefings are free and you can subscribe for free briefing alerts)