

Workforce Development Bulletin

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November 2010

Children England

Charities working for children and families

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Editorial

Welcome to this month's edition with the lots of news on what's happening in the sector. Don't forget if you are one of the many social workers due to renew your registration over the next year, you will need to complete your renewal form. You can find more by

accessing the MyGSCC site at www.gsc.org.uk or contacting GSCC via their helpline on 0845 0700 630. You can also find out about GSCC's revised policies in light of the Department of Health's decision to transfer the functions of the GSCC to the Health Professions Council (HPC).

Hope you enjoy this month's bulletin!

Best wishes,
Audie

Children England

Membership

Children England provide a comprehensive information service, involve our members in government consultations, invite members to free events and also produce many useful free resources.

Other benefits include:

- i Opportunity for small organisations to apply a training bursary of up to £500 pa from our Amos Fund;
- i Nine regional groups that meet regularly and share information and knowledge on a local level to promote change in the sector within their locality;
- i Members can apply to our members only grant schemes; and
- i Free access to Community Care Inform.

For further information, please contact our Membership Officer, Natalie Ashwood: E: Natalie@childrenengland.org.uk

Meeting Room Available

Children England have meeting rooms available at discounted rates for members. If you're in London and need to use our meeting room or boardroom, please book via the website or call 020 7833 3319

Child Protection

Vetting and barring scheme review gets underway

Source: Children & Young People Now

The Vetting and Barring Scheme (VBS) is being reconsidered by the government.

The review of VBS, which sets criteria for people working with vulnerable children and adults, will judge the scope of a future scheme, the function of any relevant safeguarding bodies and how to raise awareness of risk and responsibility around safeguarding.

Final recommendations for the scheme will be announced early next year.

Find out more...

CWDC

Share Street

If you work with children or young people and their families, Share Street is for you. It's a community for sharing resources and discussing best practice in the workplace, for building networks and communicating with colleagues. You can make valuable contributions. Why not take the tour, by visiting <https://sharestreet.cwdcouncil.org.uk/>

Early Intervention & Prevention

Recruiting safely national training programme

This autumn sees the launch of a new face-to-face national training programme designed to equip anyone recruiting into the children's workforce with the necessary knowledge and skills to recruit staff and volunteers safely.

Find out more...

Early Years

Early Years Professional Status (EYPS)

EYPS is a professional accreditation for graduate early year's practitioners in England.

The Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) introduced the status in order to support the professional development of the childcare sector.

The Government aims to have an Early Years Professional in all early years' settings in England by the year 2015.

NDNA, along with The Open University, is the national provider of Early Years Professional Status.

All training is free and there is a bursary to support those on the Full-time Training Pathway. If you are working in a nursery then support is available to help with the cost of providing cover.

Closing date for applications is 30th November, for more details visit: www.ndna.org.uk

Funding

New financial reporting arrangements for charities to be drawn up

Source: Third Sector Online

The Accounting Standards Board will develop an accounting standard for public benefit entities, including charities, housing associations and educational establishments.

Find out more...

Big Lottery Fund to administer £100m Transition Fund

Source: Third Sector

Office for Civil Society to accept applications from 'vulnerable' organisations at the end of the month.

Find out more...

Compact talks on 'accountability measures' continue

Source: Third Sector

Compact Voice wants the government to appoint an ombudsman to investigate breaches of the agreement between the voluntary and public sectors.

Find out more...

Councils forced to foot bill for LSC staff redundancies

Source: Children & Young People Now

Around 700 LSC staff moved over to work in councils as part of the 16 to 19 transfer in April this year. The previous Labour government had agreed to provide councils with a grant to pay for these employees. But the coalition government has now cut the grant as part of wider reductions to public spending.

Find out more...

The Family Fund

The Family Fund helps families with severely disabled children and young people aged 17 and under to have choices and the opportunity to enjoy ordinary life. The Family Fund is now open for applications.

If you have previously been helped by the Family Fund, you can now apply for a grant on-line. www.familyfund.org.uk

Reaching Communities Fund

The BIG Lottery 'Reaching Communities Fund' is due to open for application in December.

Find out more...

The abolition of the Train to Gain

The abolition of the Train to Gain funding scheme as announced in the Comprehensive Spending review on the 20th October has been on the cards for sometime but there is no defined timetable at present.

The current academic year is well underway and it's possible that the Train to Gain programme will end in line with the next academic year which will be after the end of Proskills sector Compact, which ends at the end of June 2011.

Find out more...

Government funding to improve the care system and narrow the gap between children in care and their peers will be halved by 2014

Source: Children & Young People Now

Figures quoted in a letter from Communities Secretary Eric Pickles to local authority leaders reveals that by 2014/15 cash shared between councils under the Care Matters grant will have fallen to £28.2m.

Find out more...

News in Brief

New guidance on looked-after children

A new evidence-based guidance to promote the physical and emotional health and wellbeing of looked-after children - 'Promoting the quality of life of looked-after children and young people' - has been published.

Read the guidance on looked-after children.

Spending review analysis: Future unclear for children's social care

Source: Community Care

It is likely that councillors will be convinced of the need to avoid huge cuts in child protection.

However, children's services are already facing, on average, overspends of about 8% because more children are going into care. This equates to about 542 foster placements for teenagers in a council with an annual children's services budget of £170m.

Find out more...

Office for Civil Society misses Compact consultation deadline

Source: Third Sector Online

Promised new proposals on the agreement between the voluntary and public sectors fail to materialise before end of consultation period.

Find out more...

Revised guidance for those working with care leavers

Source: Children & Young People Now

Streamlined regulations for professionals working with care leavers, which will allow more flexibility for frontline staff to use their judgment when making decisions based on young people's needs, have been published.

Find out more...

Play

Government could save more by reinstating Playbuilder funding

Source: Children & Young People Now

The report conducted by Matrix Evidence and commissioned by Play England, examines the economic benefits of adventure playgrounds and other staffed play provision.

It concluded that from two outcomes of play provision for every £1 invested in adventure playgrounds, society gets £1.32 back in social benefits.

Find out more...

SkillsActive launches new UK Play and Playwork Education and Skills Strategy

The strategy is founded on the principle of Article 31 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, recognising play as fundamental to children's quality of life.

It will give particular emphasis on giving playwork the professional recognition and support it needs.

Find out more...

FAQ

SkillsActive have produced a FAQ for level 2 Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF).

Find out more...

Want to be a playwork trainer?

SkillsActive have put together a section for those wishing to become a playwork trainer.

Find out more...

Training

Measuring Your Social Impact

26 November 2010, 10.00-15.30

Venue: Woolwich Town Hall

This highly practical and affordable workshop will give you the tools and techniques as well as the know-how needed to understand how best to measure your social impact and prove your worth to funders and commissioners alike.

For more information please contact Monique on 020 7833 3319 or Monique@childrenengland.org.uk

Love Your Tender

29 November 2010, 10.00-15.30

Venue: CVA Resource Centre, West Croydon

This practical and affordable workshop will guide you step-by-step through the procurement process and help you address the key issues and potential pitfalls to make sure you are informed and prepared to successfully compete for local authority and other contracts.

For more information please contact Monique on 020 7833 3319 or Monique@childrenengland.org.uk

Measuring Your Social Impact

2 December 2010, 10.00-15.30

Venue: Voluntary Action Islington, Kings Cross

This highly practical and affordable workshop will give you the tools and techniques as well as the know-how needed to understand how best to measure your social impact and prove your worth to funders and commissioners alike.






For more information please contact Monique on 020 7833 3319 or Monique@childrenengland.org.uk

Progress

Progress, a NCVYS-led consortium project, providing subsidised training for the voluntary and community sector young people's workforce in England.

Progress seeks to deliver 25,000 accredited training opportunities to staff and volunteers working front-line with young people. Learners will be able select from a range of units at levels 2 and 3 which are accredited against the Qualifications and Credit Framework.

The units will match the following five training priorities:

-  Facilitating the learning and development of young people;
-  Safeguarding the health and welfare of young people;
-  Maintaining health and safety in the workplace;
-  Promoting access to information and support;
-  Promoting quality and the valuing of diversity.

For more information about the project contact Gethyn Williams, Director of Workforce Development, at: E: gethyn@ncvys.org.uk T: 020 7278 1041

Qualifications & Standards

Ofsted raises concerns over diplomas

Source: Children & Young People Now

The report, Diplomas: the second year, found that just a third of the first cohort of diploma students actually completed the qualification in two years.

The teaching of functional skills in maths, English and ICT was found to be "too variable", with 14-19 consortia doing too little to monitor learners' progress.

Find out more...

Ofsted report highlights key qualities of successful children's trusts

Source: Children & Young People Now

Local Children's Trusts can lead to "real change and improvement" for children and young people, an Ofsted report has found.

Find out more...




Resources

Child poverty toolkit

Growing up in poverty has a significant impact on children and young people both during their childhood and beyond. View this new sector-led toolkit which has been developed to help councils and their partners produce their Child Poverty Needs Assessment (CPNA).

Find out more...

Funding - some useful sources

-  The ESF website includes latest news on funding rounds.
 -  fit4funding has a range of resources to help you prepare for, apply for and manage funding.
 -  Finance Hub is a guide to funding and finance for third sector organisations.
-

Social Work

Early Professional Development for Social Workers

This is aimed at providing support and training for social workers in their second and third year of employment to improve practice and increase retention.

Find out more...

Newly Qualified Social Worker Pilot

This was a pilot programme of support and development for NQSW's employed in a relevant children and families context to improve practice and increase retention.

Both Cohort A and B registration windows are now closed with final NQSW numbers of 2012.

Find out more...

Social Work Remodelling Pilots

The aim of these was to improve management arrangements within social work to support improved multi-agency evidence based social work practice and enable social workers more time for direct front line work with children, young people and their families.

Overall, the 11 pilots are making good progress. Planning for the March learning sets is underway and work is progressing well on the evaluation reports which will be available in April.

Find out more...

Social workers on interim College of Social Work board named

Source: Community Care

Eleven registered social workers have been appointed to the interim board of the College of Social Work.

Find out more...

Events

Children England

Children England Annual Debate

2 December 2010, 14.00-16.30
Church House, Westminster

Will poor children lose essential services or will the Big Society step in? Will young people's education and employment prospects plummet, or will the pupil premium save the day? Hear the debate. Have your say.

For more information and to book your place please click here:
<http://www.childrenengland.org.uk/1358>

Speaking Out Conference – Under the Spotlight: Unlocking Community Potential

9 December 2010
Royal Horticultural Halls, London

This conference is a fantastic opportunity to share learning with an audience of up to 150 voluntary and community organisations, who are delivering services for children and young people. The programme includes Helen Stephenson from the Office for Civil Society, Fay Selvan from the Big Life Group and a lively panel debate.

For more information and to book your place please email
speakingout@ncvys.org.uk

Events

NQSW and EPD programme coordinator training

18 November 2010
CWDC, Leeds

Skills for Care Accolades

25 November 2010
London

[Click here for further information](#)

NQSW and EPD programme coordinator training

29 November 2010
CWDC c/o DfE, London

ASWP stakeholder engagement meeting

8 December 2010
Sanctuary Buildings, London

Building capacity by effective involvement of children and young people

2 December, 2010
London
6 December, 2010
Manchester
9 December, 2010
Birmingham

[Click here for further information](#)

NEEC 2010

6-8 December 2010
6-8 January 2011
York

[Find further information here](#)

Consultations

Department of Health: Healthy Start

Closing 31 December 2010

Cabinet Office: Supporting a Stronger Civil Society

Closing 6 January 2011 (25 November 2010 for question relating to national infrastructure)

Charity Commission: Strategic Review of the Commissions Future

Closing 14 January 2011

Arrangements for Placement of Children by Voluntary Organisations and Others (England) Regulations 2011

Closing Date: 24 January 2011

SDF Implementation Review / AFIYS Workforce Consultations event

You can continue inputting into the SDF review by visiting the autumn review webpage:

<http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/young-peoples-workforce/common-platform-of-skills-and-competences/sdf/autumnreview#content>.

You can also join the SDF discussion forum on CWDC Share Street via this link.

You can continue inputting into the AFIYS workforce consultations by visiting LLUK's consultation web page:

<http://www.lluk.org/4735.htm>

Both the SDF phase two document and the Apprenticeship Frameworks will be available from March 2011.

The Consultation exercise for the Social Work profession

The top-line findings from The College consultation exercise are now live and can be found here.

Help

Some of the titles may contain links – If a little 'hand' appears while you are hovering your mouse over an article, upcoming event, or consultation you can click on the link.

If you are having trouble accessing any of the links in this bulletin, you can try the following:

- Hold down the Ctrl key and then left click on your mouse
- Double-click on the mouse

If you forward the bulletin to other people or use information from it in your own publications, please make sure that Children England is credited. Children England's workforce development bulletin is produced monthly and is designed to keep you up to date with the latest news and information on workforce development issues and key areas of interest for the children, young people and families sector.

If you have any news and information you would like to share or feedback and suggestions, please e-mail Audie Muller: audie@childrenengland.org.uk.

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