

## Improving the effectiveness of the child protection system



Early Intervention Foundation (EIF) has published an overview report of key findings and lessons from five detailed research papers on the effectiveness of the child protection system.

The project was a collaboration between EIF, the Local Government Association, the NSPCC, Research in Practice and Oxford University.

The evidence is a resource for local authorities and findings include:

- there is moderate to strong evidence that domestic abuse interventions involving mothers and children together appear to be more effective than community case-management or child-only treatment, on a range of outcomes for both mothers and children.

## Child vulnerability in England



The Children's Commissioner for England has published a report highlighting the challenges around calculating the scale of vulnerability among children in England.

Findings from the report which brings together a range of information held by various government departments, agencies and others include:

- estimates for the number of children living in families that have vulnerabilities, including over 15,000 children living with an adult receiving alcohol treatment and nearly 12,000 living with an adult in drug treatment;
- 200,000 "children in need" who have experienced trauma or abuse;
- 800,000 children aged 5 to 17 with mental health disorders.

## How safe are our children? 2017



The NSPCC has published 'How safe are our children?' 2017 which compiles and analyses the most robust and up-to-date child protection data that exists across the four nations in the UK for 2017.

Key findings include:

- in recent years there has been an increase in emotional abuse as a reason for children being on a child protection plan or register in England and Wales, there have also been increasing numbers of contacts to the NSPCC Helpline about the issue.

## The Independent Jersey Care Inquiry



The Panel of the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry has published the final report into the abuse of children in Jersey's care system since 1945.

The inquiry which considered the evidence of over 450 people who had lived in the care system or were connected to it identified individual and systemic failings.

The report made recommendations for the future management and operation of Jersey's residential and foster homes including:

- the establishment of a Commissioner for Children in Jersey;
- ensuring that the voice of children and young people are heard in relation to all matters affecting their lives;
- the appointment of a Children's Rights Officer to assist looked after children to raise complaints and matters of concern;
- introducing an independent inspection regime for Children's Services.

## How do I know if I'm being groomed?



Part of Childline's Voice Box series, this YouTube film discusses grooming. Features Lucy Fallon, whose character Bethany Platt in Coronation Street was groomed. Issues raised include:

- when a young person is groomed, they may not realise it at first because the relationship may be very positive to start with;
- it is not a young person's fault if they are groomed;

any young person with concerns about being groomed themselves, or having a friend who is being groomed, should tell a trusted adult or contact Childline.

## Impact of child sexual abuse



The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) has published a rapid evidence assessment summarising the existing evidence for the impact of child sexual abuse (CSA) and identifying gaps in the evidence.

The report found evidence that CSA is associated with an increased risk of adverse outcomes in almost every sphere of victims and survivors' lives, and that this risk can persist across their lifespan.

Gaps in evidence include the impact of CSA on: younger victims (pre-adolescent) and older survivors (65 plus); black and minority ethnic, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender and disabled people; male victims and survivors; the non-abusing fathers, siblings, partners and children of victims and survivors.

## CSE amongst Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities.



The Children's Society, as part of an initiative in West Yorkshire have been looking into how to keep their young people safe.

As a result of this, a range of resources were produced to support communities and professionals and carers working with them. These include an animation which was the idea of a group of young people working on the project; an accompanying workbook; and some posters and leaflets translated into the main community languages of Romanian and Slovak.

## Child sexual abuse and child sexual exploitation: scoping report



The Centre of expertise on child sexual abuse has published a scoping report, produced in partnership with London Metropolitan University, looking at ways of measuring the scale and nature of child sexual abuse (CSA) and child sexual exploitation (CSE) for England and Wales.

The report outlines findings from the current evidence base which show that:

- the most serious and repeated offences are more likely to be committed by known persons, with family members being more common for girls and young women and authority figures for boys and young men;
- online is a new context for CSA and CSE, and is generating new forms of abuse which are difficult to track. The report identifies gaps in data and makes recommendations including: the commissioning of a regular CSA prevalence study;
- and organisations carrying out surveys and longitudinal cohort studies on linked issues should consider including a module on CSA.

## Female genital mutilation statistics



NHS Digital has published the female genital mutilation (FGM) annual report for England for the period April 2016 to March 2017.

### Key findings include:

- there were 9,179 attendances reported at NHS trusts and GP practices where FGM was identified or a procedure for FGM was undertaken;
- 5,391 cases were newly recorded; the 5 to 9 year old age group was the most common age range at which FGM was undertaken.

## Essex Safeguarding Children Board Bulletin

Click the logo to view ESCB July 2017 bulletin which includes local and national updates: articles include:

- Essex Police Case Study: A story of trafficking;
- CARE update: Boys and young men;
- Children & young people's update: It takes Forever (from disclosure to court);
- Youth Service Update;
- Serious Youth Violence and Gangs in Essex;
- The Centre of Expertise on Child Sex Abuse published four new research papers;
- Young People's Views about the Governments Internet Safety strategy;



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