



Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Newsletter

Message from the Editor:

Welcome to the Spring Edition of the Safeguarding Board newsletter. As usual this is packed with information about safeguarding in its broadest sense as well as details of an expanded safeguarding board. I need to let you all know that currently our interagency procedures are being updated to take into account the changes brought about by Working Together 2010. We will be doing another newsletter in June to highlight these changes and the post Ofsted action plan as a result of the recent Inspection.

We are moving into uncertain times with an election on the horizon and a change of government will no doubt have implications for all of us.

In our communications group we have been thinking about the information we produce for professionals and members of the public and are asking people to let us know what communications and materials they want from us and in which format.

Any comments to judy.jones@peterborough.gov.uk

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Policies in development

- Children missing from home and care
- Cross border protocol
- Escalation procedure
- Keeping children safe disclosure scheme

New Website

On 14 April Gareth Jones from Tri-x gave a demonstration of the new PSCB website. This is not yet operational, however, it can be accessed as follows:

www.peterboroughlscb.org.uk ; we are asking everyone to have a look at it and get back to us with comments by **21 May**.

We will then make any necessary changes prior to launching it officially some time in June.

We are aware that we need to make changes to the young people's page and we have asked for samples of artwork and poetry produced by young people in Peterborough to assist us with this.

There will be a link to the new PSCB site through Peterborough City Council website.

PUBLICATIONS

Safeguarding Children and Social Work Reform

On 17 March 2010, the Government published *'The Government's Response to Lord Laming: One Year On'* and *'Building a Safe and Confident Future: Implementing the recommendations of the Social Work Task Force'* alongside a commitment to invest more than £200m to support social work reform and improvement in 2010-11.

Also published:

- * Revised statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' which comes into force with immediate effect
- * The Government's response to the Working Together to Safeguard Children consultation
- * Local Safeguarding Children Boards - Practice Guidance for Consultation - please note responses to this consultation required by 9th June (lscb.guidance@nsdu.gsi.gov.uk (<mailto:lscb.guidance@nsdu.gsi.gov.uk>))
- * DCSF research brief entitled 'The Evaluation of the Arrangements for Effective Operation of the New Local Safeguarding Children Boards in England'
- * The Chile Adviser on the Safety of Children - first annual report to Parliament

For information about the National Safeguarding Delivery Unit and their work programme for 2010-12 and to download the above documents, visit the NSDU website at www.dcsf.gov.uk/nsdu (<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/nsdu>). Further details of the Social Work Reform Board can be found at www.dcsf.gov.uk/swrb (<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/swrb>).

The government commissioned report into private fostering was published on 26th March and can be found, together with the government's response at: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/resources-and-practice/IG00707>.

Also there is the research report by the NCB: 'Research into Private Fostering', published at the same time.



The communications team at the Vetting and Barring Scheme are pleased to announce that full guidance about the Scheme is available for free from

www.isa.gov.org.uk/default.aspx?page=402

This document contains details on:

- The scope of the Scheme;
- Barring arrangements;
- Responsibilities and duties for both employers and volunteer organisers, and the duties for those individuals you take on;
- Timescales for the phased implementation of the Scheme;
- Explanation of transitional arrangements around Scheme introduction.

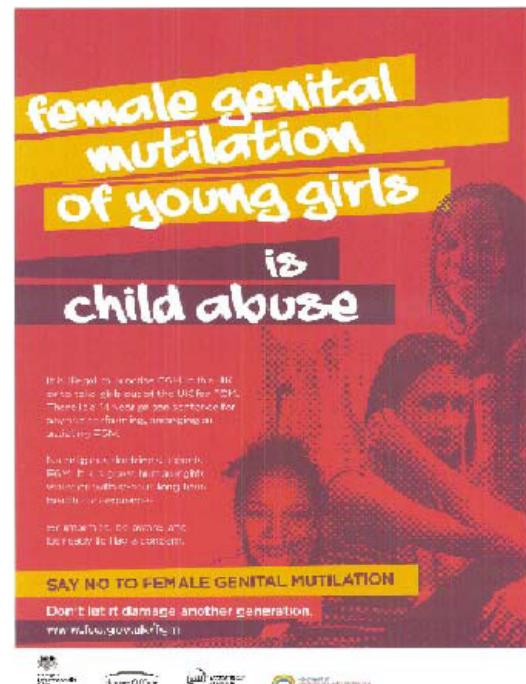
In response to the overwhelming interest in the subject, the guidance makes special mention of those areas where the Scheme does not apply and discusses the points raised by Sir Roger Singleton when he reported into the boundaries of the Scheme in December 2009.

This full guidance release will be followed by a suite of 'sector specific' guidance documents, which will show how the Scheme will be applied in different areas of work and volunteering activities and will be published by our partners from the appropriate government departments.

We will make printed copies of this full guidance document available on request from our contact centre on 0300 123 1111. We expect these to be available from 5 April.

Female Genital Mutilation Campaign

In order to raise awareness of FGM, the Department for Children Schools and Families has been working with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Home Officer and the Department of Health to develop materials on FGM. The poster has been developed in collaboration with specialist organisations and professionals with expertise on FGM. It is aimed at professionals and also at families within communities that practice FGM. It intends to draw attention to the negative health effects of FGM, the illegality of the practice, and to signpost them to a new government FGM website: www.fco.gov.uk/fgm. The leaflet is a generic document, designed to convey key messages about FGM and challenge existing myths about the practice. The leaflet directs readers to the new website. The website is intended to act as a one stop shop for any questions about FGM, in addition to providing information and resources for professionals, victims and survivors.



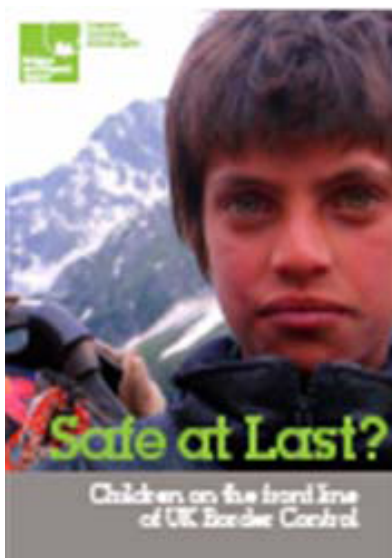
Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board has received a quantity of the posters and if you would like a copy please contact Kay Mayor on 836744.

Children's Online Risks & Safety

A report published on 25 March 2010 entitled "Children's Online Risks and Safety: A review of the available evidence" maps the latest relevant evidence on the main topics related to the online risks to children, draws out some of the key findings from the evidence, and indicates where there are currently gaps where future research may be needed.

It can be down loaded as follows:

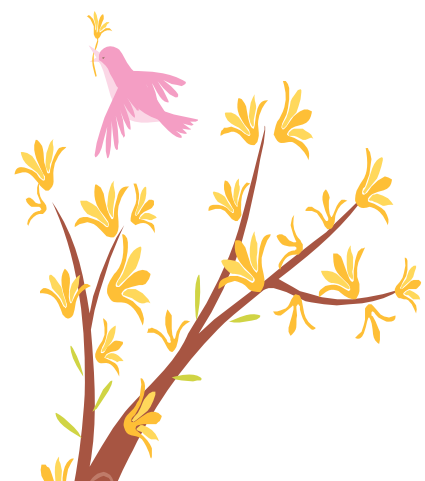
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=15985&type=5&resultspage=11>



Safe at Last

Refugee and Migrant Justice have published a moving report looking at entrant interviews of unaccompanied children and representing their experiences in their own words. It's well worth a read.

www.rmj.org.uk



Child Accident Prevention Trust

Staying Safe survey reveals that parental concern does not reflect the real risks to children

Key findings from the *Staying Safe survey*, published in February by the Department for Children, Schools and Families, confirm a large disparity between parents' perceptions of the risks to young children and what the actual risks are.

When asked about their main safety concerns, only 19% of parents of under fives mentioned safety in the home. When prompted, this rose to 31%, compared with 73% who cited concerns about strangers and paedophiles, 56% about bullying and 51% about online safety. Yet accidents in the home are the leading cause of hospital admissions for children under five.

Almost half (46%) of the parents with children under five agreed that people worry too much about accidents in the home, and the same percentage agreed that accidents are part of growing up, so they don't worry about them. These statistics, say the report, suggest that some parents 'have an underestimation of the risks in relation to accidents in the home.'

Two thirds of parents with children under five agreed that accidents are a learning experience and that children will be more careful next time. In its guidance to practitioners, *Accidents and Child Development*, CAPT advises:

'n be difficult for parents to remember that just because their child is now walking, talking and generally acting much more like a child than a toddler or baby, they are not necessarily ready for more responsibility. A four year old is still an impulsive, forgetful and physically and emotionally immature little person. While undoubtedly they will be learning more and more each day, they are still in need of an adult's guidance and supervision.'

"Please help us spread the message – the findings from this survey provide a good starting point for breaking down parental misconceptions about child safety in the home."

The survey was carried out last year and consisted of face-to-face interviews with over 400 parents or carers of children under five.

Download the survey here: <http://bit.ly/cypxYz>

If you work in England, you can order free copies of CHILD ACCIDENT PREVENTION TRUST's *Accidents and Child Development* guide from the Every Child Matters website

<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-00255-2009&>

The DCSF have announced that the ban on the use of **physical punishment in schools** will be extended to cover any form of tuition or care outside of the family. The decision follows a report by Sir Roger Singleton on physical punishment.

Further information:

[Physical punishment: improving consistency and protection](#) 30 March 2010

Changes to the membership of the Safeguarding Board

In line with statutory guidance the Peterborough Safeguarding Board has extended its membership. In addition agencies have been asked to nominate a deputy in order that the Board can be assured of maximum participation and ownership. This is the membership at the time of writing.

Name	Agency
Prity Patel	Chair
John Richards	Director Children's Services and Chair of Children's Trust
Jackie Day	Chair - Child Death Overview Panel
Mark Wheeler	Children's Social Care
Mel Collins	Learning & Skills
Andy Liggins	NHS Peterborough
Lesley Murphy / Nick Tzamaras	Peterborough Community Services
Simon Megicks / Mel Dales	Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Tim Bryson / Ben Brown	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust
Chris Wilkinson / Di Lynch	Peterborough Hospitals Trust
Margaret Lowe / Graham Cochrane	Cambridgeshire Probation Service
Issy Atkinson	CAFCASS
Venkat Reddy	NHS Peterborough
Julie Darkin	NHS Peterborough
Ted Welsh	NSPCC
Nikki Davis	Peterborough College of Adult Education
Tim Bishop	Adult Social Care
Wendy Coleman	Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service
Becky Morland	YOS
Lia Howlett / Elena Carpenter	Young-Lives
Georgie Billin	Secondary Schools
Cllr Holdich O.B.E	Lead Member, Education, Skills and University
Cllr Scott	Lead Member, Children's Services
Elaine Lewis / Marie Southgate	Legal Services Peterborough City Council
Jo Bramwell	PSCB Training and Development Manager
Judy Jones	PSCB Policy Officer
Kay Mayor	PSCB Administrator

Safeguarding Children and young people who may be affected by gang activity

The government have produced the above guidance. It is intended for frontline practitioners in voluntary and statutory services across the children's work force, whether in social care, crime prevention, the police, prisons, probation, health or education. It is designed to help understand the nature of risk that gang activity poses to children, how signs of gang involvement may manifest themselves and provide guidance on dealing with these issues.

Download from www.dcsf.gov.uk



Safer Parenting Guide Interactive CD

We have now received copies of our safer parenting guide on an interactive CD. This CD replicates the hard copy guide and is designed for use by professional's working with families. It could be of benefit to social workers, health visitors, staff working in family centres or other settings where families come in for advice. Although it is not designed for distribution to families directly if any of you feel that a family you are working with would make use of it please contact us for a copy. Copies are FREE.

Kay.mayor@peterborough.gov.uk judy.jones@peterborough.gov.uk

The Migration Parliamentary Group (MPG) 'myth busting' fact sheets

The Migration Parliamentary Group (MPG) has produced a series of concise 'myth busting' fact sheets designed to cover a range of issues that feature in the current debate on migration; employment/jobs and wages, skills, population, housing, public services and education/higher education. They aim to help deliver a more balanced and less emotive debate on the benefits of migration in advance of the forthcoming General Election

Migration:

http://www.connectpa.co.uk/downloads/mpg_mythbusting_factsheet1.pdf

Migrant contribution:

http://www.connectpa.co.uk/downloads/mpg_mythbusting_factsheet1.pdf

Housing:

http://www.connectpa.co.uk/downloads/mpg_mythbusting_factsheet_3.pdf

Health:

http://www.connectpa.co.uk/downloads/mpg_mythbusting_factsheet_4.pdf

Employment:

http://www.connectpa.co.uk/downloads/mpg_mythbusting_factsheet_5.pdf

Education:

http://www.connectpa.co.uk/downloads/mpg_mythbusting_factsheet_6.pdf

PSCB Training Courses

Your time is running out to try and book on to one of the PSCB training courses listed below, we do have a few spaces left on each of the courses but to avoid disappointment please send your booking forms to pscb.training@peterborough.gov.uk.

Please remember to make sure your manager had signed your application form

Course Date	Title	Group
25 th May 2010	Designated Safeguarding Officer Training	Group C
17 th June 2010	Your Role at a Child Protection Conference	Group B
29 th June 2010	An Introduction to Safeguarding Children	Group A

Please can I remind all delegates who are successful in securing a place on one of our courses of the importance of letting us know if you are unable to attend a course for any reason. Since January 2010, 34 delegates have failed to attend our courses and have not notified us in advance. The PSCB runs a strict cancellation policy and we require written/email notification at least 2 working days before the course date.

Failure to notify us will result in a cancellation charge of £100 for a day course and £65 for a half day course. This cancellation charges applies to **ALL** PSCB courses.

We have waiting lists for a majority of our courses so please let us know if you are unable to attend a course so that we can offer the space to someone else.

For more information on any of the courses please visit our website www.pscb.org.uk or contact Charlotte Lucas on 01733 863747

Children's Legal Centre

The Children's Legal Centre has launched an exciting and innovative new website: www.lawstuff.org.uk

The website provides a wide range of information to young people about their legal rights and the laws affecting them.



The website contains information on the rights of young people and the laws that affect all aspects of their lives – education, healthcare, discrimination, policing, age-based laws, leaving home and more. It also contains information for young people who are in care or leaving care and for migrant children.

The information on the website is presented in an accessible, interactive way, through questions and answers, a 'mythbusters' tool and case studies. The content, functionality and features of the website will be added to throughout the year, including through the addition of vodcasts.

Lawstuff was developed in recognition of the lack of legal information available that is specifically aimed at young people. The content and design of the website was informed by the views of a diverse group of young people, which the Centre gathered through a series of youth forums that were held across the country last year. Young people taking part in these forums gave us a lot of information about what they would want from a legal website and the legal issues that are relevant to their day to day lives.

Education Safeguarding Update

Following the increased Ofsted priority being given to safeguarding I have updated a number of our templates to incorporate the latest developments. These will be circulated to schools for their use or adaption as they wish. The new documents are

- Revised Model CP policy to include contact numbers
- Updated Annual Report to Governors – this now includes a request for some more statistical information and training details which will be useful for schools to have to hand to demonstrate to Ofsted your inter agency/partnership working and responsiveness to local issues. **Please remember to copy this annual report to me** as this rarely happens and we have a responsibility to monitor the level of education safeguarding activity. For this reason **we also ask to be copied in to referrals to Children's Social Care** but this does not always happen
- Revised concern form with a reminder about passing concerns to designated persons for collation and a suggestion to consider the need for a pre-CAF assessment

Can I also take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of passing on child protection records to new schools when children leave your setting? There have been a couple of incidents recently when the receiving school has not had a complete picture of past concerns which would have provided a useful context to later issues

I am in the process of delivering honour based violence training to school staff. Please contact me if you have a staff meeting when this could be included – the presentation is about half an hour and includes information about forced marriage and female genital mutilation. The Attendance Team are distributing FGM awareness posters and we have leaflets also available

The Department for Children, Schools and Families is currently carrying out a number of important consultations including:

- Revised Guidance on Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education;
- Controlled Activity Category in the Vetting and Barring Scheme;
- CRB Disclosures for Safeguarding Purposes on Workers already registered with the Independent Safeguarding Authority.

Full details can be accessed via the following link: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/>

Please have a look at the proposed changes which mostly centre around safe recruitment and implementation of the VBS and respond on an individual basis or forward to me any comments you wish to be included in a LA or safeguarding board response

Finally you will be aware of that the Attendance Service is to be incorporated into the Children in Need team and I will not be moving with them but am to take up an Education Officer Safeguarding role. The details of this are not as yet finalised but I will advise you when further information is available and look forward to continue to work with you on safeguarding related matters in the future

Jenny Parris
April 2010