



Department
of Health

Children, Families and Maternity e-bulletin

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New Ministerial Team at the Department of Health

Following the General Election there have been changes to the Ministerial Team at the Department. Details of Ministers and their responsibilities are available on the Department's website click [here](#) and scroll down the page.

Alistair Burt has responsibility for mental health, Jane Ellison has responsibility for children's health, and Ben Gummer has responsibility for maternity care.

Maternity

New Maternal Mental Health Spring e-Bulletin

The Maternal Mental Health Alliance - *Everyone's Business* Campaign has just published their new spring e-bulletin featuring perinatal mental health news, see to the bulletin please click [here](#).

For further campaign details click [here](#) contact and for further information click [here](#)

NHS Choice Framework Update and Easy-Read Leaflets

At the end of March the Department of Health published an updated version of the NHS Choice Framework for 2015-16. The framework sets out a patients' rights to choice across the health system, where they can find information to help them choose and how to complain if they are not offered choice. Section 5 of the document covers the choices that are offered in maternity services.

In addition, the Department published an easy-read version of the framework which consisted of eight leaflets. Leaflet five corresponds with section 5 of the main document and focusses on maternity services. The primary audience for the leaflets is people with learning difficulties. However, these leaflets will be beneficial for individuals who wish to use them for other reasons, including out of personal preference.

The framework and easy-read leaflets are available [here](#).

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Healthy Child Programme (HCP) and Early Years

ASQ-3 Questionnaires

From April 2015 health visiting teams should have started using the ASQ-3 questionnaire as part of Healthy Child Programme health and development reviews at age 2-2½. CD-ROMs with British English ASQ materials were distributed to local health visiting leads in March of this year. Further information on using ASQ-3, including data collection, is included in this [factsheet](#)

E-learning to support health visiting teams using ASQ-3 can be found [here](#)

Integrated Review

From September 2015, local areas are expected to integrate health and early education reviews for 2 year olds. The Early Years Foundation Stage Progress Check at age two (delivered by early years practitioners in a child's early years setting) will be integrated with the Healthy Child Programme health and development review at age 2-2½ (delivered by health visiting teams), to offer a more complete picture of the child, support service planning and improve outcomes.

Support materials for health and early years practitioners are available [here](#) and [here](#)

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Child Health

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Vulnerable Children

FGM Information Pack for GPs

An FGM Information Pack for GPs has been launched, containing information and materials to protect girls and care for women with FGM. The pack has been sent to every General Practice in England and contains key documents on risk assessment, patient information leaflets, data collection guidance and an awareness raising DVD

Bookings are now open for 11 FREE regional roadshows aimed at school nurses and health visitors. The events will refresh attendees understanding of FGM, covering Government guidance and legislation, identification of risk factors and signposting to specific support. Contact fgm@dh.gsi.gov.uk for booking details as places are limited

Working Together to Safeguard Children and related documents

On 26 March, the Department for Education published a suite of documents, including revised inter-agency statutory guidance, *Working Together to Safeguard Children*, as follows:

- revised *Working Together to Safeguard Children* – click [here](#)
- new *What to do if you're worried a child is being abused: Advice for practitioners* – click [here](#)
- new *Information Sharing: Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers* – click [here](#)
- revised *Keeping Children Safe in Education* guidance – click [here](#)

Tackling child sexual exploitation (CSE)

[DN: check this and the following item with Catherine Davies/ Amy Nicholas]

The Home Office published *Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation* on 3 March. This report sets out how the Government is dealing with CSE and responding to the failures that were identified by Professor Alexis Jay and Louise Casey in their recent

reviews into CSE in Rotherham. It includes a comprehensive and targeted set of actions for all parts of the system. To access the report, click [here](#)

Combating Child Sexual Exploitation – E-Learning Tool

The Child Sexual Exploitation e-learning resource has been developed to help health services staff understand and help children/young people who are at risk or who may be affected by child sexual exploitation. The online learning tool, developed by Brook and funded by the Department of Health, will help healthcare staff in preventing, identifying and responding to child sexual exploitation.

Sexually exploited young people will often continue to use health services after contact with other services has stopped. This provides an opportunity for all frontline healthcare staff, whether receptionists, ambulance staff or clinical professionals, to build trust and provide support to ensure children are heard and get the help they need.

For more information click [here](#)

A Call to End Violence against Women and Girls

This progress report (published March 2015) summarises government activity since 2010, building on the annual action plans and setting out our achievements.

During that time, we have:

- introduced legislation to criminalise forced marriage in England and Wales
- rolled out the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (Clare’s Law) and Domestic Violence Protection Orders nationally
- introduced new stalking legislation
- brought in provisions to criminalise ‘revenge pornography’ and possession of depictions of rape
- created a new offence of domestic abuse to capture coercive and controlling behaviour

For more information [here](#)

Sexual violence against children and vulnerable people

On 12 March, the Home Office issued *Sexual Violence against Children and Vulnerable People National Group: Progress Report and Action Plan 2015*. This report describes the steps taken to address sexual violence against children and vulnerable people since July 2013, when the National Group’s last progress report and action plan was published, and sets out the current and future direction of this work. To read the report, click [here](#)

Promoting the health and well-being of looked-after children

The Department of Health and the Department for Education published revised joint statutory guidance on 17 March on *Promoting the health and well-being of looked-after children*. To access the guidance, click [here](#) To read the Government response to the consultation on the draft guidance, click [here](#)

Looked after children Intercollegiate Framework

On 31 March, the Royal Colleges of General Practitioners, of Nursing and of Paediatrics and Child Health issued their updated Intercollegiate Framework, *Looked after children: Knowledge, skills and competences of healthcare staff*. To access this on the RCPCH website, click [here](#)

Support for care leavers – NAO study

In March, the National Audit Office commenced a value for money study about the effectiveness of support for young people leaving local authority care, following the 2013 cross-Government Care Leaver Strategy and its one-year-on progress report. NAO expects to publish its report in July. For information on the study, click [here](#)

Children's attachment – NICE consultation

On 1 June, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence launched a consultation on a draft clinical guideline on children's attachment. The consultation will close on 13 July. To access documents relating to the draft guideline, click [here](#)

Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation

This report sets out how the government is dealing with child sexual exploitation and responding to the failures that were identified by Professor Alexis Jay and Louise Casey in their recent reviews into child sexual exploitation in Rotherham.

The report includes a comprehensive and targeted set of actions for all parts of the system including healthcare, social care, education, law enforcement and criminal justice agencies.

Combined, these will:

- strengthen accountability and leadership in professions and local government
- address the culture of inaction and denial that led to victims being dismissed and ignored

- improve joint working and information sharing so that agencies intervene early
- strengthen the protection of children who are at risk
- reinforce law enforcement efforts to stop offenders
- provide greater support for victims and survivors

For more information click [here](#)

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III Children and Children with Disabilities

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Children and Young People's Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Transformation Plans: interim guidance

A [letter giving interim guidance and signaling a major service transformation programme](#) to develop and commission CAMHS across agencies and across the pathway, in line with the proposals put forward in Future in Mind, was issued by NHS England to CCGs and regional teams on 26 May.

The letter outlines information to support joint planning prior to the development of a full guidance and assurance process.

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Conferences and Events

UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative Conference 2015

The 2015 UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative conference takes place 18-19 November, Harrogate. Europe's largest conference on infant feeding, it offers innovative and challenging presentations from internationally-recognised speakers, on a range of issues associated with supporting breastfeeding and infant development.

This year's speakers include:

- Robin Grille, psychologist and author "Parenting for a peaceful world"
- Christy Jo Hendricks, founder of Birthing, Bonding and Breastfeeding
- Zoe Brownlea, Clinical Psychologist, Sheffield
- Mary Renfrew, Professor of Mother and Infant Health, University of Dundee
- Helen Crawley, First Steps Nutrition
- Hollie McNish, UK poet

To book click [here](#)

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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

As part of our commitment to reducing costs, the email address used to order Department of Health publications (dh@prolog.uk.com) is now closed.

Orders for publications can still be placed through the online shop - www.orderline.dh.gov.uk - which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, or the Publications order line (0300 123 1002; Minicom 0300 123 1003), which is open from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday. You can also check the availability of Department of Health publications, or the status of existing orders, through the online shop. If you do not have access to the Internet, then please call the publications order line.

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Do you have a news item or an event you wish to publicise in the next edition of the e-bulletin? If so, please send your copy to cfmbulletincontributions@dh.gsi.gov.uk by 5pm on 13 April. Your copy should be in the following format:

- 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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