



Information Circular

September 2017

Welcome to the latest tri.x Information Circular, a monthly roundup of information and news from the children's social care sector. Scroll down to sections on safeguarding, domestic abuse, research reports, fostering, schools, and tools for children.

First, some information on the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which come into force on the 25 May 2018, plus: news regarding section of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 coming into force on 31st October 2017.

THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (GDPR)

The GDPR is only a part of the overall data protection framework.

[The Data Protection Bill \[HL\] 2017-19](#) had its first reading in the House of Lords on the 13th September 2017. This should become law in 2018 replacing the current Act. The role of the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) is to enforce and regulate freedom of information and data protection laws, develop guidance and promote good practice.

The ICO is following the progress of the Data Protection Bill closely however any legislation introduced into Parliament is open to change. Once the ICO have a clearer idea of its final form, the aim is to provide a suite of data protection guidance that is as comprehensive as possible by May 2018 to assist organisations.

The ICO are working on a comprehensive guide to cover the GDPR. All of the content will be web enabled.

Also see the ICO web pages 'Principles' and 'Key areas to consider'. To start preparing for the introduction of the GDPR see [Getting ready for the GDPR checklist](#) and [12 steps to take now](#).

Being transparent and providing accessible information to individuals about how you will use their personal data is a key element of the GDPR and is most often provided by a privacy notice. See the [code of practice for conducting privacy impact assessments](#). These assessments will have a key role to play under the GDPR where organisations look at new ways of using people's personal data, particularly when that involves using new technologies.

Tip: view the ICO blogs busting GDPR myths that have developed

around the GDPR

Source: [Information Commissioner's Office](#)

THE CHILDREN AND SOCIAL WORK ACT 2017 (COMMENCEMENT NO. 1) REGULATIONS 2017 BRING SPECIFIED PROVISIONS OF THE CHILDREN AND SOCIAL WORK ACT INTO FORCE ON 31ST OCTOBER 2017

The following sections of the Act come into force on that date:

[Section 8](#) There is a requirement for the local authority in the care plan to consider: the impact on the child concerned of any harm that he or she suffered or was likely to suffer; the current and future needs of the child (including needs arising out of that impact); the way in which the long-term plan for the upbringing of the child would meet those current and future needs when applying for a care order.

[Section 9](#) requires courts and adoption agencies to consider a child's relationship with their prospective adopters where the child has already been placed with them

[Section 33](#) extends the power of the Secretary of State to intervene to secure proper performance to combined authorities

[Section 42](#) allows for the determination and publication of improvement standards for Social Workers and a process for assessing those standards are met

Tri.x are currently in the process of revising the relevant procedures.

We will continue to keep you informed of any future implementation of the Act.

Safeguarding

ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP (APPG) ON RUNAWAY AND MISSING CHILDREN AND ADULTS

The APPG published a briefing that looked in to missing children who get involved in criminal activity or get exploited by gangs to sell drugs. The roundtable heard that children as young as eight are groomed by gangs for involvement in crime. Professionals, however are often not aware of risks and signs of criminal exploitation. Moreover, children are labelled as criminals and little or no help is available to help them escape the exploitative situations they experience. See briefing [here](#)

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE'S INQUIRY INTO SUICIDE PREVENTION

Their recommendations for improving delivery of the cross-government suicide prevention strategy (Department of Health). View the [report](#)

HOME SECRETARY GIVES £20 MILLION BOOST OVER 3 YEARS, TO TACKLE ONLINE GROOMING OF CHILDREN FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

This follows a successful regional pilot, led by Norfolk police, which saw

dedicated officers operation online in forums and chatrooms to identify and disrupt offenders. View the [Press Release](#)

MODERN SLAVERY VICTIMS: REFERRAL AND ASSESSMENT FORMS TO THE NATIONAL REFERRAL MECHANISM

How to refer potential victims of modern slavery/human trafficking to the NRM. The guidance gives information on what the NRM is; the referral process; and how to complete the referral forms. View [here](#)

JOINT TARGETED AREA INSPECTIONS OF THE RESPONSES TO CHILDREN EXPERIENCING NEGLECT: MAY TO DECEMBER 2017.

These documents should be read alongside the framework and guidance for the joint inspection of arrangements and services for children in need for help and protection. Updated 11 August 2017 to include the latest published inspection reports. View the inspection reports and guidance [here](#)

Domestic Abuse

PRACTICE DIRECTION 12J - CHILD ARRANGEMENTS AND CONTACT ORDERS: DOMESTIC ABUSE AND HARM

coming into force 2 October 2017.

The Government and the President of the Family Division, Sir James Munby, have issued new guidance for judges and magistrates for child contact cases where there are allegations of domestic abuse.

This includes an expanded definition of domestic abuse and requires that the court must be satisfied that any contact ordered with a parent who has perpetrated domestic abuse does not expose the child and/or other parent to the risk of harm and is in the best interests of the child. For further information [here](#)

JOINT INSPECTIONS OF THE RESPONSE TO CHILDREN LIVING WITH DOMESTIC ABUSE: SEPTEMBER 2016 - MARCH 2017

A report examining the multi-agency response to children living with domestic abuse, along with inspections of local area services (19 September). View the [report](#). The findings show good work in protecting children but more needs to be done in prevention and to meet the longer term needs of child and repair the damage of domestic abuse that comes with it.

A summary of the findings can be found in Ofsted's [press release](#)
Ofsted has published a [blog](#) about the findings of the report.

COUNSELLING DOMESTIC ABUSERS

Cambridge University's Institute of Criminology has published findings from a randomised control trial of an intervention for first-time domestic abuse offenders. Findings from the study of 293 men, half of which were assigned to the Cautioning and Relationship Abuse (CARA) group discussion workshops and half of which were not, include 35% fewer

men assigned to the workshops committed a further domestic abuse offence within a year than those in the control group. Download the report [here](#)

Research Reports

DFE REPORTS

CHILDREN'S SERVICES OMNIBUS WAVE 1

The survey explored senior local authority (LA) leaders' perceptions on, and activities relating to, a range of policy areas. These comprised demand for, and commissioning of, children's social services; information sharing; support for adopters and special guardian; sufficiency of childcare places; and services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. The research was carried out between 26 September and 28 October 2016. See Final Report [here](#)

SAFEGUARDING AND RADICALISATION

The research looks at the approaches being taken to supporting children (and families) vulnerable to radicalisation by children's social care services (and those services that they work alongside). the Department commissioned this study to develop a deeper understanding of how local authorities are responding to radicalisation,

and gather evidence of emerging practice about what works in social care interventions. Other organisations such as the Association of Directors of Children's Services have also been considering how to help social workers navigate this practice issue. See full report [here](#)

ADOPTION RESEARCH

The Department for Education (DfE) has published findings from a study looking at adoption opportunities for: children aged 5 or older; disabled children; children who need to be placed with one or more siblings; children with a black or minority ethnic background; and children who have been waiting over 18 months from entry into care to placement. Findings from a study of seven local authorities in England indicate that factors that can help in the process of matching these children include: effective work with adoptive parents to help them understand the needs of waiting children, and understand (and develop) their own capacity to meet these needs; and good assessments of children's needs to aid matching and avoid the need for plans to be revised at a later stage. View the report [here](#)

UNICEF AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR MIGRATION REPORT

REFUGEE AND MIGRANT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

A report from UNICEF and the IOM analysing the journeys of 11,000 young refugees and migrants along the Eastern and Central Mediterranean routes to Europe. Findings show young people are more vulnerable to trafficking and exploitation than adults particularly those from sub-Saharan Africa. C&YP experienced multiple types of

exploitation including sexual exploitation, child marriage, forced labour, violence and abuse and captivity. See [Report](#)

Fostering

THE FOSTERING SYSTEM IN ENGLAND: REVIEW (DFE). AN OVERVIEW OF THE FOSTERING SYSTEM IN ENGLAND

This review was commissioned to inform the government's announcement in 2016 of a national 'stocktake' of fostering. The following research questions guided the review: How the fostering system operates, including; commissioning and the cost of placements; the interconnection between the fostering system and other types of care recruitment and retention and training of the foster care workforce.; and how the team around the child operates. Jump to the [report](#)

HOUSE OF COMMONS LIBRARY BRIEFING PAPER - KEY ISSUES IN FOSTERING

In particular it draws upon evidence taken by the Education Select Committee's 2016 - 2017 inquiry into fostering. Issues examined include the impact of 'Staying Put' arrangements for those over 18 years old, increasing numbers of unaccompanied asylum seeking

children, and also foster carers who become special guardians. The working conditions of foster carers are explored and how independent fostering agencies are commissioned by LAs and the introduction of new trust models for fostering services is explored. See full report [here](#)

Schools

SAFEGUARDING IN ENGLISH SCHOOLS

This briefing provides information on the safeguarding responsibilities of schools in England, including the role of governing bodies, head teachers and school staff, the inspection of safeguarding, safe staff recruitment, and procedures for dealing with allegations against members of staff. See briefing [here](#)

SUPPORTING SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STAFF TO KEEP CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SAFE

The iCAN framework helps staff to understand abuse from the child's point of view. Children who are suffering abuse or neglect are more likely to come to the attention of staff through their behaviour, attendance or appearance at school than to actively approach someone to tell. More information [here](#)

COUNTER-EXTREMISM POLICY IN ENGLISH

SCHOOLS

This briefing sets out duties on schools in England to safeguard children from extremism, and promote British values, and related policy debates. More information [here](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND - RISE ABOVE FOR SCHOOLS

Provides resources to engage with young people about their physical and mental health, and has created The Rise Above Programme to help young people build resilience and cope with the challenges life throws at them. Includes lesson plans on Bullying and Cyberbullying, Smoking, Online Stress and FOMO 'fear of missing out', Alcohol, Exam Stress and Body image in a digital world; and Forming positive relationships. More information [here](#)

DFE GUIDANCE ON PREVENTING BULLYING IN SCHOOLS

The new guidance merges 'Supporting children and young people who are bullied: advice for schools' with 'Preventing and tackling bullying' and includes additional information about how schools can support children and young people who are bullied. Further information [here](#)

Tools for children

GUIDANCE - INDECENT IMAGES OF CHILDREN: GUIDANCE

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Taking, making, sharing and possessing indecent images and pseudo-photographs of people under 18 is illegal. This guidance informs young people of the law, contains short films highlighting the serious harm caused, and support available for those affected. View the guidance [here](#)

HOW YOU LOOK

Feeling happy about how you look is part of how you feel about yourself. It's normal to worry about the way you look sometimes. Especially as you grow and go through puberty. On this page 'Pressure from friends or family'; 'Bullying about how you look'; and 'What you can do'. View Childline advice [here](#)

A REPORT FROM CHILDNET, A PARTNER IN THE UK SAFER INTERNET CENTRE, INTO CHILDREN'S EXPERIENCES OF WATCHING AND SHARING LIVESTREAMS

Many young people are using livestreaming services to watch others livestream, including celebrities, vloggers and gamers, as well as their family and friends. The most popular services used to watch others livestream are Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and Periscope; 44% of 8-17 year olds use YouTube Live for watching others livestream; Instagram Live is the most popular service that children use to 'go live' themselves, with 11% of 8-17 year olds saying they had done this. In addition 21Childnet Digital Leaders took part in an online consultation where they shared their experiences of livestreaming.

Top tips for livestreaming from young people include; making positive choices – you can't edit; and protecting personal information especially location. [Livestreaming top tips from young people \(PDF\)](#)

Further information: [Young People's experiences of live streaming \(PDF\)](#)

