

Safeguarding Children Information Update Live Consultations – Updated 5th January 2011

Supporting a Stronger Civil Society: An Office for Civil Society consultation on improving support for frontline civil society organizations (14/10/10)

The Government wishes to consult individuals and organisations about proposals for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of support and advice for frontline civil society Groups.

Closing Date: 6th January 2011

<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/426258/support-stronger-civil-society.pdf>

The NHS Constitution and Whistleblowing - A paper for consultation (12/10/10)

This consultation seeks views on proposals amending the NHS Constitution to:-

- Insert an expectation that NHS staff will raise concerns about safety, malpractice or wrong doing at work which may affect patients, the public, other staff or the organisation itself as early as possible;
- Insert a NHS pledge to support all staff in raising concerns about safety, malpractice or wrong doing at work, responding to and where necessary investigating the concerns raised; and
- Highlight in the NHS Constitution the existing staff legal right to raise concerns about safety, malpractice or other wrongdoing without suffering any detriment

Closing Date: 11th January 2010

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_120349

Munro Review (23/12/10)

Professor Munro is seeking the views of CP professionals on what needs to change and the best ways to reform the system.

The questions relate to:

- getting rid of the unnecessary bureaucracy that can obstruct those working with children, young people and families.
- the environment in which CP professionals operate, how performance is monitored and how they are held accountable.
- how professionals can provide early help and support for families quickly and efficiently, how to improve understanding of the capacity of universal services to support C&YP and families, and the principles that underpin a safe and effective contact and referral system.

Closing date: 17th January 2011.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/munroreview/>

<http://www.education.gov.uk/inthenews/inthenews/a0071229/professor-munro-wants-to-hear-from-child-protection-professionals>

Arrangements for Placement of Children by Voluntary Organisations and Others (England) Regulations 2011 (01/11/10)

This consultation is about consolidating and replacing old regulations about placement and case review of children other than looked after children, by various voluntary organisations or in children's homes.

The new regulations are required because previous regulations, which covered both looked after children and children who are not looked after, are being revoked or amended. We need to set out what arrangements apply to placement of children who are not looked after.

Closing Date: 24th January 2011

<http://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1738&external=no&menu=1>

Consultation on School Toilets: Best Practice Guidance for Primary and Secondary Schools in Wales (01/11/10)

This consultation document seeks views on the best practice guidance for Governing Bodies and Head Teachers on issues relating to the standards of toilets and related facilities required in schools in Wales.

This consultation sets out best practice guidance for school toilets in primary and secondary schools to help inform that audit process. It is aimed at LAs, school Governing Bodies and Head Teachers. It provides non-statutory guidance in respect of provision and management of toilet facilities for pupils in their schools.

Closing Date: 24th January 2011

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/consultations/education/schooltoilets/?lang=en>

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Consultation (22/11/10)

The Government is committed to raising children's achievement in reading, and has expressed the intention to establish a phonics screening check for children in Year 1. This will be a short, light-touch screening check designed to confirm that children have grasped the basics of phonic decoding and to identify those pupils who need extra help at an early stage, so that schools can provide support. The results of the screening check will provide valuable information to parents. This consultation seeks views on proposals around the purpose, structure and administration of the screening check.

Closing Date: 14th February 2011

<http://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1741&external=no&menu=1>

Proposals for the Reform of Legal Aid in England and Wales (15/11/10)

This consultation seeks views on proposals for reform of legal aid in England and Wales. The proposals represent a wide-ranging programme of reform which aims to ensure that legal aid is targeted to those who need it most, for those cases in which legal advice or representation is justified.

Every aspect of legal aid has been considered for reform, but items of specific interest include:

- Legal aid will still be provided where people face intervention from the state in their family affairs which may result in their children being taken into care, and cases involving domestic violence or forced marriage.
- Some types of cases will no longer routinely qualify for legal aid funding, including private family law cases e.g. divorce and child contact, where long-drawn out and acrimonious cases going through the courts can often have a negative impact on the well-being of any children and not necessarily achieve the most effective result. Funding for cases where domestic violence is involved will, however, continue to receive funding. And funding will also continue to be provided for mediation as a better alternative to family disputes going to court in most cases.

Closing Date: 14th February 2011

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/newsrelease151110b.htm>

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/consultations/legal-aid-reform-151110.htm>

Tackling Child Poverty and Improving Life Chances: Consulting on a New Approach(21/12/10)

The Govt want to hear from the public, private and voluntary sectors to find the creative solutions and capitalise on opportunities that can help communities and individuals ensure their children have the very best start in life.

Closing Date: 15th February 2011

<http://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1737&external=no&menu=1>

<http://www.education.gov.uk/inthenews/pressnotices/a0071184/government-sets-out-new-vision-for-ending-child-poverty>

Key Stage 2 Testing and Accountability Review - Call for Evidence (25/11/10)

The Secretary of State has commissioned Lord Bew to lead an external review which will look broadly at the testing and accountability system for primary schools. Lord Bew is keen to gain views from a wide variety of stakeholders in order to inform the review, and has launched this Call for Evidence.

Closing Date: 17th February 2011

<http://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1739&external=no&menu=1>

Breaking the cycle: effective punishment, rehabilitation and sentencing of offenders (07/12/10)

The Ministry of Justice Structural Reform Plan published in July 2010 set out a commitment to introduce a 'rehabilitation revolution' and conduct a review of sentencing policy. This consultation sets out the resulting proposals which aim to punish offenders, break the cycle of crime and protect the public.

Ch 5 describes how the MoJ proposes to:

- prevent more young people from offending and divert them from entering into a life of crime, including by simplifying out-of-court disposals;
- protect the public and ensure that more is done to make young offenders pay back to their victims and communities;
- ensure the effective use of sentencing for young offenders;

- incentivise local partners to reduce youth offending and re-offending using payment by results models; and
- develop more effective governance by abolishing the YJB and increasing freedoms and flexibilities for local areas.

Closing date: 4th March 2011

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/consultations/breaking-cycle-071210.htm>

Healthy Lives, Healthy People Consultation (30/11/10)

This White Paper outlines govt commitment to protect the population from serious health threats; help people live longer, healthier and more fulfilling lives; and improve the health of the poorest, fastest. The new approach will aim to build people's self-esteem, confidence and resilience right from infancy – with stronger support for early years.

Subject to Parliament, local govt and local communities will be at the heart of improving health and wellbeing for their populations and tackling inequalities. A new integrated public health service – Public Health England – will be created to ensure excellence, expertise and responsiveness, particularly on health protection, where a national response is vital.

Closing Date: 8th March 2011

http://consultations.dh.gov.uk/healthy-people/healthy-people/consult_view

Giving Green Paper - Consultation

The Giving Green Paper sets out the Government's initial ideas for building a stronger culture of giving time and money to start a national debate on our society's attitude to giving. This is not a conventional green paper. We want it to embody a collective approach to building culture change so it is written from a variety of perspectives. In addition to our own proposals and announcements, we have highlighted many ideas from outside of government. Taken together, the ideas and examples in this paper highlight the huge amount of innovative and creative activity going on across the country to stimulate social action.

As part of the green paper process, we asked a number of respected leaders and thinkers from a wide range of fields to share their thoughts on the subject of giving. The essays cover a wide range of topics from practical issues such as the role of venture philanthropy and how to make better use of technology, to more philosophical perspectives such as the role of giving in increasing well-being.

These essays are intended to be thought provoking and spark wider discussions about giving. All the essays are independent and express the views of the authors in their own words.

Closing Date: 9th March 2011

<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/giving-green-paper>

<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Giving-Green-Paper.pdf>

Liberating the NHS: Developing the Healthcare Workforce (20/12/10)

This consultation sets out proposals for a new workforce, education and training structure, which will allow for:

- Robust workforce planning to ensure sufficient numbers of appropriately skilled healthcare staff in the right areas;
- A flexible workforce that can respond to the needs of local demand;
- Continuous improvement in the quality of education and training of staff;
- Transparency across provider funding to ensure value for money and demonstrate the quality of education and training; and
- A diverse workforce that has access to fair education and training as well as opportunities to progress.

Local healthcare provider-led ‘skills networks’ will ensure effective planning and development of the local workforce by working in partnership with education providers, social care providers, LAs and the new Health and Well Being Boards.

‘Health Education England’ will also be set up as a statutory board to provide national oversight and support to Public Health England and healthcare providers on workforce planning and the commissioning of education and training.

Closing Date: 31st March 2011

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/MediaCentre/Pressreleases/DH_122965

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_122590

Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Transparency in outcomes - Proposals for a public health outcomes framework (20/12/10)

This consultation explores the proposals for a Public Health Outcomes Framework to complement the NHS Framework. The framework will set out how society, government and individuals share collective responsibility to improve and protect the health of the population.

Closing Date: 31st March 2011

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_122962

Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Consultation on the funding and commissioning routes for public health (21/12/10)

This consultation explores the proposed funding and commissioning routes for public health, including the ring-fenced budget provided to LAs.

Closing Date: 31st March 2011

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_122916

Measuring national well-being (25/11/10)

ONS is developing new measures of national well-being. The aim is that these new measures will cover the quality of life of people in the UK, environmental and sustainability issues, as well as the economic performance of the country.

To develop better measures of the nation’s well-being we want to consult with people, organisations and business across the UK as well as central and local government to ask what matters most in people lives and what is important for measuring the nation’s well-being.

Some of the aspects that we know affect national well-being include:

- Income and wealth
- Job satisfaction and economic security
- Ability to have a say on local and national issues
- Having good connections with friends and relatives
- Present and future conditions of the environment
- Crime
- Health
- Education and training
- Personal and cultural activities, including caring and volunteering

Closing date: 15th April 2011

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/about/consultations/measuring-national-well-being/index.html>