

PCT Children's Network Bulletin



Issue 5 | January 2008

About this bulletin

It will bring you news, updates on policy and guidance, tell you about conferences and training events, share good practice and give you an opportunity to ask or answer questions posed by network members.

It will also direct you to other bulletins available to you. You can express your views on issues facing PCTs and contribute to debates relating to children's services.

- **In this issue:** PCT Children's Network Meeting, NHS Operating Framework

News.....News.....News.....News.....News.....News.....

8th Meeting of the Primary Care Trust Children's Network

Feeling Good Inside? Improving the emotional and mental health and well-being of children and young people **14th February 2008**

The latest PCT Children's Network meeting will provide an invaluable opportunity to learn about the latest developments with regard to provision of services across all 4 tiers for improving children and young people's emotional and mental health and well-being. Also, latest research on nutrition and emotional and mental health. This is alongside opportunities to have a dialogue with PCT and other colleagues working with and for children and young people as well as getting your voice heard within Government about policy and practice issues that affect you the most.

There are still limited places available for this meeting. For more details, programme or to book a place, email lzachary@ncb.org.uk

NCB launches the Health Challenge

Six schools in Kent, three primary and three secondary, are piloting an innovative Health Challenge programme.

The Health Challenge asks children, young people, teachers, school staff and parents to identify one challenge they would like to work towards to improve their health and well-being, from one of three challenge areas: healthy eating, feeling good inside and physical activity. They will try and stick to their challenge for four weeks.

The programme is commissioned by The Food Standards Agency (FSA) and run by NCB in partnership with the Kent Healthy Schools Programme. It aims to support children, young people, their families and the wider community, to initiate and maintain healthier lifestyle changes.

For further information visit

http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_4121er_20937213518434f70t_2008111200p

or contact Jo Butcher at jbutcher@ncb.org.uk

Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives: a Cross-Government Strategy for England,

This strategy is the first stage of the Government's response to the Foresight report "Tackling Obesity: Future Choices" and it sets out a clear vision of the role of individuals and families, the private sector, society and Government in tackling obesity.

The strategy will focus on five areas: healthy children, promoting healthier food choices, building physical activity into our daily lives, creating incentives for better health and personalised information and care for people already overweight or obese.

You can download the Strategy and order hard copies from www.dh.gov.uk/obesity

The NHS Operating Framework for 2008/9 – Children and Young People in the spotlight for the first time!

The NHS Operating Framework sets out the priorities for the NHS in 2008/09, and for the first time identifies children & young people as a national priority. It describes how PCTs, working with local authorities and other partners, will need to consider how their local plans (including the local Children and Young Person Plan) focus on:

- Ill-health prevention and on promoting good health
- Helping people to live healthier lives, and to take more control of their own health
- Ensuring that health inequalities are reduced

It identifies areas where PCTs will need to take action in 2008/09 including:

- Improving children's and young people's physical and mental health and wellbeing; and
- Improving access as part of the wider Maternity Matters Strategy to deliver safe, high-quality care for all women, their partners and babies.

Also, for the first time disabled children have been included as one of four local priority groups for service improvement and PCTs should begin identifying actions and setting local targets on improving the experience of, and range of services for, children with disabilities and complex health needs and their families, including:

- Increasing the range and number of short breaks
- Improving the quality and experience of palliative care services
- Improving access to therapies
- Supporting effective transition to adult services

Further details can be found at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_081094

CAMHS Review

A major review of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, sponsored by Department of Health and Department for Children Schools and Families, is now underway. It will:

- Take stock of progress to date and identify how mainstream and universal services could play a more effective role in promoting the emotional well-being and mental health of children, young people and their families – including looking at the training of staff
- Identify practical solutions to current barriers in the delivery of integrated care pathways at a service delivery and strategic level
- Advise on key gaps in the delivery strategy to support the CAMHS elements of the Child Health and Well-being PSA
- Develop priority actions for national, regional and local stakeholders in delivering the proposed vision of emotional health and well-being
- Clarify the performance management arrangements necessary to support delivery including the development of robust local and national outcome indicators

Please direct any enquiries to Geoff Dent on 020 7972 4716 or Geoff.Dent@dh.gsi.gov.uk

Better support for emotional well-being in schools – 25 pilot areas announced

Kevin Brennan, Minister for Young People, has announced the 25 local authorities that will begin the Targeted Mental Health in Schools project. Each local authority and corresponding Primary Care Trusts will work with between three and six secondary schools, as well as their feeder or associated primary schools, to deliver better support for those children who are at risk or are already experiencing mental health problems.

The successful local authorities are; Luton, Norfolk, Suffolk, Leicester City, Lincolnshire, Hackney, Merton, Southwark, Gateshead, Northumberland, Sunderland, Blackburn & Darwen, Blackpool, Bury, Brighton & Hove, Kent, Reading, Leeds, North East Lincolnshire, Coventry, Shropshire, Wolverhampton, Gloucestershire, Swindon, Cornwall.

For more information visit: http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2008_0016

Paediatric Physiotherapy good practice

Paediatric Physiotherapy, part of Tower Hamlets PCT, is currently running a four-month project, looking at the efficacy of a respiratory "rapid response" service in the Tower Hamlets community. This project aims to prove that with a community chest physiotherapy service, the number of acute respiratory admissions and length of stay can be reduced for children at risk of respiratory difficulties. This will improve the level of care for the child, encourage cross team communications, and assist in future service developments.

An audit has been completed to identify the 20 children who would most benefit from community chest physiotherapy treatment and assessment. These children will be continuously assessed and treated from December 2007 to April 2008. A repeat audit will then be completed to see if the number, and length, of acute admissions has reduced.

For further information please contact Elly Hares, Senior Physiotherapist at Mile End Hospital, on 0208 223 8874 or 07966067378.

Transforming Short Breaks for Families with Disabled Children

Education and Care Services Ministers, Andrew Adonis and Ivan Lewis, have announced the list of 21 local areas that will launch the first wave of a £370m investment in short break services for disabled children, that will extend to all of England from 2009.

In the first year the majority of funding will be allocated to the 21 pathfinder areas with all other local authorities receiving an average of £50,000 to help them prepare to transform their short break services from 2009. Subject to adequate preparations all local authorities will then receive a share of £76m revenue and £33m capital in 2009-10 and £178m revenue and £52m capital in 2010-11.

For further information, visit:

<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/files/PathFinderslaunchinfoforwebsite.doc>

New Child Health and Well-being Board

The new Child Health and Well-being Board (CH&WB) has been set up to oversee all Department of Health (DH) and Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF) programmes which will deliver the new Child Health and Well-being Public Service Agreement and implement the Children and Maternity National Service Framework (NSF). It is jointly chaired by DH and DCSF and made up of Government and external representatives such as PCTs, SHAs and Directors of Social Services.

To support and advise the Board, a Child Health Advisory Group made up of external stakeholders will be established. The CH&WB is a new and challenging opportunity to ensure that together, DH and DCSF – and through them our stakeholders - can make the Government's vision for child health a reality. We will bring you updates as work progresses.

Please direct any enquiries to Alison Beadie, at 020 7972 4615 or e-mail MB-Childrens-NSF@dh.gsi.gov.uk

New British Heart Foundation Campaign to Tackle Childhood Obesity

The British Heart Foundation (BHF) has launched Food4Thought, a new campaign that aims to help today's children think about the food they're eating.

To launch the campaign, BHF released the results of a poll of 500 young people. The survey found that 82% of them do not think of crisps as anything special and more than half do not consider crisps a treat.

BHF says that marketing junk food at children undermines what "normal" food is and wants the government to ban all junk food advertisements before the 9pm watershed as a prerequisite to any effective future strategy to tackle childhood obesity.

The campaign will include resources for teachers, adverts on children's websites and a website for children: bhf.org.uk/food4thought

For more information visit:

http://www.bhf.org.uk/news_and_campaigning/press_office/latest_news_views/food4thought.aspx

Cookery classes in school to be compulsory

From 2011 cookery classes for 11 to 14 year olds will be compulsory for the first time ever. The measures are part of the government's strategy to cut obesity.

The public are being asked to suggest healthy versions of classic dishes that young people can cook and email them to: getcooking.consultation@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk

For further details visit: http://www.dfes.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2008_0015

Mental Health Act 2007

Starting on 1st January 2008, 16 and 17 year olds can refuse to be informally admitted to hospital for mental health treatment, even if their parents are willing to consent. This change is brought in by section 43 of the Mental Health Act 2007 which amends section 131 of the Mental Health Act 1983 (see Mental Health Act 2007 (Commencement No.3) Order 2007).

This also means that where a young person aged 16 or 17, who has the capacity to make a decision on their health care, consents to being admitted to hospital for treatment for mental disorder, they should be treated as an informal patient even if a person with parental responsibility is refusing consent.

For more information visit:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Bulletins/theweek/DH_078749

New NICE guidance about physical environment

The National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) has issued new guidance on promoting and creating built or natural environments that encourage and support physical activity.

The guidance highlights that environmental factors need to be tackled in order for people to be more active in their every day lives.

For more information visit:

<http://www.nice.org.uk/media/A13/B5/2008004PhysicalActivityAndEnvironmentAPPJan08.pdf>

Towards a framework for post-registration nursing careers: a national consultation

Closing date: 15 February 2008

This consultation sets out options for a new careers framework for post registration nursing. It fulfills a commitment in Modernising Nursing Careers: setting the direction (2006) to align nursing careers with the NHS Careers Framework and develop new career paths for nursing.

It proposes a framework built around patient care pathways and seeks responses from as many people as possible before any further work is done.

Further information can be found at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/idcplg?IdcService=SS_GET_PAGE&siteId=en&ssTargetNodeId=660&ssDocName=DH_079911

A New Information Service for Fathers

The DAD information service is designed to help early years Children's services provide a service that is fully inclusive of fathers, in line with legal and policy obligations to engage with them, such as the Childcare Act, Equality Act and the recent Children's Plan.

Information and resources include:

- DAD cards: these are credit card sized fold out cards for family services to give to fathers. They contain positive evidence-based messages about fatherhood. All linked to the Every Child Matters Outcomes
- www.dad.info: is a website for fathers that provides a library of facts and information from a father's point of view. The website goes live on 1 March.
- Fathers can register for free emails about their children's development as they grow up. The emails are produced in association with Mumsnet.

For further information please contact: duncan@dad.info

Innovations Matter: Examples of Support Workers in Maternity

This document, published by Care Services Improvement Partnership, details the types of roles in Maternity Services. It aims to share learning from a range of maternity care settings to help ensure that services have the optimum skill mix in place. Current working examples, with contacts, are referenced in the document.

It demonstrates how workforce development initiatives can support service development particularly to support workforce capacity. Developments are also matched to current policy priority areas e.g. breastfeeding, teenage pregnancy.

For further information about CSIP Children and Young People and Families programme please contact Janis Stout at CSIP: janis.stout@dh.gsi.gov.uk

New factsheet aids the provision of confidential sexual health advice in schools

The Sex Education Forum (SEF) has launched its new factsheet *Confidentiality: Promoting young people's sexual health and well-being in secondary school*. Designed to support senior managers and practitioners working with pupils in secondary school to understand how to improve pupils' access to confidential sexual health services, the factsheet also explores how to establish an appropriate level of confidentiality within sex and relationship education in the classroom and in one-to-one situations.

A pdf version of this factsheet is available to download free of charge from the Sex Education Forum's website: http://www.ncb.org.uk/dotpdf/open_access_2/sef_ff_38.pdf. If you have any enquiries regarding the Forum, please contact the information service on 020 7843 1901

Supporting Young People In Further Education To Achieve Better Sexual Health

The Sex Education Forum and DCSF are hosting a series of half-day regional events to support the implementation of the guidance 'Improving Access to Sexual Health Services for Young People in Further Education Settings'.

These events are an opportunity to hear local good practice in supporting young people in further education to achieve better sexual health and to meet health and education professionals. They will be of particular relevance to student services managers, senior FE managers, teenage pregnancy coordinators and sexual health leads and commissioners.

The events are being held in:

24 January 2008, York
1 February 2008, Birmingham
12 February 2008, Manchester
28 February 2008, Exeter
5 March 2008, London

These events are free. For more information or to book a place please email ptaylor@ncb.org.uk or telephone (020) 7843 6041.

Caught in the Cross Fire: Adult Issues Putting Children & Young People at Risk

Tuesday 11 March 2008, Leicester

This is the third national safeguarding conference and will be chaired by Dr Sheila Shribman, National Clinical Director for Children, Young People and Maternity Services. It will include plenary sessions and seminars on the following topics:

- Fabricated and Induced Illness
- Child Death Review Teams and Sudden Unexplained Child Death
- Specialist Sexual Assault Centres and Children and Young People
- Parental Mental Health
- Drugs and Substance Misuse
- Domestic Violence
- Contemporary Legal Issues
- Violent Families

The conference will address key areas of innovative work currently of high priority and aims to share information about national developments in policy and the research and evidence base, and then to consider the opportunities and challenges for their implementation locally.

The event is free of charge and bookings must be made by Friday 8th February 2008. Please Contact Denise Snow for further information: 0117 9841850, denise.snow@dh.gsi.gov.uk

Keeping Disabled Children Safe

7 February 2008, York

This new, one-day training course will enable participants to recognise key vulnerability factors and to identify strategies and ways of working to better protect disabled children and young people, so that they can achieve the "Staying Safe" outcome envisaged for all children.

For further information visit:

http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_5536bd_45486526696999t79t_20061013724b

Safeguarding Children Conference

28th March 2008, University of Plymouth

Delegates will hear from speakers from the safeguarding children on subject areas including:

- Analysis of serious case reviews 2003 – 2005
- Domestic Violence
- Risk Management
- Current perspectives on Department of Health priorities for safeguarding children

Booking forms can be obtained by contacting Kay Thornton k.Thornton@plymouth.ac.uk

The Family Partnership Model: Achieving Effective Outcomes through Partnership

10 March, London

This conference will give delegates a chance to learn about the ways in which the Family Partnership Model training programme is being used across health, education, voluntary sector and multi-agency initiatives in the UK and internationally.

Speakers will describe the latest developments in the approach and its influence on practice, including and working with families, supervision and service design with a shared ethos.

For further details visit: www.cpcs.org.uk or e-mail: Soni.Mutschelknauss@iop.kci.as.uk

Young People's Health → Taking Action

6 February, London

This conference is the launch of the Association for Young People's Health (AYPH). A new charity and membership organisation for professionals and organisations working in the field of young people's health.

The conference will be chaired by Baroness Massey of Darwen with Sir Al Aynsley-Green as a keynote speaker.

For more information contact Jane Schofield at: jane@youngpeopleshealth.org.uk

Continuing Care for Children and Young People – Consultation Events

30 January, London

8 February, Cheltenham

On behalf of DCSF and DH, The Council for Disabled Children are running two consultation events to support the implementation of Aiming High for Disabled Children. The Core offer is at the heart of AHDC and provides the basis for statutory sector organisations and families working together. This is a real opportunity to influence the final document, which is due for publication in April/May.

If you require any further information please contact Emma Rodwell at: erodwell@ncb.org.uk

Review of PCT Children's Network

There will soon be a review of the PCT Network. It will include a short on-line questionnaire for members to complete giving your views of the network and the way forward for the future. Further information will be available in the bulletin and on the website shortly.

Examples of Outcome Based Commissioning wanted

We are looking for examples of outcome based commissioning, where PCTs can share how specific services for children and young people have been commissioned differently following an outcomes model and where improved outcomes have been measured as a result. We would like to pass on examples of good practice to the Department of Health.

If you are able to help, please contact: pctnetwork@ncb.org.uk

Feedback.....Feedback.....Feedback.....Feedback.....Feedback...

Let us know your experiences

- What is going well and what is not going so well in your PCT in terms of promoting and improving children and young people's health and well-being?

We may be able to help with what is not going well and publicise the good practice you tell us about. Email us at pctnetwork@ncb.org.uk

PCT Network Meetings

What topics or issues would you like future meetings to focus on?

Email us at pctnetwork@ncb.org.uk

February's bulletin

Send us your views on:

- CAMHs – What will the review bring?
- Consultation – how can PCTs develop service user involvement?

Comments, queries, contributions and views can be sent to: pctnetwork@ncb.org.uk