



Department
of Health

Children, Families and Maternity e-bulletin

November 2015
Edition 87

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Maternity

Government campaign to halve rate of stillbirths and infant deaths

On 13 November 2015, the Government announced an ambitious campaign to halve the national rates of maternal deaths, stillbirths and neonatal deaths and brain injuries in babies by 2030.

To help meet these aims Trusts will receive a share of over £4 million of government investment to improve outcomes for women and babies. This includes:

- a £2.24 million fund to help trusts buy monitoring or training equipment to improve safety;
- a £500,000 investment in developing a new system for staff to review and learn from every stillbirth and neonatal death; and
- over £1million investment to roll out training packages developed in agreement with expertise from the Royal College of Midwives and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, to make sure staff have the skills and confidence they need to deliver world-leading safe care.

Further information on the campaign is available by clicking [here](#)

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Healthy Child Programme (HCP) and Early Years

Information Sharing Matters e-learning

An e-learning resource to help break down communication barriers and support information sharing between early years and health professionals is available [here](#) on the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) website.

Developed by the RCPCH and 4 Children and funded by the Department of Health, the e-learning aims to improve knowledge and understanding of the benefits of sharing information effectively between families and a range of professionals including paediatricians, health visitors, GPs, therapists, childminders and pre-school and nursery teachers. It is designed to help build trust between professionals leading to better sharing of information and improved outcomes for young children and their families.

Updated Factsheet on ASQ-3 Data Collection for Health Visitors and IT teams

Since April 2015, health visitors have been using Ages & Stages questionnaires to collect data on 2 year olds at their Healthy Child Programme 2 – 2 ½ year review. This will feed into an indicator on child development within the Public Health Outcomes Framework.

DH has now updated its factsheet to include additional information about collecting and submitting ASQ-3 data. It can be found [here](#)

Institute of Health Visiting Factsheets on ASQ-3 for Professionals and Parents

The institute of Health Visiting has also recently published new factsheets on using ASQ-3, for professionals and parents.

They can be found [here](#) and [here](#)

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Child Health

First World Bedwetting Day

The first ever World Bedwetting Day was launched on 17 October. The aim of the day was to raise awareness of this common condition which affects an estimated 500,000 children and teenagers in the UK. It is hoped that as a result of this day of awareness more children, teenagers and parents will be encouraged to seek the help they need to manage bedwetting.

World Bedwetting Day is an initiative led by a working group of the International Children's Continence Society (ICCS) and the European Society of Paediatric Urology (ESPU). It was promoted in the UK by ERIC, the children's continence charity. From 2016 onwards it will be held annually in May.

For more information click [here](#)

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Vulnerable Children

All regulated professionals required to report FGM in under 18s from 31 October

From 31 October 2015 all regulated healthcare professionals will have a mandatory duty to report cases of female genital mutilation (FGM) in girls under 18 to the police. To make a report call 101, the police non-emergency number. You must make a report if a child you are treating either tells you that she has had FGM or has signs that appear to show she has had FGM.

Please click [here](#) to download a quick guide for professionals, and additional materials for staff and patients.

For further information click [here](#)

New duty to notify Home Office of victims of modern slavery

On 1 November, a provision in the Modern Slavery Act 2015 requiring public authorities to notify the Home Office when they encounter a potential victim of modern slavery came into force.

Doctors, GPs, nurses and other healthcare workers are encouraged to make a voluntary notification despite not being bound by the duty, in order to help build the picture of modern slavery in the UK.

For further information click [here](#)

Helping children to be safer, healthier and free of crime

This pathway provides guidance to school nurses and youth justice professionals working with young people who are in the youth justice system or at risk of being involved.

It sets out the rationale for effective partnership working and pulls together the core principles to help local areas develop their own local frameworks to support effective working.

For further information click [here](#)

Updated Guidance - Helping school nurses to tackle child sexual exploitation

The child sexual exploitation pathway document aims to consolidate best practice by:

- helping practitioners to recognise child sexual exploitation and to understand its effects on health and wellbeing

- summarising the evidence base, including the types of child sexual exploitation, its prevalence and consequences
- identifying the school nurse role at different levels of service and outlining a core offer from the school nursing service

For further information click [here](#)

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Children and Young People’s Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing

New Youth Mental Health hub launched on NHS Choices

On 22 October Alistair Burt MP marked six months from the publication of [Future in mind](#) by attending the King’s Fund’s [‘Improving mental health outcomes for children and young people’](#) event.

At the event he announced a new section on the NHS Choices website – the [Youth Mental Health Hub](#) – which aims to help young people find reliable information about symptoms, conditions, treatments and services available to them.

The Hub was designed with young people, and includes articles, videos and interactive content, as well as links to resources elsewhere on the internet.

National projects to reduce stigma and improving awareness - Largest ever campaign for teenagers and parents announced

Alistair Burt also announced at the King’s Fund that the Department will be working alongside and funding [Time to Change](#) on a social marketing campaign specifically targeted on the places where young people spend their time online.

This will take place alongside in-school activity to boost the support available there in partnership with Young Minds, and targeted marketing and information for parents.

New Prevalence Survey of Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing

At the King's Fund event, Alistair Burt also announced a consortium of NatCen and the Office for National Statistics has been selected to conduct the first national prevalence survey of children and young people's mental health since 2004.

The new survey will be wider in scope than in previous years – involving 9,500 children, parents, carers and teachers. For the first time, under 5s and older adolescents will be included in the survey. Work will start immediately with publication in 2018.

You can read Alistair's full speech at the King's Fund on gov.uk

Education Select Committee Inquiry into the Mental Health of Looked After Children

The Department of Health and Department for Education have prepared joint evidence for the Education Select Committee inquiry into the mental health and wellbeing of looked after children.

The inquiry will ask whether the joint [Department for Education and Department of Health](#) guidance on promoting the health and wellbeing of looked after children (March 2015) is sufficient to ensure that mental health and wellbeing are prioritised for children in care and care leavers.

The Committee will publish the evidence by midday Thursday 29th October [here](#)

Local Transformation Plans for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing

The 16th October was the deadline for Clinical Commissioning Groups to submit their transformation plans for children and young people's mental health. The plans are intended to describe how the national ambition to improve services for children and young people will be delivered locally. For 2015-16, NHS England, supported by Public Health England conducting a bespoke assurance process of the plans and will provide support to those areas who need it.

More information on the local transformation plans is available [here](#)

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Conferences and Events

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Sources of Information

Unless otherwise stated, guidance referred to in the bulletin has not been commissioned or endorsed by the Department of Health - it is evidence that organisations and professionals may find helpful in improving practice. The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence is the Department's provider of accredited evidence and guidance, which can be found on the Institute's website at www.nice.org.uk

Department of Health Publications

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- 1) Title
- 2) Text up to 100 words with main message to start, followed by relevant key messages
- 3) Web link/s to relevant web page/s - **please ensure the links work**
- 4) Main contact point/source

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