British Association for the Study and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

8th Congress

“Keeping Children Safe in an Uncertain World: Learning from Evidence and Practice”

Programme and Abstract Book

15th – 18th April 2012
Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK
**BASPCAN** was established to help to protect children from significant harm or risk of such harm, by providing support and information to professionals whose work involves them in the prevention, detection and treatment of child abuse and neglect. It is a unique multi-disciplinary organisation which brings together personnel from all agencies who work in the field of child protection. We have an interested, enthusiastic and knowledgeable membership which includes social workers, medical and nursing personnel, lawyers, police officers, psychologists, psychiatrists, therapists, teachers, researchers, academics and policy-makers.

**BASPCAN** achieves this by:

- Organising Study days, Seminars and Conferences throughout the UK
- Holding a tri-ennial National Congress
- Supporting the BASPCAN Regional Branch Network
- Encouraging multi-disciplinary collaboration
- Publishing a regular newsletter, ‘BASPCAN News’
- Providing responses to Government, Inquiries, Consultations, the media and others on issues relating to child maltreatment
- Publishing, with Wiley Blackwell, the official journal of the Association, ‘Child Abuse Review’
- A Research Award Programme for BASPCAN members undertaking or completing small scale research projects on child protection

**BASPCAN** works with a wide range of people to ensure our services are delivered in a professional and cost-effective way:

- Our members, individually and through our Branch network
- Our staff and trustees: the commitment of the board of trustees and our staff enables us to expand and develop the organisation and deliver high quality services
- Government officials in the four nations
- Academics and researchers
- Organisations working in the private, statutory and voluntary sector
- Media
- International partners

**BASPCAN** regularly updates its website with all current activities

[www.baspcan.org.uk](http://www.baspcan.org.uk)

**BASPCAN** is a charitable organisation (Registered Charity No. 279119) which derives its income solely from membership subscriptions and conference activities.
Welcome to Congress 2012

Dear Delegate,

Welcome to Belfast and to BASPCAN’s 2012 triennial Congress. Nearly 700 delegates from 28 countries will be attending along with you over the next four days. We hope that you will find your time with us interesting, challenging and enjoyable and that you embrace the opportunities offered to increase your knowledge and skills, to reflect on your practice and to get support from other child protection colleagues through sharing experiences and networking.

BASPCAN has held a triennial Congress since 1991, and this, our 8th, again provides an opportunity for delegates from across the UK, Ireland and internationally, to share the latest findings from research and to debate how families may be supported and children kept safe. We hope that you will take this opportunity to join in the debates and discussion with fellow delegates.

Determined efforts have been made to ensure Congress is as accessible and affordable as possible and considers the needs of all children. The result is that delegates who are meeting here in Belfast reflect the professional diversity and broad range of organisations that are all committed to children’s welfare. The attendance of a large number of delegates from outside the UK and Ireland also provides an international flavour to Congress which we are sure will bring fresh perspectives to our discussions. Colleagues from economically emerging countries are particularly welcomed and we are grateful to members of the Association’s regional branches and also a number of individuals who have raised sufficient funds to help support their attendance.

We know that the current global economic situation places greater strain on individual families, and the resources available to organisations in responding. More, now than ever, we need to consider how children’s needs can be met both effectively and efficiently. Congress provides an important opportunity for professionals to consider and challenge current thinking and perspectives. As well as ten keynote presentations there will be 14 symposia, 48 workshops and 169 free paper presentations plus 28 interactive poster presentations to choose from. On behalf of the National Executive Committee of BASPCAN I would like to thank each of the presenters for giving their time to share their important work.

The following pages outline the key events being held throughout Congress and provide details of speakers, the times and location of sessions as well as listings for social events.

We hope that you find your time here at Congress fulfilling and that you will, in the spirit of Congress, both contribute to and benefit from the wealth of events available.

John Devaney
Congress Convenor
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Disclaimer

The information in this Abstract Book is correct as it goes to press but with so many speakers attending and for reasons beyond our control, amendments may need to be made during Congress. We therefore reserve the right to change, cancel or alter any parts of the programme should this be necessary. Notification of amendments and changes will be available at the Registration Desk in Peter Froggatt Centre. All changes will also be notified by Twitter as and when they happen so if you are not currently signed up to Twitter it may be something you wish to consider doing. You would also then continue to receive information about BASPCAN in the future. Please follow us on twitter at @BASPCAN and use the hashtag #BASPCAN during Congress to connect with other delegates and to share your experience.

This Abstract Book has been produced from electronic files supplied by the authors. The abstracts have been formatted but not edited for content. Every effort has been made to reproduce faithfully the abstracts as submitted, however no responsibility is assumed for any injury and/or damage to persons or property as a matter of product liability, negligence or otherwise from any use or operation of any method, products, instruments or ideas contained in the material herein.

We need to remind delegates that the cancellation policy advised in the Booking Programme and on the BASPCAN website applies. (After 20 March 2012 onwards full amount is payable should a cancellation be made). In the event that Congress needs to be abandoned or curtailed for any reason, BASPCAN will not be responsible in whole or part for any losses incurred as a result of this action. Delegates had been advised to make appropriate arrangements for insurance to cover any potential losses.
GUIDE TO THE ABSTRACT BOOK

The information contained within this Abstract Book is designed to assist delegates in enjoying Congress 2012 and getting the most out of the substantial scientific programme on offer. We suggest that you read this information carefully as it should help you to get the best personal value out of the Congress.

To enable you to organise your days at the Congress we have provided a ‘programme-at-a-glance’ on the outside back cover of this Abstract Book and a map of the buildings that will be used during the Congress on the inside back cover. Layouts of floor plans are also towards the back of this Abstract Book. A list of presenters showing the location of their presentation and their email contact if appropriate is also here, as well as a schedule of session venues, times and locations.

Please note that the information in the Abstract Book is correct as it goes to press, but with so many speakers attending and for reasons beyond our control, amendments may need to be made during Congress. You should consult the notice-boards in the Congress Reception area (Peter Froggatt Centre) at the beginning of, and during, each day.

The Abstract Book is presented in sections that are colour-coded on the page header as follows:

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<tr>
<td>Yellow section</td>
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<td>Green section</td>
<td>Wednesday's abstracts</td>
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The pages of each day have the colour-coded header and contain details of the abstracts and indicate the sessions to which they have been allocated (e.g. Free Paper 1), number, venue, start time of each session.

The types of sessions are coded as follows:

P = Plenary (Keynote Speakers)
S = Symposia
W = Workshop
FP = Free Paper
FORMATS OF CONGRESS PRESENTATIONS

The Congress has a very full and varied programme. While the keynote presentations will take place in plenary sessions held in the Sir William Whitla Hall, throughout Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday there will be parallel sessions when you will have the opportunity to choose between one of up to fifteen different presentations occurring at the same time. Please take time to study the second half of this abstract book which contains the information about the content of each presentation and its location. Most presentations will take place in the Peter Froggatt Centre (PFC) but a small number of presentations will take place in other rooms in the Lanyon Building. If you are unsure about the specific location of a room then please ask at the Delegate Desk or any of the student volunteers (wearing green BASPCAN t-shirts).

Symposia
A symposium is a session lasting 90 minutes that includes between three and six papers that address a common theme. Each symposium is organised by a convenor and there may also be an additional discussant. We encourage delegates to attend the whole of the symposium and to participate in the discussion. However, if you join a session late, please try to do so at the end of a speaker’s presentation, not during, and enter and leave rooms with the minimum of disruption.

Workshops
Workshop sessions last for 60 minutes. A workshop is a session involving interactive learning and the dissemination of training and/or skills, rather than an extended lecture. Please note that in some instances, workshops are scheduled in a 90 minute parallel session; in such cases delegates are encouraged to attend free paper sessions for the remaining 30 minutes of the session if they wish. Please note that we ask those joining free paper sessions to do so respectfully, waiting until a speaker has finished before joining where possible.

Free paper sessions
Free papers are grouped together in a chaired session. Each oral presentation in a free paper session will last 20 minutes (15 minutes for the presentation and 5 minutes for discussion and questions). If you wish to switch between free paper sessions, please try to do so at the end of a speaker’s presentation, not during, and enter and leave rooms with the minimum of disruption.

Interactive poster presentations
Posters will be on display in the Sir William Whitla Hall throughout Congress. These will become Interactive Presentations during the refreshment break on Tuesday morning (10.00-10.45), when each poster will be presented by the author. This will give delegates the opportunity to walk around the posters and engage with the presenter in finding out more about the work or initiative the poster portrays and raise questions or comments. Please make sure you find time to examine the Posters and note the above presentation time.
Thanks

Without the support, energy and the limitless spirit of goodwill of the Association’s officers, committee members and staff it would not have been possible to ensure that this 8th Congress has been as accessible and successful as previous events.

For delegates attending Congress this will be four action packed days within your busy working schedule, but for those behind the scenes it has not been just weeks or months but literally years in the planning. We started our preparations as soon as the 2009 Congress in Swansea had finished and now we are actively considering the venue for our next Congress in 2015.

We extend our thanks to all those involved in this year’s event and especially to those members of the Congress Committee, Scientific Committee, Local Organising Committee and the Association’s National Executive Committee who have supported its development. Many of the members of these committees are employed by agencies which in a variety of ways have supported their involvement with the Association and directly assisted with the planning and organisation of Congress 2012. As a result the Association extends its thanks to all agencies who have released staff to work on Congress, with particular thanks to CDC Ltd Woodford Green, NHS Portsmouth, NHS Isle of Wight, University of Central Lancashire, Worcestershire LSCB, and Dundee City Council.

Thanks are also gratefully extended to all our speakers for the time and commitment they have given to allow BASPCAN to offer such a diverse and stimulating programme at our Congress.

BASPCAN does not have the benefit of a full time Congress organiser, so I need to particularly thank the Association’s National Office staff - Judy Sanderson, National Office Manager and Maureen Gordon, Administrative Officer, who has in turn been supported by part time helper Jackie Jackets. The office staff have worked tirelessly and conscientiously to ensure that this event provides both members and non-members with a unique opportunity to further the aims of the Association and ultimately to support families and protect children.

For this Congress we decided to commission a dedicated person to deal with the arduous task of planning the Scientific Programme. Helen Richardson Foster has worked closely with the Chair of the Scientific Committee, Nicky Stanley, to ensure that the meticulous attention to detail necessary for the Programme and Abstract Book was in place. Both Nicky and I wish to extend our most sincere thanks to Helen on behalf of the Scientific Committee.

Organising the Congress has been made easier by the way in which Queen’s University Belfast has assisted in ensuring the venue meets the needs of our delegates and we are grateful to them and especially to Angela Haley, Events and Conference Manager for Eventus.

The Congress could not have been in place without the unfailing support of many departments and individuals within Queen’s University Belfast and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved. A particular thank you must go to those involved with supporting staff at the University to undertake the organisation of the event, particularly Professor Mike Tomlinson and the Senior Management Board within the School of Sociology, Social Policy & Social Work. During Congress you will also meet a number of social work and nursing students who are volunteering their time to assist with the practicalities of such a large event – please do take a moment to talk to them as they begin their professional careers!

We all also need to extend our particular thanks to local BASPCAN members in and around Northern Ireland whose knowledge and on-the-scene help has proved invaluable.

We are very grateful for the assistance of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety NI and the Health and Social Care Board NI, who have encouraged and supported their staff to attend Congress.
Congress Information

We are indebted to Belfast City Council who have made the City Hall available to us for our Congress Gala Dinner and also sponsored a Drinks Reception at the event.

The publishers of our internationally recognised journal, ‘Child Abuse Review’, have again offered support by sponsoring the Wiley Blackwell Drinks Reception on Monday evening, for which we are extremely grateful.

The logistics of this Congress has been aided greatly by having the support of Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau, who have assisted with many aspects of local organisation and taken the whole task of supplying accommodation suggestions and bookings away from us. I particularly need to thank Sarah Gribben, Conference Sales Manager and Deirdre O’Neill, Conference Sales Coordinator.

On a personal note I would like to thank Professor Nicky Stanley and Dr David Hayes, who chaired the Scientific and Local Organising Committees respectively, for their hard work and constant support.

Lastly, I make no apologies for thanking our delegates and their agencies for ensuring they are able to have the time and funding to be part of such an important international event. Without them Congress would not be possible.

John Devaney
Congress Convenor
Welcome to Belfast!

Welcome to Belfast, a city where the splendor of its heritage combines with the dynamic promise of its future and the genuine friendliness of its people to create an unforgettable experience for every visitor.

Belfast is a city which will surprise, delight and entertain. It is a city where you will find a past that still breathes; in squares, avenues and streets of magnificent Victorian and Edwardian architecture; in atmospheric old pubs and markets; in the humour and stories of its people and in the miles of docks and crane-lined quays where the magic that created the world’s famous ship, Titanic, still lingers.

In recent years, Belfast has undergone a metamorphosis with unprecedented investment in tourism infrastructure resulting in a city where you can find first-class hotels, state-of-the-art conference centres and the highest standards and range of choice of restaurants, pubs and clubs.

Belfast is one of the easiest and most comfortable cities in the world to get around and unwind in, so near the country you can be walking deserted beaches or mountain ranges an hour’s drive from its centre. It’s a city where the warmth of its people is not a cliché, but a welcoming truth, a city which boasts some of the greatest sporting heroes of all times such as George Best, Alex Higgins, Eddie Irvine and Danny Blanchflower and a city which has become a dynamic shopping destination in its own right with major high street brands and retail outlets interspersed with intimate local boutiques.

Belfast City........ Be part of it!

Titanic Belfast – Launching April 2012
CONGRESS INFORMATION

Registration and Delegate Desk

The Delegate Desk is located in the foyer of the Peter Froggatt Centre and will be staffed during the times listed below for registration and should you require any advice or assistance during Congress.

**Sunday 15th April**
09.30 – 10.30   International Delegate Registration
12.00 – 19.15   All Registrations and Delegate Enquiries

**Monday 16th April**
08.30 – 19.00   All Registrations and Delegate Enquiries

**Tuesday 17th April**
08.30 – 18.00   All Registrations and Delegate Enquiries

**Wednesday 18th April**
08.30 – 13.30   All Registrations and Delegate Enquiries

Badges

All delegates need to be aware that to comply with University security arrangements and to access all sessions and catering facilities, it is mandatory to wear the delegate badge supplied in your registration pack at all times. Losses should be reported to the Delegate Desk in the Peter Froggatt Centre.

In the interests of conserving resources, delegates are requested to please hand their badge in at the Registration and Delegate Desk when leaving Congress.

Catering on Campus

Coffee and tea service will be available at the following times, served in both the South Dining Hall and Sir William Whitla Hall.

**Sunday**
Refreshments will be available in the South Dining Hall from 12 noon for those registering for Congress.

**Monday**
Morning Refreshments – 10.00am – 10.30am
Afternoon Refreshments – 3.30pm – 4.00pm

**Tuesday**
Morning Refreshments – 10.00am – 10.45am
Afternoon Refreshments – 3.15pm – 3.45pm

**Wednesday**
Morning Refreshments – 10.30am – 11.00am

*Lunch will be served in The Space and Relish in the Student’s Union*
Monday from 1.00pm – 2.00pm
Tuesday from 1.15pm – 2.15pm

Badges for the relevant day MUST be worn to access the refreshments and lunch areas.
Congress Information

For those wishing to purchase refreshments outside these times or wishing to purchase lunch on Sunday or Wednesday, a number of catering establishments on and around Queen’s University Campus will be open as below. The Sunday opening times are limited, however there are lots of retail food premises in the Botanic and Stranmillis areas all within 5-10 minutes walk of the University.

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<th>Sunday 15th April</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cafe Krem PFC</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Open 9.00am-5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cafe Hope</td>
<td>Open 10.30am-4.30pm</td>
<td>Open 8.00am-8.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clements @ Students Union</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Open 8.30am-8.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kylemore &amp; Students Union</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Open 10.30am-4.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deanes at Queen’s</td>
<td>Open 1.00pm-4.00pm</td>
<td>Open 12.00noon-10.00pm</td>
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Parking
There is on street parking available in the area around the University, or in pay and display car parks located off Botanic Avenue (beside the University).

Speaker’s and Presenter’s Preparation Area
A room within the Peter Froggatt Centre (First floor room number PFC1/024) has been set aside for the duration of Congress to be an area where speakers and presenters can check and prepare their material.

Continuing Professional Development

CPD points are awarded at 1 point per hour of training. These are self-certifying and a CPD Certificate of Attendance is in each pack. Please be aware that relevant professional bodies sometimes contact the provider to ascertain an individual’s attendance at events.

Evaluation Forms
In each Delegate Pack there is an Evaluation Form (white A4 booklet). To assist with our planning of the next Congress (April 2015) we ask all delegates to complete this and return to Registration, the Delegate Desk, the BASPCAN Stand or by posting to the BASPCAN National Office. All Evaluation Forms will be entered into a prize draw to receive Amazon gift vouchers.

Wifi and Internet Access
Wifi access was by pre-order (closing date for requests 30th March 2012) and codes will be issued at the Delegate Desk in the Peter Froggatt Centre. A charge of £3 is payable to cover this service. The code issued will also give access to the personal computer terminals available in the Peter Froggatt Centre Foyer adjacent to the Registration area and in other parts of the University.
Programme Updates
Programme updates and changes will be shown on a noticeboard in the Peter Froggatt Foyer area adjacent to the Registration Desk. Please follow us on twitter at @BASPCAN to receive updates prior to, during and after Congress. Please use the hashtag #BASPCAN during Congress to connect with other delegates and to share your experience.

Delegates Message Board
A Noticeboard will be in the Peter Froggatt Centre Foyer area where messages or mail for delegates will be left. Updates regarding the programme will also be shown here.

Luggage
A secure room has been allocated throughout Congress for delegates to leave luggage. This is PFC 1/005 (Peter Froggatt Centre, First Floor).

Security and Emergency Procedures
The University security service is committed to ensuring a safe and secure environment for all persons working, studying and visiting the University campus. Security staff are on duty across the University 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In an emergency where there is an imminent and serious danger to people or property, then the appropriate emergency services will be notified by Conference personnel. University security staff are located in the security control centre in the Administration building. The control centre also houses the monitoring equipment for campus wide C.C.T.V as well as fire and intruder alarm monitoring equipment.

Personal Belongings
Delegates must be responsible for their own personal belongings at all times. All items are left in any areas on campus at the owner's risk.

First Aid
All security and porterage staff at the University are trained in basic first aid. The staff in the Registration area at Peter Froggatt Centre will also be able to offer assistance by contacting the appropriate emergency services.

Banking Facilities
There are a number of banks located on University Road which runs along the front of the university. These banks have cash ATMs and facilities for currency exchange. Banking hours in the UK are typically 9.30am – 4.30pm.

Places of Worship
For full information on the location of churches and places of worship in Belfast please see the website page - [http://www.baspcan.org.uk/congress-general-info.php](http://www.baspcan.org.uk/congress-general-info.php)
INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES AT CONGRESS

We are delighted that around 130 delegates from 24 countries outside the UK are joining us at Congress. A pre-conference programme has been organised for International delegates on Sunday morning, including a guided tour of Belfast and a networking lunch. There will also be presentations of an overview of the UK Child Protection Systems and advice on how to get the most out of Congress. It is hoped that networking opportunities will enable these delegates to share their own experiences and promote and disseminate future best practice with colleagues when they return home.

BASPCAN are indebted to those branches and individuals who have contributed to the sponsorship fund that was set up to afford the opportunity to make a presentation at Congress to individuals from economically emerging countries who otherwise would have not had the means to attend. Our grateful thanks are extended to our branches - All Wales, Berkshire, London, Northern Ireland, Scottish, South West, Wessex, West Midlands; and to those individuals who responded to our request for sponsorship funds – Professor Brigid Daniel, a BASPCAN member who wishes to remain anonymous, Professor Jenny Pearce, Prospera Tedam and ‘an Australian member’.

There will be a dedicated room available during Congress where our International delegates can network, collaborate or just relax for a few moments! Room PFC1/010 (Peter Froggatt Centre, First Floor) will be available throughout the duration of Congress. It will be clearly signposted and refreshments will be available.

SITE VISITS

Delegates will have the opportunity to visit a number of statutory and voluntary child welfare agencies during Congress. Site visits will be offered on Monday 16th April between 10.30am and 1pm (alongside parallel sessions 1 and 2) and Tuesday 17th April between 10.45am and 1.15pm (alongside parallel sessions 5 and 6). The details of specific site visits will be made available at Congress.

Each site visit will accommodate a maximum of 10 delegates and places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Delegates should sign-up for site visits at the registration desk located in the foyer of the Peter Froggatt Centre by 6pm on Sunday 15th April for visits occurring on the Monday and by 6.30pm on Monday 16th April for visits occurring on the Tuesday.

Delegates who have signed-up for a site visit should gather at the Registration Desk in the Peter Froggatt Centre at either 10.30am on Monday 16th April or 10.45am on Tuesday 17th April. They will be met there by a representative of the agency who will accompany them to the site visit. Delegates will be returned to Congress in time for lunch on both days.
SOCIAL EVENTS

SUNDAY 15TH APRIL 2012
Welcome Drinks Reception 6.00pm – 7.30pm
The Great Hall, Lanyon Building

The Sunday evening Welcome Drinks Reception will be held in The Great Hall, Lanyon Building shortly after the final keynote presentation of the day. Complimentary wine and soft drinks will be available. Everyone has been invited to attend (ticket only – pre-ordered and within your Delegate Envelope) and a ‘welcome’ address will be given by Professor Sir Peter J Gregson, President and Vice-Chancellor of Queen’s University. Classical background music by The Bradys.

The Great Hall had a £2.5 million sympathetic refurbishment restoring the original design features as the architect Sir Charles Lanyon had planned 150 years ago. It was then officially opened by HRH Prince Charles in 2002. One of the prestigious events held here was a banquet to honour former US President Bill Clinton.

MONDAY 16TH APRIL 2012
‘Child Abuse Review’ Drinks Reception 6.30pm – 7.30pm
The Great Hall, Lanyon Building

Wiley Blackwell, the publishers of ‘Child Abuse Review’, BASPCAN’s professional journal, are hosting a drinks reception on Monday at the close of plenary sessions. This is your chance to meet the publishers and members of the Editorial Team. This reception also provides an opportunity to say an official ‘goodbye’ to Professor Nicky Stanley who is the outgoing co-editor of Child Abuse Review and to welcome Dr Peter Sidebotham, the incoming co-editor who took up post in June 2011. This event is sponsored by Wiley Blackwell and without cost to delegates however it will be by ticket only (pre-ordered and within your Delegate Envelope), which will be required to be produced on arrival. Classical background music by Gareth Stitt (flautist).

MONDAY 16TH APRIL 2012
Traditional Live Music Evening 9.00pm – 11.00pm
Madison’s Basement Bar, Madison’s Hotel, Botanic Avenue, Belfast BT7 1JL

This ticket only event has been organised for visitors to Northern Ireland to enable them to enjoy live traditional music. The Bradys are world renowned and will introduce delegates to the delights of traditional Irish music. Priority of allocation of tickets has been given to visitors to Northern Ireland as capacity at the venue is limited. However, if there is still space available we are happy to issue further tickets to ‘locals’. Please enquire at the Delegate Desk in the Peter Froggatt Centre. A bar is available at the venue.
SOCIAL EVENTS

TUESDAY 17TH APRIL 2012
Tour of Belfast City Hall 6.30pm - 7.00pm and 7.00pm - 7.30pm
Belfast City Hall, Donegall Square, Belfast BT1

Delegates were given opportunity to join an organised tour of the City Hall. The tours will commence at 6.30 pm and 7.00 pm and will last approximately 30 minutes. The tour is strictly ticket only and all tickets were pre-booked and included in your Delegate Envelope. Each tour needs to run strictly to time so please look at the timing on your ticket (6.30 pm or 7.00 pm) and be prompt! If your timing is unsuitable it may be possible to ‘swap’ with a fellow delegate – please enquire at the Delegate Desk.

Belfast City Hall is in the centre of Belfast and easily accessible. In 1888, Queen Victoria gave Belfast the title of City and it was generally agreed that a City Hall was needed to reflect this change in status. The first stone was laid in 1898 and building work was completed eight years later. In total, Belfast City Hall cost less than £500,000 to build. Belfast City Hall opened its doors on 1st August 1906 during a great time of prosperity for the city. For those of you who are interested in finding out more details of the architecture and history of the building, this can be accessed on the Belfast City Council website [www.belfastcity.gov.uk](http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk).

TUESDAY 17TH APRIL 2012
Congress Gala Drinks Reception 7.15pm – 8.15pm
Belfast City Hall, Donegall Square, Belfast BT1

The Gala Drinks Reception with drinks served to background music will provide an opportunity for delegates to mingle in the magnificent ambience of the prestigious Belfast City Hall. We are grateful to Belfast City Council who have sponsored this Reception to welcome Congress delegates to the City. This has meant we are able to make attendance at the Drinks Reception without cost – it is however by ticket only which will be in your Delegate Envelope. Classical background music will be by Gareth Stitt (flautist).

TUESDAY 17TH APRIL 2012
Congress Gala Dinner 8.15pm for 8.30pm
Belfast City Hall, Donegall Square, Belfast BT1

The Congress Gala Dinner will commence at 8.30pm with guests to be seated by 8.15pm. It follows immediately after the Congress Gala Drinks Reception however both events stand alone and are ticket only (in your Delegate Envelope). The cost of the Gala Dinner (part sponsored by BASPCAN) is £40 and it will be a five course meal with after-dinner entertainment. The Deputy Lord Mayor of Belfast, Alderman Ruth Patterson, will be in attendance to welcome delegates.

We are indebted to Belfast City Council for their generosity in providing the City Hall as the venue for the Gala Dinner.
FAMILY INVOLVEMENT IN SERIOUS CASE REVIEWS, SIGNIFICANT CASE REVIEWS AND CASE MANAGEMENT REVIEWS

BASPCAN will be launching during Congress the findings from a significant new research project commissioned and funded by the Association. Effective facilitation of family participation in Serious Case Reviews (England & Wales), Case Management Reviews (Northern Ireland) and Significant Case Reviews (Scotland), has been seen as an indication of performance by statutory and regulatory bodies across the four nations. This aspect of the work undertaken within a review is often seen as being complex and difficult to successfully achieve by those involved. However, and perhaps as a result, relatively little is currently known about the experience of the families/others involved in such processes, differing local arrangements and the components of good practice in this challenging area of work. This study addresses some of the learning needs arising from the expectations of participation and in so doing, also seeks to ensure harmful policies and practices are avoided. Specifically the research addresses the following questions:

- What are the current protocols and procedures for family participation as set out by Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) and their equivalents?
- What are the experiences of families who have participated in such reviews and what learning can be drawn from these experiences?
- What are the professional experiences of family involvement?
- What conclusions can be drawn for guiding effective practice?

The research team which undertook this study consists of Kate Morris (University of Nottingham); Marian Brandon (University of East Anglia) and Paul Tudor (Safeguarding Advisor and Independent SCR Chair). The report from the study will disseminate the findings of the research and provide practice guidance in respect of this sensitive work. In addition BASPCAN will seek to use the findings to inform policy and practice, and for the report to become essential reading for those working in this field. A presentation entitled *Family Involvement in Reviews: Learning for Policy and Practice* is to be held during Congress at 5.30pm on Monday 16th April in Workshop 19 and the key messages for policy makers will be launched at this event.
EUROPEAN NETWORK

Following on from an initial meeting at the European ISPCAN Congress in Tampere, Finland in September 2011, a further meeting is to be held at this Congress to discuss the formation of a European Regional Forum for members of ISPCAN and member associations in Europe. We would like to invite any participants at Congress interested in the development of such a Forum to join a meeting between 1.15pm-2.15pm on Tuesday 17th April in Room 2/025 in the Peter Froggatt Centre. Jonathan Picken (British Association for the Study and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect) Jenny Gray (International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect) and Raisa Lounamaa (Nordic Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect) will be hosting the meeting and look forward to seeing many of you there. Please notify the Delegate Desk if you intend to join the meeting so that lunch can be provided.

CONGRESS 2015

Venue: Scotland    Date: April 2015

Despite being kept very busy with this, our 8th Congress, we are also beginning planning for our 9th Congress, which is to be held in Scotland in 2015.

We are keen to establish a local reference group made up of members of our Scottish Branch, partners/stakeholders and interested individuals.

Those of you who will be joining us in Belfast are invited to voice your views on themes the event should embrace and how we can ensure that the Congress reflects the best academic initiatives and promotes innovative practice being developed accross Scotland.

The programme of events in Belfast has not made much time available but we would like to meet with other colleagues from Scotland when a suitable time can be arranged.

If you are interested could you advise of this at the Delegate Desk in the registration area of the Peter Froggatt Centre when you are in Belfast and we hope to arrange a brief meeting. If you are unable to attend this meeting but still wish to have a view or be part of the team planning Congress 2015 we are still interested in recording your contact details.

ACTION FOR CHILDREN – ARTiculation Buddies

The Buddies programme is an opportunity for Action for Children young people to work together to help devise and perform a piece of drama around an issue important to them. Working with partners at HQ Arts the Buddies perform this piece of drama to politicians and other key decision makers and conferences and seminars across the country. In the past the Buddies have performed at the 20th anniversary of the UNCRC, Action for Children’s 140th birthday celebrations and CROA’s national conference, amongst others.

We are pleased to announce that ARTiculation Buddies are giving two performances of their piece entitled ‘Operation Deep Freeze’ during Congress. These will be held in the Sir William Whitla Hall as part of the Parallel Sessions on Monday 17th April at 5.30pm and Tuesday 18th April at 12.15pm and all delegates are invited to attend. The performance will last around 30 minutes so there would be opportunity to join another parallel session after the performance. This year’s Buddy group consists of 9 young people from across the UK who will be performing a piece around the theme of ‘My Future’ and this looks at the situation where young people fit in society and what they can aspire to.

There will be an opportunity to leave feedback after both performances.

www.actionforchildren.org.uk
THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN 365 INTERNATIONAL POSTER EXHIBITION

The “Violence against Women 365 International Poster Exhibition” is a public awareness and educational tool designed to highlight the global issue of violence against women and children. While it primarily focuses on the issues of Domestic Violence, Rape and Sexual Assault, it also includes related issues such as Teen Dating Violence, Date Rape, Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault, Prostitution, Sex Trafficking, Elder Abuse, Child Abuse and the practice of Female Genital Mutilation.

The concept behind the exhibition is simply:- there are 365 days in the year but during every day of the year, every hour in the day, every minute of the hour and every second of the minute, somewhere in this world, Women and Children– irrespective of race, colour or religion – are being subjected to violence, abuse, neglect or rape.

The Exhibition has appeared in 12 countries to date and is to take place in St. Petersburg in Russia in November 2012.

The aim is through the use of posters from around the world representative of each day of the year, the power and impact of each poster allows the message to get across that all forms of violence against Women and Children is totally unacceptable. The format of the exhibition focuses on the issues through specific categories such as:-

- The Extent of the problem;
- Gender Roles;
- Campaigns aimed at Men;
- Safety versus Blame;
- Campaigns aimed at Women;
- Effects on Children;
- Shock Value;
- Communities Responding.

The posters will be on display throughout Congress in the foyer of the Sir William Whitla Hall.
ABOUT BASPCAN

BASPCAN is a membership association open to all with an interest in, or working in, the field of child protection. Members are drawn from social work, medicine, psychology, psychiatry, nursing, legal and law enforcement agencies, probation, education and academic fields, as well as related welfare and voluntary groups throughout the world. A prime objective of the Association is to provide high quality and up to date training for our members in a variety of ways. National and Regional Study Days, Conferences, Seminars and Discussions are held throughout the year as well as a Congress which is held every three years. Members enjoy a substantial discount at all BASPCAN events. ‘BASPCAN News’, the Association’s newsletter, is sent to all members four times per year. Members are invited to contribute to this in the form of ideas, exchange of views and information, correspondence etc.

Please visit the BASPCAN stand for further information about the Association.

BASPCAN 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

In 2011 BASPCAN celebrated a significant milestone as the Association’s 30th Annual General Meeting was held. A display showing some memorable and critical events during BASPCAN’s history will be showcased at the BASPCAN stand.

BASPCAN COMMITTEES AND PERSONNEL

Management Committee

Catherine Powell
David L Spicer
John Devaney
George Livingstone
Nicky Stanley
Jonathan Picken
Jean Price
Judy Bizley
Chair
Vice Chair
Congress 2012 Convenor and Chair Elect
Honorary Treasurer
Congress 2012 Scientific Committee Chair
Head of Partnerships
Honorary Secretary
Conference Committee Chair

National Executive Committee and Conference Committee

John Geden
David Hayes
Monica King
Nigel King
Donald MacKenzie
Gill Probert
Daphne Rose

National Office Staff

Judy Sanderson
Maureen Gordon
Jackie Jackets
National Office Manager
Administrative Officer
Administrative Assistant
Congress Information

CONGRESS 2012 COMMITTEES AND PERSONNEL

Congress 2012 Local Organising Committee
David Hayes (Chair) Patricia McNeilly
John Devaney (Convenor) Philomena Morrow
Emma Campbell John Pinkerton
Joe Duffy Martin Quinn
Jackie Gaskin Colin Reid
Veronica Gray Nigel Spiers
Anne Marks Lesley Walker

Congress 2012 Scientific Committee and Abstract Reviewers
Nicky Stanley (Chair) Anne Lazenbatt
Helen Richardson-Foster Margaret Lynch
(Scientific Programme Administrator) Judith Masson
John Devaney (Convenor) Carolina Overlien
Jane Appleton Jenny Pearce
William Baginsky Jonathan Picken
Helen Buckley Jean Price
Brigid Daniel Daphne Rose
Brigid Featherstone Peter Sidebotham
John Fox Helga Sneddon
Judith Harwin David Hayes Julie Taylor
David Hayes Cathy Humphreys Adam Zolotor
CHILD ABUSE REVIEW

Child Abuse Review, the official Journal of the Association, gives members access to the latest research findings, practice developments, training initiatives, policy issues and resource reviews. The journal was established in 1985 as an inhouse publication for BASPCAN members only. However, in 1991 BASPCAN entered into an agreement with the publishers Wileys to make the journal more widely available, and the journal has grown in reputation since, increasing from four issues a year in 1991, to five issues in 1995, and is now published bi-monthly, with six issues per full year volume. In 2011 Child Abuse Review was awarded an impact factor of 1.463, recognising it as one of the most highly influential peer reviewed child welfare journals internationally.

Co-edited by Jane Appleton and Peter Sidebotham, Child Abuse Review covers all forms of child maltreatment: emotional, physical and sexual abuse and neglect. The journal attracts contributions and readership from the full range of disciplines engaged in child welfare and protection from across the world. Its distinctive feature is its appeal to both the research and practice communities and is unique in providing a space where practitioners and researchers from a range of disciplines come together to exchange information and share knowledge and ideas. Guest edited Special Issues focus on a particular topic and are called for each year. Themed issues emerge from grouping submitted papers. Child Abuse Review is sent to all members, and is also available online including back issues, as part of the membership entitlement.

Special Virtual Issue for Congress

Wiley Blackwell have produced a special ‘Virtual Issue’ of Child Abuse Review for delegates attending Congress. This is entitled ‘Keeping Children Safe in an Uncertain World’ and is available to download free of charge until 31st December 2012.

This can be accessed by going online to: [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/)(ISSN)10990852/homepage/baspcan_virtual_issue.html

Cut and paste or type the link above into your browser. Everyone is welcome to visit the site and pass the link on to other interested parties.

The Virtual Issue contains a sample of the range of quality papers available in the journal, and recognises the breadth of issues addressed by authors from around the world:

**Working to Ensure Safety, Belonging and Success for Unaccompanied Asylum-seeking Children** Ravi K.S. Kohli

**Obstacles for child participation in care and protection cases – why Norwegian social workers find it difficult** Svein Arild Vis, Amy Holtan and Nigel Thomas

**Investing to protect our children: Using economics to derive an evidence-based strategy** Leonie Segal and Kim Dalziel

**The UNCRC and Social Workers’ Relationships with Young Children** Karen Winter

**Researching Sexual Revictimisation: Associated Ethical and Methodological Issues, and Possible Solutions** Nadia Wager

**A Public Health Approach to Safeguarding in the 21st Century** Jane Barlow and Rachel Calam
Congress Information

Writing for *Child Abuse Review*

If you are presenting at Congress, you are encouraged to consider writing up your presentation as a submission for consideration by the journal. All submissions are now made online at [http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/car](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/car) and assistance can be found by contacting the Editorial Manager, Julia Walsh, by email at julia.walsh@southwarkpct.nhs.uk.

The Editors of the Journal encourage articles for consideration and further details of how to submit an article and guidelines for writing for *Child Abuse Review* will be available from the BASPCAN stand in the Exhibition area (South Dining Hall).

The BASPCAN stand will be staffed at the following times by a member of our NEC and a member of the Editorial Team from *Child Abuse Review*:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Staffed By</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Monday am refreshment break 10.00am-10.30am</td>
<td>Member of NEC and editorial team</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Monday lunch    1.00pm-2.00pm</td>
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<td>Monday pm refreshment break 3.30pm-4.00pm</td>
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<td>Tuesday am refreshment break 10.00am-10.45am</td>
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<td>Tuesday lunch   1.15pm-2.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wednesday am refreshment break 10.30am-11.00am</td>
<td>Editorial team</td>
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The Editors and publishers look forward to meeting with you at the Child Abuse Review Drinks Reception on Monday 16th April between 6.30pm – 7.30pm in the Great Hall, Lanyon Building.

**Editorial Team, ‘Child Abuse Review’**

Co-Editors
Jane V Appleton and Peter Sidebotham

Associate Editors
William Baginsky, Marjorie Keys, John Devaney, Kate Morris, Kenny Ross, Julie Taylor and Jon Heron

Editorial Manager
Julia Walsh
STANDS

At Congress we are pleased to be able to offer delegates the opportunity to visit a number of stands offering information and displays of books, equipment and services. The exhibitions are held in The South Dining Hall, adjacent to the Sir William Whitla Hall. Refreshments will be available (morning and afternoon breaks) in The South Dining Hall and Sir William Whitla Hall to enable delegates to look around the stands during recess times.

Exhibition Opening Hours:
Sunday 15th April: 15.00-16.00
Monday 16th April: 08.30-18.30
Tuesday 17th April: 08.30-18.00
Wednesday 18th April: 08.30-13.00

Stands will include:

BASPCAN

On the BASPCAN stand will be information about the launch of significant new research commissioned and funded by the Association. A Study of Family Involvement in Reviews where Children Died or were Injured as a Result of Abuse or Neglect has been undertaken by a team of researchers - Kate Morris, University of Nottingham, Paul Tudor Independent Safeguarding Advisor and Marian Brandon, University of East Anglia and the findings will disseminated during Congress (Workshop 19, Monday 16th April at 5.30pm). The Association celebrated its 30 year anniversary in 2011 and a display showing the timeline of critical and significant events in BASPCAN’s history will be at the stand. Those wishing to find out more about membership, forthcoming conferences and other initiatives can do so by visiting our stand. This is also an opportunity to meet members of the National Executive Committee and to see example copies of our flagship journal, ‘Child Abuse Review’ and how to access this through membership. We look forward to meeting many of you there – do stop by to say Hello!

The BASPCAN stand will be staffed at the following times by a member of our NEC and a member of the Editorial Team of the journal ‘Child Abuse Review’.

1 Monday am refreshment break 10.00am - 10.30am
2 Monday lunch 1.00pm – 2.00pm
3 Monday pm refreshment break 3.30pm – 4.00pm
4 Tuesday am refreshment break 10.00am - 10.45am
5 Tuesday lunch 1.15pm – 2.15pm
6 Tuesday pm refreshment break 3.45pm – 4.15pm
7 Wednesday am refreshment break 10.30am-11.00am
Congress Information

British Association of Social Workers

BASW is the largest professional association representing social work and social workers in the UK, with a strong identity in Northern Ireland through NIASW. Whether you are qualified or not, experienced or just entering the profession, we’re here to help, support, advise and campaign on your behalf. Our success and vitality is built on the active involvement and expertise of members who share a commitment to good social work practice and uphold the Association’s Code of Ethics for Social Work.

BASW is recognised throughout the UK as the voice of social workers and contributes to social policy development nationally and internationally. BASW understands the challenges that our members face in the workplace and will continue to demand more support and better working conditions for all social workers [www.basw.co.uk](http://www.basw.co.uk).

Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau

Visit the BVCB stand to hear about some possibilities of sightseeing tours whilst you are in Belfast or for further information about the city. The hop-on bus tours pass the University and give you a full guided tour of the city. If you are planning to visit again in the future you will have chance to discuss this with representatives from the Belfast Welcome Centre. Don’t forget that BVCB can assist by offering free and impartial support and advice to conferences & meeting organisers considering holding an event in Belfast. If this may be of interest please enquire at their stand for a full Conference pack.

Centre for Effective Services

The Centre for Effective Services (CES) is an all-island not for profit centre with offices in Dublin and Belfast. CES works with others to connect and support the implementation of effective policy, efficient systems and good practice, using the best available evidence, so that children, families and communities thrive. The Centre undertakes a wide range of project work including whole-sector strategic development through working with senior policy makers in Ireland and Northern Ireland and focused practical assistance for individual service-providing organisations. CES also works with researchers in the development of dissemination and translation strategies to support evidence into policy and practice. In Spring 2012, CES will launch Understanding Evidence – a training resource for those working in child, family and community services to build on their knowledge of the field of prevention and implementation science. For more information about the Centre visit [www.effectiveservices.org](http://www.effectiveservices.org).
Child and Family Training

C&FT is a national organisation which runs training on a series of standardised assessment tools and approaches to analysis and planning for professionals working with children and their families. C&FT training provides professionals with essential skills in making evidence-based assessments of children's developmental needs, parenting capacity and family and environmental factors, analysis, planning how to intervene and identifying measurable outcomes. C&FT were recently awarded a grant by DfE under their 'Improving outcomes for children, young people and families' initiative to promote and deliver the training for child protection practitioners and to train and license agency-based trainers.

In-Trac Training & Consultancy Ltd

In-Trac Training and Consultancy is a well established and respected provider of quality services with a primary focus on the well-being of vulnerable children and their families. Our trainers are drawn from a variety of professional background including social care, health and police enabling us to provide a multi-agency approach across the spectrum of Children's Services. Our trainers are all involved in the centre of practice and therefore demonstrate excellent understanding of social work dilemmas, thereby enabling them to translate this experience into positive practice and associated learning.

We have particular expertise in supervision and were privileged to work in partnership with the late Tony Morrison in developing and delivering the CWDC training for social work supervisors. We continue to drive supervision training forward both in the UK and overseas and have worked with in excess of 5000 supervisors and managers during the last three years. We deliver a holistic model of supervision which has the analysis and management of critical incidents at its heart. Messages from our work with Serious Case Reviews, Independent Enquiries and Practice Audits are incorporated into our training and are vital to embed learning about what is safe and effective practice.

We constantly strive to ensure the services we provide make a difference to children and their families as well as offering commissioners excellent value for money. Current initiatives include a partnership with Bournemouth University to offer our supervision training as an assessed module offering 2 academic credits at M level.

The full range of our topic areas is available on our website [www.in-trac.co.uk](http://www.in-trac.co.uk) or telephone 01428 641425.
The International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) was founded in 1977 to bring together an international cross-section of multidisciplinary professionals committed to prevention and treatment of child abuse, neglect and exploitation. ISPCAN's mission is to support individuals and organisations working worldwide to protect children from all forms of abuse and neglect. ISPCAN currently has over 1,000 members from 153 countries.

ISPCAN programs include:

**Membership support**—ISPCAN supports its community of international members through digital engagement, virtual discussions, resources and timely professional opportunities.

**International training and capacity building** to increase skills of professionals and increase capacity and sustainability of organisations that deliver services to child abuse and neglect victims.

**Data collection systems and technical assistance**—ISPCAN sponsors the Working Group on Child Maltreatment Data Collection, which identifies and shares approaches, findings and trends among professionals worldwide. ISPCAN also provides a data collection instrument (ICAST), which assesses the level of violence against children in homes, schools, institutions and communities, and provides technical assistance as requested.

**Publications and research**—ISPCAN advances research and knowledge on child abuse and neglect through publication and distribution of *Child Abuse & Neglect: the International Journal, World Perspectives*, newsletters and reports.

**Congresses and conferences** offer a unique opportunity for exchange of information among multidisciplinary professionals, trainings and educational forums, and networking.

We invite you and your colleagues to attend the XIXth ISPCAN International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect, which will be held 9-12 September in Istanbul, with the Countries in Transition Forum on 8 September. The Congress theme is “Every Child Matters: Promoting Local, National and International Partnerships for Protecting Children” and will focus on the best ways to integrate resources and efforts to prevent, detect and effectively intervene with child abuse and neglect. Please see our website for more information: [http://www.ispcan2012.org](http://www.ispcan2012.org)

Jessica Kingsley Publishers

Jessica Kingsley Publishers is an independent, award-winning company with an international reputation for publishing theoretically rigorous yet accessible books for professionals, academics and students. Our publishing encompasses social work, mental health, counselling, autism, education, healthcare, disability and the arts therapies. This year, we are celebrating 25 years of Independent Publishing 1987-2012.

Please do visit our stand to browse our extensive selection of titles. Our Senior Commissioning Editor Stephen Jones will be attending to meet anyone who has publication ideas which they would like to discuss. If you would like to arrange a meeting in advance of the conference, he can be emailed at [stephen.jones@jkp.com](mailto:stephen.jones@jkp.com).
National Association for People Abused in Childhood

The National Association for People Abused in Childhood (NAPAC) was established in 1997. It was set up following a key recommendation of the National Commission of Inquiry into the Prevention of Child Abuse. Giving adult survivors a national voice was, according to the Commission, essential for child protection.

NAPAC runs the UK’s only national free phone service for adult survivors of childhood abuse. The line is accredited by the Helplines Association. We receive up to 1000 calls each week to our Support Line, which is run entirely by volunteers. We also respond to every letter and email, which we receive from people of all ages, from all walks of life across the UK. We offer training for people who work with survivors of abuse, accredited by the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH). We work in prisons, run support groups and host the European Federation for People Abused in Childhood. We are also founder members of the World Alliance for People Sexually Abused in Childhood. NAPAC supports adults who suffered any form of the five types of childhood abuse and we do all this without any government funding. Pete Saunders, founder and chief executive is delighted to be in Belfast for this important event and hopes to meet you at the NAPAC stand. Please come and say hello to the team!

Safeguarding Children e-Academy

The Safeguarding Children e-Academy is part of Virtual College’s Health and Social Care Division. We are a team of child protection and safeguarding training experts working to help people like you make a positive impact on the wellbeing of children. Over the past 6 years, we have developed and delivered a highly successful collaborative model of e-learning across the UK.

Our 77 strong membership includes over 60 Local Safeguarding Children Boards. In conjunction with our members we have developed more than 30 safeguarding and child protection courses that range from ‘Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect’ to ‘Children’s and Young People’s Development’.

This collaboration and shared course development leads to incredibly cost effective licensing deals on e-learning courses. We now provide e-learning courses to individuals, charities, schools, hospitals, private businesses and local government.
In addition to our wide range of courses we offer a Learning Management System used by over 700,000 users worldwide. E>nable is designed to reduce the administrative burden and improve the management of all your training programmes.

www.safeguardingchildrenea.co.uk info@safeguardingchildrenea.co.uk Tel: 01943 885083.
Congress Information

Social Care Institute for Excellence

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) improves the lives of people who use care services by sharing knowledge about what works. Our range of free children’s and families’ resources are available in a range of multimedia formats, including e-learning, Social Care TV and online practice guides.

SCIE will be profiling a number of innovative projects during the conference including the NICE/SCIE recommendations for promoting the quality of life of looked-after children and our Learning Together work on safeguarding children. Visit our stand to speak to staff and preview our resources.

www.scie.org.uk

Stop it Now!

Stop it Now! UK and Ireland is a child sexual abuse prevention campaign. Stop! England works across the country to ensure that parents, carers and professionals are as best placed as they can be to protect children from sexual abuse. The campaign is managed by the Lucy Faithfull Foundation, a child protection charity. We operate a confidential, freephone Helpline and email service, as well as providing a range of training for professionals and for parents.

The Stop! England team is currently working with Praxis Community Projects, and the Somali community, to develop a child sexual abuse prevention toolkit, which can be adapted for use by organisations working with other BAMER communities. The project aims to help protect children from sexual harm by providing parents and carers with information about:

• how child sexual abuse can happen
• who the abusers might be
• what behaviours might suggest that someone is grooming or abusing a child
• what behaviours, in a child, might suggest that they are being sexually abused
• how parents & carers can take positive steps to keep children safe
• where to go if they have any concerns

Funded by The Oak Foundation, the toolkit is being developed in partnership with BAMER parents and Praxis Community Projects, and will be available to others from March 2012.

We are currently looking to identify partner organisations who are working with BAMER communities, and who would be interested in developing a child sexual abuse prevention project as part of their programme of activities with families. Organisations would need to identify suitably experienced staff who could deliver this work to their communities, and we would then work with them to develop an engagement strategy for their community – using our toolkit resources.

For further information contact Liz Maslen maslen@stopitnow.org.uk
Responding effectively to situations of child abuse, neglect and domestic violence can place a high demand on Health Care professionals. Studies and surveys have shown that most professionals feel inadequately trained to deal with this sensitive issue. The Next Page offers a unique e-learning environment to educate professionals to identify signs of child abuse and to communicate about the topic with children, parents and colleagues. Our e-courses provide information on how to act in accordance with domestic child abuse reporting systems and codes of conduct and how to optimise collaboration within the referral network. Legal issues around privacy and exchange of data are also addressed.

We use modern e-learning techniques such as simulated practical case studies illustrated by film clippings and interaction with the practical experiences of other peers. This allows you to interact with the course materials and to reflect on their own responses. In addition, ample theoretical information and reference materials are offered in a digital library. The e-courses show you how to apply theoretical and practical information, protocols and skills in a day-to-day professional practice. The e-courses can be utilised in various ways: as part of a standard professional training course or as a separate refresher course within your organisation.

The Next Page is a social business of Augeo Foundation. Social goals and business principles are combined to achieve durable interventions. Augeo Foundation is an organisation dedicated to creating a safe environment in which children can develop. Augeo (the Latin word for strengthening, promoting and flourishing) wants to contribute to a world in which children are free from damaging and humiliating treatments. It works in areas of prevention, identification and treatment of child abuse and neglect.

[www.thenextpage.nl](http://www.thenextpage.nl)
[www.augeo-foundation.nl](http://www.augeo-foundation.nl)
PROGRAMME

Sunday 15th April 2012
09.30-19.15 REGISTRATION OPENS PFC Foyer
10.00 International Delegates Programme PFC 1/010
15.00-16.00 Exhibition Stands Opens South Dining Hall
15.30 Doors open for Congress Opening Sir William Whitla Hall

16.00 PLENARY SESSION A Sir William Whitla Hall
Congress Official Welcome and Opening
CHAIR: Dr Catherine Powell, Chair BASPCAN
16.30 Keynote 1: Dr Lorraine Radford Sir William Whitla Hall
Independent Researcher
The Victimisation of Childhood: Using Research Findings to Challenge
Thinking About Risk and Danger Towards Children?

17.15 Keynote 2: Fergus Cumiskey Sir William Whitla Hall
Contact NI
A City Absorbed by Youth Suicide – Belfast: Reflections on Childhood
Adversity, Aggression-Related Trauma Prevention and Recovery

18.00 Welcome Drinks Reception
Welcome address - Professor Sir Peter J Gregson,
Vice-Chancellor of Queen’s University Belfast

Harp and Ilan Pipes - ‘The Bradys’

For more information, please refer to social events.

Monday 16th April 2012 - Morning
08.30-19.00 REGISTRATION OPENS PFC Foyer
08.30-18.30 Exhibition Stands Opens South Dining Hall
09.00 PLENARY SESSION B Sir William Whitla Hall
CHAIR: Prof Nicky Stanley, Chair Scientific Committee

Ministerial Address
Edwin Poots, MLA
Minister for Health, Social Services & Public Safety

09:15 Keynote 3: Prof. Nico Trocmé Sir William Whitla Hall
McGill University, Canada
Does Mandate Drift Help Explain the Decline in Rates of Reported Child
Sexual Abuse Internationally? Reflections from Canada
Congress Programme

10.00 Refreshments

10:30–12.00 Parallel Session 1

Symposium 1

*Child Death Review in an International Context: Messages for Prevention*

*Convenor: Sharon Vincent*

Preventing Child Deaths: Learning from Review. Sharon Vincent

What Can We Learn from a Decade of Reviews of Child Fatality and Serious Harm through Abuse from the Four Countries of the UK? Marian Brandon, Peter Sidebotham, Sue Bailey, Pippa Belderson

The US Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) Case Registry: Lessons Learned. Lena Camperlengo, Teri Covington

An Evaluation of the Delivery and Impact of Social Work Teaching and Learning on Child and Adult Abuse Inquiries in Northern Ireland. Stan Houston, Mary McColgan

Symposium 2

*Signs of Safety: Lessons from International Dissemination*

*Convenor: Trish Walsh*

The Safety in Partnership Approach in Northern Ireland, an Example of Adaptation From SoS. Deirdre Mahon, Karen O'Brien

Signs of Safety, A Child Rights Based Approach? Fergal Landy

The Western Australia Signs of Safety Project, Lessons at the Halfway Mark. Trish Walsh

The Use of the Signs of Safety Framework: A Dublin Project. Mark Yalloway, Eileen McRory

Symposium 3

*Engaging and Working with ‘Hard-to-Reach’ or ‘Involuntary’ Clients Where Children are at Risk of Harm.*

*Convenor: Claudia Bernard*

Can Partnerships with Service User/Parents and Professionals Engage Parents in Low-Income Communities to Attend After-School, Multi-Family Groups to Practice Positive Parenting? Lynn McDonald

Understanding Parental Engagement with Services when Children May be at Risk of Maltreatment. Dendy Platt

A Relationship-Based Approach to Engaging ‘Involuntary Clients’: The Contribution of Recognition Theory. Danielle Turney

Engaging a ‘Hard-to-Reach’ Group of Young Mothers in Research. Claudia Bernard
Congress Programme

Free Paper Session 1
Chair: Helen Buckley


Transitioning from the State Care System: The Impacts of In-Care Experiences on the Post-Care Outcomes for Young People Leaving Care. Badal Moslehuiddin

Staying in Foster Care into Early Adulthood: Experiences and Outcomes. Clare Lushey, Emily Munro

The South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust Employability Service for Looked After Children - Sharing Our Experiences. Rosaleen Murphy, Alison Wilson, Campbell Killick

Free Paper Session 2
Chair: Anne Lazenbatt

Fabricated Induced Illness in Children: A Rare Form of Child Abuse? Anne Lazenbatt, Julie Taylor

Reaching the Unreachable: Child Protection and Unborn Babies. Ann Hodson, Margaret Bruce

Opportunities and Challenges when Working with Substance Using Parents: Findings from a Focus Group with Family Consultants. Scotty Cash, Jordan Ross, Stephanie Ingram, Robert Oats, Ronald Thompson


Free Paper Session 3
Chair: Helga Sneddon

Introducing Support Care for Families in Need: Service Overview and Current Research. Louise Roberts, Philippa Williams

Family Coaching Victoria - New Ways of Working with Vulnerable Families Samantha Kolasa

Family Support Hubs in the Western Area – An Early Intervention Approach Pat Armstrong, Tom Cassidy

Warts and All: A Qualitative Exploration of Family Support’s Approach to Children’s Behaviour in Dublin Elizabeth McGettrick

Free Paper Session 4
Chair: John Geden

Conceptions of Childhood Among Accused Internet Sexual Offenders. Jonah Rimer

Child Trafficking - The Journey So Far. Paul Rigby, Sheila Murie, Moira McKinnon

Cutting Them Free - Protecting Children from Sexual Exploitation. Jeanie Lynch

Safe Accommodation for Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Young People Lucie Shuker, Isabelle Brodie
Free Paper Session 5
Chair: Margaret Lynch

Lawful Correction or Child Abuse: Clarifying Boundaries – A study of some Australian legal professionals' views and experiences. Bernadette Saunders, Bronwyn Naylor, Renata Alexander

Victimisation-Related Injury in Children and Adolescents: Comparison of Hospital Admission Rates in England and Western Australia. Arturo Gonzalez-Izquierdo, Melissa O'Donnell, Allison Ward, Leah Li, Andreas Roposch, Jan Van der Meulen, Fiona Stanley, Ruth Gilbert

The Law and Corporal Punishment. Aída Fernández

Free Paper Session 6
Chair: Judith Harwin

The Development of Effective Abuse Prevention Education in Primary Schools in Northern Ireland. Phyllis Stephenson, Aisling Mc Elearney

Impact of a Universal School-Based Violence Prevention Programme on Violent Delinquency: Distinctive Benefits for Youth with Maltreatment Histories. Claire Crooks, Katreena Scott, Wendy Ellis, David Wolfe

Evaluation of the Effectiveness of a School-Based Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program. Jan Barron, Keith Topping

Multiple Perspectives and Understandings of Children's Participation and Decision-Making in the Primary School Context: A case study of two Republic of Ireland schools. Karen Mahony

Free Paper Session 7
Chair: Jenny Pearce

Recognition as a Framework for Ethical Participatory Research: Developing a Methodology with Looked after Young People. Carol-Ann Hooper, Robert Gunn


When Children Go Missing from Home: The Value of Return Assessment Interviews in Safeguarding Children. Susan Redington, Julie Taylor, Louise Hill, Anne Stafford

Free Paper Session 8
Chair: Amy Weir

Children's and Young People's Views of the Child Protection System. Jeanette Cossar, Marian Brandon, Peter Jordan

Making Their Evidence Count: The Experiences of Young Witnesses in Criminal Proceedings in Northern Ireland. David Hayes, Lisa Bunting

Children's Participation in Child Protection Court Cases. Carmel Corrigan

Children Who Are Seen But Not Heard: Early Childhood Perspectives on Meaningful Listening to and Engaging with Young Children. Claire Richards
Workshop 1
Safeguarding Children and Engaging Parents in Pre-Proceedings Meetings. Judith Masson, Jonathan Dickens, Julie Young, Kay Bader

Workshop 2
Medical Care for the Victim of Child Sexual Abuse. Rich Kaplan

Workshop 3
In My Shoes, a Computer Assisted Interview for Professionals Working with Children and Vulnerable Adults Liza Bingley Miller, Phil Jimmieson, Rachel Calam, David Glasgow, Antony Cox, Bill Joyce

12.00-13.00
Parallel Session 2
Free Paper Session 9
Chair: Catherine Powell

Invisible Child Maltreatment and Long-Term Social Harm: A Social Psychological Study of Social Support Based on a National Sample. Mogens Christoffersen

Children and Young People's Missed Health Care Appointments: Reconceptualising ‘Did Not Attend’ to ‘Was Not Brought’ - A Review of the Evidence for Practice. Catherine Powell, Jane Appleton

Child Maltreatment Recorded in General Practice in the UK: A Study Using the Health Improvement Network (THIN) Database. Jenny Woodman, Ruth Gilbert, Marian Brandon, Danya Glaser, Janice Allister, Irene Petersen

Free Paper Session 10
Chair: Bernard Gallagher

Hidden from Plain Sight? What’s Domestic Abuse got to do with Residential Child Care? Ann Donaldson

Staying in Touch: Keyworking and Young People During Transition Out of Residential Care Gloria Kirwan, Stephanie Holt

The Care of, and Outcomes for, Maltreated Children Looked After in Therapeutic Residential Care in England: The Views and Experiences of Former Residents. Bernard Gallagher

Free Paper Session 11
Chair: Daphne Rose

Implementing Safety Nets: Improving the Detection of Child Abuse in the Emergency Department. Kate Bradman, Rachel Rowlands

Safeguarding Children Supervision: Development and Implementation of a Regional Nursing Policy and Procedure in Northern Ireland. Una Turbitt

It Makes Everyone Anxious - What to do About Unexplained Injuries in Young Children; The Dilemmas in Assessing Future risk from a Clinical and Legal Point of View. Sue Foley, Angela Jones
Free Paper Session 12
Chair: Danielle Turney

How and Where Social Workers Relate to Children in the Home and Elsewhere when Inquiring into Child Protection Concerns. Harry Ferguson


Free Paper Session 13
Chair: William Baginsky

Protecting Visible Minority Children: Family Dynamics and Protective Authority Intervention Strategies. Sarah Dufour, Chantal Lavergne, Judith Gaudet, Dominique Couture


Bridging the Gap: Exploring Best Practice and Key Safeguarding Principles for Professionals Seeking to Engage with Faith Communities where Particular Beliefs and Practices (i.e. a Belief in Witchcraft and Spirit Possession) Cause Emotional Trauma and Physical Harm to Children and their Families. Claudia Bell

Workshop 4
Sharing the Learning from Case Reviews and Serious Case Reviews (SCRs): developing a typology of Patterns of Problematic and Successful Safeguarding and Child Protection. Sheila Fish

Workshop 5
What Young People Tell us about Negative and Harmful Experiences of Participating in Organised Sport. Anne Stafford, Kate Alexander

Workshop 6

Workshop 7
Looking for a Needle in a Haystack? How the Evidence-Informed Practitioner Can Find the Evidence they Need, when they Need it and How to Use it Effectively. Michelle Harris, Avery Bowser, Kathy Brennan, Helga Sneddon

Workshop 8
“The Risk Model” - A Practice Tool Used in Local Authorities to Improve the Quality and Consistency of Decision Making in Risk Assessment. Dafydd Paul, Bruce Thornton

Workshop 9
Cultural Humility: A Paradigm Shift in How to Work with Diverse Populations. Robert Ortega, Kathleen Coulborn-Faller

Workshop 10
Using Schlossberg's Transition Theory to Understand Young Children’s Transitions into Care and to Develop more Child Centred Social Work Practice. Karen Winter
Workshop 11  

Workshop 12  
Developing a Therapeutic Programme that Integrates Risk Assessment and Risk Management into Treatment with Adolescents who Display Harmful Sexual Behaviour. Karen Parish, Peter Clarke

13.00-14.00 Lunch

Monday 16th April 2012 - Afternoon

14.00 PLENARY SESSION C

CHAIR: David Spicer, Vice Chair BASPCAN

Keynote 4: Gerison Lansdown
International Children’s Rights Consultant
Participation as Protection

14.45 Keynote 5: Nazir Afzal
Crown Prosecution Service, England
Children and Forced Marriage - Prevention, Protection and Prosecution

15.30 Refreshments

16.00 Parallel Session 3

Symposium 4

Child Welfare Paramountcy - Best Interests or Best Not Mentioned?
Convenor: Alice Diver, Discussant: Jacinta Miller

A Right to Kin Contact? Discretion as a Means to Promoting Child Welfare Paramountcy. Alice Diver

Children and Consent to Medical Treatment: Autonomy a Relevant Consideration? Jacinta Miller

Snaring the Pied Piper on the Net: The Protection of Children from Online Sexual Grooming – An Irish Perspective. Sharon McLaughlin

Symposium 5

The AIDES Initiative: Description and Assessment of the Quebec Adaptation of the Common Assessment Framework.

Convenor: Claire Chamberland


Quality of Exposure to the AIDES Social Innovation and Developmental Outcomes of the Children and Parents. Claire Chamberland, Marie-Ève Clément, Carl Lacharité

Illustrations of the Unique Experiences of Children and their Families Participating in a Social Innovation. Danielle Lessard, Guylaine Fafard, Carl Lacharité

Practice Conditions and Social Innovations: Facilitators and Barriers to Implementing the AIDES Initiative. Sarah Dufour, Danielle Lessard, Claire Chamberland

Symposium 6

Transitions for Young People into and out of Secure Settings: Issues for Practice and Policy

Convenor: Teresa Geraghty

Transitions Into and Out of Secure Accommodation in Northern Ireland. Teresa Geraghty

Managing the Transition from Secure Settings in England. Diane Hart

An Inspection by the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority of the Care Pathways for a Select Group of Young People Who Met the Criteria for Secure Accommodation. Gerry Marshall

Secure Care, Transitions and Meaning. Nicola Carr

Free Paper Session 14

Chair: Nigel King

When 'Everyone's Doing It': Co-offending and Co-Victimisation in Complex Child Sexual Exploitation. Ella Cockbain, Richard Wortley, Cheryl Thomas

Online Voyeurs of Indecent Images of Children and Paedophiles: The Importance of Knowing the Difference. Charles Fortt, Steve Lowe


Challenges to Successful Prosecution of Cases Involving Child Sexual Exploitation. Aravinda Kosaraju
Free Paper Session 15
Chair: Brigid Daniel

The Rhythm of Neglect: An Exploration of professionals’ Understandings and Experiences of Neglect Cases in Light of the recent Irish publication of the Roscommon Inquiry. Nicola O’Sullivan

Tackling Chronic Neglect - The Challenges and Opportunities. Lynne Peyton

Exploring the Experiences of Vulnerable Children to Emotional Abuse and Neglect in a Community in Ghana. Saka Manful

Health Visitors’ Role in Assessing Oral Health in Children: Investigating Dental Neglect Thresholds. Caroline Bradbury-Jones, Julie TaylorNicola Innes, Dafydd Evans, Fiona Ballantyne

Free Paper Session 16
Chair: Donald MacKenzie

What Information do Practitioners Need to Better Support Child Survivors of Sexual Exploitation and Related Trafficking in India? Claire Cody

The Delivery and Evaluation of a Guided Approach to Therapeutic Work with Children and Young People who have been Sexually Abused - Organisational Strategy and Model Integrity vs. Operational Imperatives - the Challenges and Learning So Far Jon Brown, Trish O’Donnell


Meaningful Partnership: Re-imagining How Social Work Can Facilitate Sustained Change to Provide Safety in Families Where there are Risks of Sexual Abuse Matthew Gibson

Free Paper Session 17
Chair: Nicky Stanley

‘He Won't Last a Term’: Supporting The Educational Transitions of Looked After Young People at Key Stage 4. Jenny Driscoll

Promoting the Health of Looked After Children. Lin Graham-Ray

Therapeutic Consultation: Working with Hard to Reach Traumatised Adolescents Noel Macnamara

Innovations and Interventions for Young People in Transition. Rhian Stone
Free Paper Session 18

Chair: Brid Featherstone

‘I’m Just a Mother. I’m Nothing Special, They’re all Professionals’: Unequal Encounters and the Role of Parental Advocacy. Brid Featherstone

Making a Difference in their Lives: Working with Complex Families in an Uncertain World. Jordan Ross, Scottye Cash, Stephanie Ingram, Robert Oats, Ronald Thompson

Learning Disabled Parents and the Courts: Whose Neglect? Clive Yeadon


Free Paper Session 19

Chair: Jenny Pearce

Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Youth’s Internet Behaviour and Internet-Related Victimization. Gisela Priebe, Kimberly J. Mitchell, David Finkelhor

Contending with Crime: Children’s Perspectives on their Neighbourhood. Margaret Rogers

The Dilemma of Protecting Neglected and Abused Children in Pakistan. Syed Hamidullah

Free Paper Session 20

Chair: John Devaney

One Child Death is Not Enough: The Findings from a National Study of Non-Accidental Child Deaths John Devaney, Anne Lazenbatt, David Hayes, Lisa Bunting

Serious Case Reviews - Lessons for the NHS in Wales Caroline Jones, Lin Slater

Children who are Killed or Seriously Abused Despite their Welfare being Considered Within the Family Court Jurisdiction. David Spicer

Infant Suffocation in the Sleep Environment: Are these Deaths Child Neglect? Should they be Prosecuted? Theresa Covington

Free Paper Session 21

Chair: Monica King

Inspections of Services to Protect Children in Scotland - the Role of Scrutiny in Delivering Improvements in the Safety and Well-Being of Children at Risk of Abuse and Neglect. Emma McWilliam

The Experience of a Local Inter-Agency Committee in Developing an Alternative Response Model through Inter-Agency Partnership in Jobstown, South Dublin. Mick McKiernan, Colette McLoughlin, Fergal Landy


An Organisational Approach to Evidence-Informed Practice: Are We There Yet? Greg Antcliff, Annette Michaux, Robyn Mildon
Workshop 13
Safeguarding from a Distance: Meeting Educational Needs of Practitioners in an Online Environment. Marjorie Keys, Ruth Mitchell, Lindsey Robb

Workshop 14
Over Optimistic or Over Zealous- Managing the Challenges of Handling Allegations and Complaints Against Foster Carers. Robert Tapsfield

Workshop 15
A Realist Approach to Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) Prevention Programmes Working with BAMER Parents Teresa Hughes, Mike Williams, Alex Sutton, Musa Eid, Donald Findlater

17.30 Parallel Session 4
Action for Children Youth Performance
ARTiculation Buddies present ‘Operation Deep Freeze’

Free Paper Session 22
Chair: Helen Buckley
An Overview of Child Deaths in the Republic of Ireland. Helen Buckley, Paul Harison, Bill Lockhart
Poor Communication, Precursor Injuries and Violence; Lessons from Serious Case Reviews. John Heckmatt
GPs’ Perspectives on Children and Families who Prompt Concerns About (Possible) Maltreatment in General Practice Jenny Woodman, Marian Brandon, Danya Glaser, Janice Allister, Ruth Gilbert

Free Paper Session 23
Chair: Reg Pengelly
Caring for the Children of Imprisoned Mothers: Understanding the Role of Fathers. Catherine Flynn
Forgotten Parents and Overlooked Children: Working with Incarcerated Parents and Their Children. Caroline Burry, Margarete Parrish
Responding to the Care Needs of the Children of Imprisoned Parents: Learning from Practice. Catherine Flynn, Anna Eriksson, Paula Fernandez

Free Paper Session 24
Chair: Cathy Humphreys
Developing Clinical Decision Making and Awareness of Inter-Professional Working in Child Protection amongst Health and Social Care Pre-Registration Students. Lesley Daniels
From Shared Learning to Inter-Professional Education (IPE): Perspectives from Early Childhood and Social Work Students. Bronagh E. McKee, John Devaney
The Children and Parents at Hospital (CAP@H) Study: Improving Health and Well-being for Vulnerable Children and their Families in an Acute Paediatric Health Setting. Cathy Humphreys, Nicole Tokatlian, Brigid Jordan
### Workshop 16
Child Protection Decision Making in Neglect and Emotional Abuse: Evidence Based Approaches to Assessment, Analysis, Planning Interventions and Measuring Outcomes. Amon Bentovim, Liza Bingley Miller, Doreen Parker, Stephen Pizzey, Simon Tapp

### Workshop 17
Can We Teach These Kids to Dance? A Developmental Treatment Approach for Treating Youth with Sexual Behaviour Problems. Kevin Creeden

### Workshop 18

### Workshop 19
Family Involvement in Reviews: Learning for Policy and Practice. Kate Morris, Marian Brandon, Paul Tudor

### Workshop 20
Using the UNCRC to Develop More Child Centred Social Work Practice: Opportunities and Challenges. Karen Winter

### Workshop 21
Child Protection Systems Across the UK: A Comparative Analysis. Anne Stafford, Nigel Parton, Sharon Vincent, Connie Smith

### Workshop 22
CARE: A Comprehensive Model for Implementing and Evaluating a Research-Based Programme Model in Residential Care. Michael Nunno, Martha Holden, John Gibson, William Coman, James Anglin, Judith Brunt

### Workshop 23
Effective Therapeutic Approaches Within A Specialist Residential Setting In Belfast. Carmel Ferguson, Liam Dumigan, Liam Craig, Pam Nugent, Mark Kimmins, Clark Davidson, Roger Bailey, John Judge

### Workshop 24
Sexual Bullying in School and the Community. Rachel Bunting, Laura Butterworth

### Workshop 25
An Audit of GP Practices in Cornwall & Isles of Scilly on Safeguarding Children. Danny Lang, Janice Allister

### 18.30 Child Abuse Review Drinks Reception
Classical flautist – Gareth Stitt

### Traditional Live Music Evening – refer to social events

**Tuesday 17th April 2012 – Morning**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>08.30-18.00</td>
<td>Registration Opens</td>
<td>PFC Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>08.30-18.00</td>
<td>Exhibition Stands Opens</td>
<td>South Dining Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>18.30</td>
<td>Child Abuse Review Drinks Reception</td>
<td>Great Hall, Lanyon Building</td>
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**Note:**
09.00 **PLENARY SESSION D**  
*CHAIR: Dr John Devaney, Chair Elect BASPCAN*

Commissioner’s Address:  
**Patricia Lewsley-Mooney**  
*Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People*

09.15 **Keynote 6:** **Professor Brigid Daniel**  
*University of Stirling*

**Founders’ Lecture:**  
*Why Have we Made Neglect So Complicated? Taking a Fresh Look at Noticing and Helping the Neglected Child.*

10.00 **Interactive Presentations**

**Poster 1:**  
*An Examination of Child Abuse Reporting in Ireland and the Socio-Legal Implications of Introducing a Mandatory Reporting System.*  
**Roni Buckley**

**Poster 2:**  
*The Importance of Relationships in Children’s Residential Care: An Ethnographic Study.*  
**Melanie Snoddon**

**Poster 3:**  
*Making Sense of the Child’s Lived Experience in Cases of Neglect*  
**Helen Richardson Foster**

**Poster 4:**  
*Child Protection in Haringey: A Prospective Observational Study and Audit of Child Protection Procedures in Two London Hospitals*  
**Laura Haynes, Gayle Hann, Justin Daniels, Caroline Fertleman**

**Poster 5:**  
*Tickling the Trout; Investigating Fathers’ Engagement with the Child Protection Process.*  
**Daryl Dugdale**

**Poster 6:**  
*Storytelling and Witty Words Knowledge as a Tool for Entrepreneurial Spirit Promotion Among Yoruba Children*  
**Bolanle Simeon-Fayomi, Abimbola Fayomi**

**Poster 7:**  
*Beauty and the Beast: Indigenous Enterprises Practices Versus Female Adolescents Exposure to Sexual Abuse in a Nigerian Community*  
**Abimbola Fayomi, Joshua Akande, Bolanle Simeon-Fayomi**

**Poster 8:**  
*Safeguarding Children in Primary Care: General Practitioner and Health Visitor Understanding and Role*  
**Nicoli Morrison**

**Poster 9:**  
*Safeguarding Children in Primary Care: A Public Health Perspective*  
**Nicoli Morrison**
Poster 10: Safeguarding Under 2’s: The Family Nurse Partnership in Northern Ireland Deirdre Webb

Poster 11: Adolescents with Intellectual Disabilities with Sexualized Behaviour – Sexual Exploration or Exploitation? Virginia Cruz

Poster 12: Domestic Abuse and Impact on Child Development Zeinab Abdelrahim, Helen Comesky, James Hughes

Poster 13: Does Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy (CBT) Work as a Treatment for Young People Aged 10-18 who Sexually Offend?: A Cochrane Systematic Review of the Evidence Helga Sneddon, Mike Ferriter, Avery Bowser

Poster 14: Early Child Protection Intervention with Pregnant Women: An Innovative Response Where Parenting is Compromised by Drug and Alcohol Use? Margaret Bruce, Ann Hodson

Poster 15: Personal and Professional Characteristics of the Teacher for Prevention of Violence at School Elena Volkova, Vladimir Volkov

Poster 16: The First Russian Workbook on Child Abuse for Professional Training in Russian Universities Elena Volkova, Vladimir Volkov

Poster 17: Does Webster-Stratton Incredible Years Basic Programme work in Portuguese Residential Child Care? First Preliminary Results Isabel Silva, Maria Filomena Gaspar

Poster 18: The Parenting Wisely-Urban Teens (PWUT) Parental Training Programme in Parents of Portuguese Adolescents in Psychosocial Risk Marisa Barata, Maria Filomena Gaspar

Poster 19: A Strategic Approach to Training for Safeguarding and Protecting Children and Young People Within a District General Hospital (DGH) Lynn Brooks

Poster 20: Developing a Database of Irish Child Protection Literature Helen Buckley, Carmel Cornghan, Liz Kerrins

Poster 21: Sexual Exploitation of Looked After Children-Learning from Experience and Safeguarding Lin Graham-Ray
Poster 22: Can Collaborative Inter-Agency Learning Support the Development of Inter-Agency Working Relationships Between Practitioners? Alison Cutler

Poster 23: The Children’s Perspective: Findings from Phase Three of the Northern Ireland Care Pathways and Outcomes Study Dominic McSherry, Montserrat Fargas Malet, Kerrylee Weatherall, Greg Kelly

Poster 24: Reversible Obesity – A Sign Of Neglect? Lucinda Winckworth, Michael Coren


Poster 26: Using an Actuarial Risk Assessment Tool to Identify Pre-Incident Risks in Serious Case Review Child Protection Cases Heather Wood

Poster 27: Withdrawn

Poster 28: Africans Unite Against Child Abuse (AFRUCA): Working with African Communities to Safeguard African Children, Teamirat Seyoumt

Poster 29: Therapeutic Approaches to Residential Childcare in Northern Ireland, Shirley Ewart-Boyle

10.45 Parallel Session 5

Symposium 7

Young Suicide and Safeguarding

Convenor: Nicky Stanley

An Initial Investigation of the Apparent Suicide Cluster in Bridgend in 2007-8, Jonathan Scourfield, Philip Jones, David Gunnell, Stephen Platt, Peter Huxley, Keith Lloyd, Ann Luce, Michael Dennis,

The Transmission of Suicidal Behaviour in Young People. Nicky Stanley, Sharon Mallon

A Review of Interventions to Support Young People in Care who have been Bereaved by Suicide and Exposed to Self-Harm Behaviours. Brendan Bonner

What do we Know about the Developmental Needs of Young People who Feature in Serious Case Reviews in England because of Suicide? Marian Brandon
Symposium 8

The Way Ahead for Care Proceedings: Learning from the Family Drug and Alcohol Court

Convenor: Judith Harwin  Discussant: Sophie Kershaw

Drug and Alcohol Misusing Families: Getting them Back on Track Nick Crichton

FDAC: New Interventions, New Timescales, New Applications Mike Shaw, Sophie Kershaw

New Approaches to Care Proceedings: Lessons from the Family Drug and Alcohol Court Evaluation (FDAC) Project Judith Harwin, Mary Ryan

Symposium 9

From First to Last: Meeting the Challenges in Conducting Child Death Reviews and Achieving the Most Useful Outcomes

Convenor: Helen Buckley

Family Involvement in Child Death Reviews, Kate Morris, Marian Brandon, Paul Tudor,

Finalising the Review Report, Helen Buckley

Child Death Review: Moving from Reviews to Action, Theresa Covington,

Non-Accidental Child Deaths: Who has the Right to Know? Colin Reid
Kathryn Torney, Hilton Dawson, John Devaney, David Hayes

Free Paper Session 25

Chair: Julie Taylor

Tackling Domestic Abuse-Prospects for Change, Kerry Malone, Dave Rogers

Understanding how Treatment Readiness within Domestic Violence Offenders is Mediated by Internal Psychological Characteristics and External Environmental Factors, Maurice Mahon

Parenting and Domestic Abuse: The Paradox of Post-Separation Mothering Stephanie Holt

Children with Intellectual (learning) Disabilities Involved in Domestic Violence: Developing a Picture-Based Clinical Resource Isabel Clare, Lydia Luke, Jason Upton
Free Paper Session 26

Chair: Danielle Turney

Can we Identify the Emotionally Neglected / Abused Pre-School Child? A Systematic Review Aideen Naughton, Sabine Maguire, Mala Mann, Rebecca Lumb, Vanessa Tempest, Alison Kemp

Child Welfare Professionals Perspectives of Child Neglect Christine Piper

Constructions of Child Neglect Within Social Work Practice and Discourse Beth Casey

Grading the Graded Care Profile Robin Sen, Pam Green Lister

Free Paper Session 27

Chair: Jenny Pearce

The Assessment and Treatment of Juveniles and Young Adults who have Committed Sexual Offences. Gareth Mc Gibbon

Working with Families after Sexual Abuse: Helping their Needs and Needing their Help. Sharon Hall

Fending for Themselves in an Uncertain World: Child Prostitution in Kenya. Lusike Mukhongo


Free Paper Session 28

Chair: Judith Masson

Maternal Madness: Accounting for Child Sexual Abuse Allegations in Australia’s Family Law System. Elspeth Mclnnes

Examination of Family Characteristics Where Sexual Abuse has Occurred. Anne Morrison, Jacqueline Lorimer,

A Profile of a Random Sample of Children Referred for the Investigation of Child Sexual Abuse. Jenny Gilmour, Anne Morrison

Multiagency Response to Childhood Sexual Abuse: Exploring the Role of a Specialist Referral Centre. Lindsay Voss

Free Paper Session 29

Chair: Cathy Humphreys

Family Links: Kinship Care and Family Contact Research Project. Meredith Kiraly, Cathy Humphreys

Baby on Board: Infants in Care and Family Contact Research Project. Cathy Humphreys, Meredith Kiraly

Social Networking for Proactive Child Protection in Prohibited Contact Situations. Fiona Boyd, Adam Barnard

SET Connects – Therapeutic Support for Looked After Children and their Carers. Lesley Mackie, Kerry Sweeney, Leigh Crawford
Free Paper Session 30

Chair: Jonathan Picken

A Practice Framework for Tower Hamlets Children’s Social Care: Building on the Munro Review Tony Stanley

Protecting Extremely Vulnerable Palestinian Children: The Experience of Child Protection Social Workers in Southern Lebanon Patrick O’Leary, Aisha Hutchinson

An Audit of the Effectiveness of an Advice and Resolution Service in a Health and Social Care Trust in NI Mary McColgan, Anne Campbell

A Pilot Study of the Strengthening Families model of Child Protection Conferences to Examine Interagency Working, Family Partnership and Outcomes for Children at Risk Lindsey Coombes, Jane Appleton, Emmanouela Terlektsi

Free Paper Session 31

Chair: Daphne Rose

Shaken Baby Prevention Education - An Ongoing Project - From Inspiration to Action Sue Foley, Anne Hollows,

‘Keeping the Baby in Mind’: The Role of Maternal Reflective Functioning in the Prevention of Abuse and Neglect Chris Cuthbert, Gwynne Rayns

Physical Abuse – Experiences of Combined Treatment for Children and their Parents Doris Nilsson, Cecilia Kjellgren

The Power of Children’s Voices: Why it is Important to Listen to and Learn from What Children Have to Say about Physical Punishment in Childhood. Bernadette Saunders

Free Paper Session 32

Chair: Gerry Byrne

Investigating the Crime of Child Abuse. Liz Davies, Wendy Fitzgibbon

Who is Referred to Court Assessment Services? A Descriptive Study and Commentary on Treatment Needs of 50 Families in Care Proceedings. Gerry Byrne

Responding to Vulnerable Children: Developing Policy about the Care and Protection of Children. Rosemary Sheehan

Assessing the Response Set of Parents in Child Abuse and Neglect Psychological Evaluations. Linda Jeffrey, John Frisone, Sydney Burns, Michael Frisone

Workshop 26

Whole Family Treatment Services – Interagency Dilemmas and Solutions in Research and Practice. Michael Murphy, Vicky Maloney, Tony Long

Workshop 27

Safeguarding Babies and Very Young Children from Abuse and Neglect: Key Issues in the First Four Years Rebecca Brown, Harriet Ward

Workshop 28

Using Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP) and Neuro-Strategies to Promote Positive Change with Hard to Engage Young People. Lynne Peyton

12.15 Parallel Session 6
Action for Children Youth Performance

ARTiculation Buddies present 'Operation Deep Freeze'

Free Paper Session 33
Chair: Anne Lazenbatt

An Outcome Evaluation of Interventions for Children Living with Partner Violence, Determined by Multiagency Scrutiny of Police Notification in the West Midlands Louise Dixon, Geoff Debelle, Clare Edwards, Rachel Jones

Domestic Abuse Recovery: The Evaluation of a New Approach Focused on Strengthening the Mother-Child Relationship Emma McManus, Richard Cotmore, Julie Taylor

Ensuring a Consistent Safeguarding Response to Children Experiencing Domestic Violence Using Barnardos DVRIM (Domestic Violence Risk Identification Matrix) Maddie Bell, Carol Diffin

Free Paper Session 34
Chair: Kate Morris


Safeguarding in the Workplace: What are the Lessons to be Learned from those Referred to and/or Barred by the Independent Safeguarding Authority? Sharon Mackenzie

Keeping Children Safe Through Vetting Schemes - A View from the Antipodes Nessa Lynch

Free Paper Session 35
Chair: Judy Bizley

Examining the Impact of Policy and Procedure on Social Work Practice. Kim Holt, Nancy Kelly

How Professionals Experience Complexity and Joint Working in Child Protection Rick Hood

Testing the Foundations: An Analysis of Social Work Communication in Real and Simulated Conditions David Westlake, Donald Forrester, Michelle McCann

Free Paper Session 36
Chair: Jean Price

A Review of Advances in Paediatric Bipolar Disorder: Differential Diagnosis and Treatment Options. Sydney Burns, Linda Jeffrey

Trends in the Incidence of Childhood Depression in the UK, a Study in The Health Improvement Network (THIN). Linda Wijlaars, Irwin Nazareth, Irene Petersen

Supporting Decision Making for Health Professionals in an Emergency Ambulance Services Setting: Assessing Safeguarding Concerns in Relation to Alcohol Consumption in Children and Young People. Rhiannon Beaumont-Wood, Ian Smith, Marion Griffiths, Christine Hinton
Free Paper Session 37

Chair: Donald MacKenzie

Who am I? Supporting Identity for Australians who have Experienced Out-of-Home Care. Margaret Kertesz, Cathy Humphreys

The Challenges of Parenting Adopted Adolescents as they Negotiate Changing Birth Family Relationships. Mandi MacDonald

Social Support Networks of Care Leavers in Ghana: Formal and Informal. Kwabena Frimpong-Manso, John Pinkerton

Free Paper Session 38

Chair: Marjorie Keys

The Impact of Safeguarding Children Training: A Systematic Review of the Literature. Jackie Wright, Jane Wray, Chris Maggs

Prevention Through Education: Developing an Arts-Based Domestic Abuse Education Programme for Pre-Service Primary School Teachers in Ireland. Bronagh E. McKee, Stephanie Holt


Free Paper Session 39

Chair: Helga Sneddon

“I Want my Experiences to Make a Difference” Promoting Participation in Policy-Making and Service Development by Young People who have Experienced Violence – A Conceptual Framework Jan Horwath, Dan Hodgkiss, Efrosini Kalyva, Spyros Spyrou

Developing a Model of Multi Agency Consultation Zarah Newman

Safety at Home: Voices of Children from a Primary Care Population. Anita Morris, Cathy Humphreys, Kelsey Hegarty

Workshop 29

Withdrawn

Workshop 30

Operation Thistle - Highlighting the Dangers of Sexual Exploitation to Young People: A Short Film Developed by Young People through a Collaborative Approach by 5 Local Safeguarding Children Boards. Philip Diamond

Workshop 31

Safeguarding Children across Services: Messages from Recent Research in England on Identifying and Responding to Child maltreatment. Harriet Ward, Carolyn Davies
Workshop 32
Secrets that Should be Told - A Community Educational Project: Sexual Abuse Prevention for Pre-School Children and their Parents.
Shoshi Ofir, Nessia Lang-Franco, Dafna Tener

Workshop 33
Listening to What Children and Young People Have to Say About their Experience of Child Protection Paula Keenan, Gail Neil

Workshop 34
Who is at Risk? How Risk Information Can Help Prevent Harm to Children Kristen Johnson, Carol Coohey, Lynette Renner

13.15-14.15 Lunch
The Space and Relish

Tuesday 17th April 2012 - Afternoon

14.15 PLENARY SESSION E

CHAIR: Tony Rodgers, Chair Regional C P Committee and Assistant Director for Children’s Services, HSC Board

Keynote 7: District Judge Nicholas Crichton
UK Family Justice Council

15.00 Keynote 8: Professor Simon Hackett
Durham University
Case Closed: What Next? - Lifecourse Trajectories of Young People with Harmful Sexual Behaviours

15.45 Refreshments
South Dining Hall

16.15 Parallel Session 7

Symposium 10

Evidence Based Innovations in the Assessment and Prevention/Intervention in Child Maltreatment

Convenor: John Lutzker, Discussant: Deirdre MacIntyre


Reducing Risk of Child Maltreatment: Child and Parent Outcomes Following Participation in the Parenting our Children to Excellence (PACE) Program. Jean E. Dumas, Angela M. Begle

SafeCare: An Evidence-based Practice to Prevent Child Maltreatment-Overview and Strong Outcomes. John R. Lutzker

Congress Programme

Symposium 11

*Engaging with Families on the Edge of Care Proceedings: The Use and Effectiveness of Pre-Proceedings Meetings*

*Convenor: Judith Masson*

**Social Work Perspectives on Pre-Proceedings Meetings.** Judith Masson, Jonathan Dickens, Julie Young, Kay Bader

**Parental Perspectives on Pre-Proceedings Meetings.** Judith Masson, Jonathan Dickens, Julie Young, Kay Bader


**Evaluating the Impact of Early Involvement of the Child and Family Court Advisor During Pre-Proceedings Work: Assessment, Timescales and Case Trajectories.** Karen Broadhurst, Paula Doherty, Kim Holt, Nancy Kelly

Symposium 12

*Building an Effective Framework for Child Protection Practitioners in an Uncertain World*

*Convenor: Marjorie Keys*

**A Firm Foundation** Ruth Mitchell

**Bricks and Mortar** Kevin Mitchell

**Influencing the Design** Lindsey Robb

**Building for the Future** Anne Neilson

**A View from the Edge** Sue Higham

Free Paper Session 40

*Chair: Nicky Stanley*

**Risk Factors for Unidirectional and Bidirectional Intimate Partner Violence among Young Adults.** Lynette Renner, Stephen Whitney

**Coping with Conflictual Relationships to Increase Social Well-Being: Young Mums in Mozambique.** Aisha Hutchinson

**“Hung by a Nail…” - Children, Young People and Domestic Abuse: The Influences and Implications of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.** Colm Dempsey

**Health Professionals’ Response to Disclosure about Domestic Abuse: Attitudes to Children.** Julie Taylor, Caroline Bradbury-Jones, Fiona Duncan, Thilo Kroll
Free Paper Session 41
Chair: Martin Price


The Impact of Childhood Sexual Abuse on Adult Functioning – Critical Findings from a Review of the Literature. Pauline Deazley

Retrospective Accounts of Reporting Child Sexual Assault in Childhood: Implications for Assisting Parents and Teachers to become Effective Guardians. Nadia Wager

Supporting Individuals Who Experience Sexual Abuse During Childhood Diane Seddon, Anne Krayer, Catherine Robinson, Hefin Gwilym, Gaynor McKeown, Carolyn Hodrien

Free Paper Session 42
Chair: Amy Weir

Systematic Assessment in Child Protection: Learning from Drug Errors and Other Adverse Events Julie Taylor, Gerry Armitage, Diane Jerwood, Laura Ashley

Child and Family Practitioners' Understanding of child development: Lessons Learnt from a Small Sample of Serious Case Reviews. Marian Brandon, Peter Sidebotham, Catherine Ellis, Sue Bailey, Pippa Belderson

Learning from the Past and Looking to the Future: Some Critical Reflections on Child Abuse Inquiries in Ireland. Colette McAuley, Caroline McKeown

What Works? Continental Strategies Against CAN Related to Research on Fatal CAN in the Netherlands, Sweden, Germany, Hungary and Portugal. Peter van der Linden

Free Paper Session 43
Chair: Stephanie Holt

Outcomes for Social Workers of a Short Course on Engaging Fathers in Child Protection Jonathan Scourfield, Nina Maxwell, Alison Bullock, Brid Featherstone, Sally Holland, Richard Tolman

Group Work Interventions for Women and Children Experiencing Domestic Abuse: Do they Make a Difference? Stephanie Holt, Gloria Kirwan

Involving Fathers and their Families in the Evaluation of the Caring Dads Safer Children Programme: Challenges and Ethical Issues for Practitioners Nicola McConnell, Matt Barnard, Richard Cotmore, Julie Taylor

Evaluating the Outcomes of the Caring Dads Safer Children Programme Nicola McConnell, Matt Barnard, Richard Cotmore, Julie Taylor

Workshop 35
Maintaining a Child Protection Focus when Working with Children and Young People who Display Harmful Sexual Behaviours – The NCATS Model. Alex Stringer, Hilary Crew

Workshop 36
Resilience and Burnout in Child Protection Social Work. Paula McFadden, Anne Campbell, Brian Taylor
### Workshop 37
Early Permanence for Young Children – Reflecting on 12 years of Coram’s Concurrent Planning Project.  
Shabnam Rathore, Kairika Karsna

PFC 2/013

### Workshop 38
Building a Skilled Workforce and Organisation to Keep Children Safe: The Safety in Partnership Approach.  
Deirdre Mahon, Jennifer McKinney

PFC 3/011

### Workshop 39
The Voices of Youth with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Transitioning from Care: What Child Welfare Agencies Need to Know.  
Linda Burnside, Don Fuchs, Amy Reinink, Shelagh Marchenski

PFC 2/025

### Workshop 40
Using Innovative Risk Based Approaches to Early Identification and Engagement with Families Vulnerable to Escalating Problems  
Leighton Rees, George Selvanera

PFC 3/006a

### Workshop 41
Child to Parent Violence – Challenging Perspectives and New Approaches to Family Violence.  
Declan Coogan

PFC 2/011

### Evening
Belfast City Hall Tour, Congress Gala Drinks Reception and Gala Dinner – refer to social events

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**Wednesday 18th April 2012**

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<td>08.30-13.00</td>
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<td>09.00</td>
<td><strong>Parallel Session 8</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Symposium 13</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>The Sexual Exploitation of Young People: A Child Protection Issue</em></td>
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- Sexual Grooming of Young People in Northern Ireland - Evidence from the 2010 Young Life and Times survey.  
  Dirk Schubotz

- Protecting Looked After Children from Sexual Exploitation - Lessons from Research.  
  Helen Beckett

- ‘How We See It’: Negotiating Agency and Victimhood Among Sexually Exploited Young People.  
  Camille Warrington

  Paula Skidmore

  Carlene Firmin
Symposium 14

Data linkage and Longitudinal Studies in Child Care and Protection: Opportunities and Challenges

Convenor: Julie Taylor


The Importance of Discourse and Context When Interpreting Administrative Data. June Thoburn

Comparisons of Data on Violent Child Deaths in England. Peter Sidebotham, Marian Brandon, Carol Hawley, Sue Bailey, Pippa Belderson

Free Paper Session 44

Chair: Gerry Byrne


Choosing Supports, Supporting Choice: Understanding the Relational World of Vulnerable Young People In School Settings Annie Gowing

Peer Bullying in Turkish Preschool Children: An Observational Study Hatice Uysal, Caglayan Dincer, Pinar Bayhan

Disablist Bullying and Initial Teacher Education: A Critical Examination of Knowledge, Experience, Confidence and Attitudes. Noel Purdy, Conor McGuckin, Kate Carr-Fanning

Free Paper Session 45

Chair: Jonathan Picken

A Case Study of a Systemic Approach to Improving, Embedding and Sustaining Supervision Practice in a Statutory Child Protection setting Judith Gibbs, George Habib

Harnessing Knowledge, Improving Policy and Practice: The Development and Review of a National Initiative to Support Child Protection Work in Scotland Fiona Mitchell, Beth Smith

Supporting, Educating and Leading Staff: What do We Know about What Works in Supervision? Lynne McPherson, Margarita Frederico, Patricia McNamara

A Constructivist Grounded Theory Study of Role Development in Child Protection Social Workers - Interim Findings. Martin Kettle
Congress Programme

Free Paper Session 46
Chair: Nigel King

Female Sexual Abusers: Theory to Practice  Sherry Ashfield
Nature of Policy on Sex Offenders: A Critical Examination. Connie Smith
Helping to Heal – Equipping Families of Internet Offenders to Move Forward. Tracy Shakes, Jo Ziegert

Free Paper Session 47
Chair: David Spicer

Am I Right, Are You Right, is Anyone Right? An Analysis of Children's Policy in Ireland between 2002-2009 through Children's Rights Perspectives. Kerry Cuskelly
Developing a Centre for European Child Protection Studies – Foundations and Plans. Trevor Spratt
Preventing Child Abuse and Exploitation in the Delivery of International Aid – AusAID. Kate Eversteyn, Karen Flanagan

Workshop 42

Workshop 43

Workshop 44
“But I was Only Looking”: Risk, Sexual Abuse and Indecent Images of Children. Lisa Saint

Workshop 45
The Therapeutic Community Approach to Working with Adolescents who Display Challenging Behaviour. Peter Clarke, Karen Parish

Workshop 46
After Munro: Implementing Effective Change in Child Protection Systems. Avery Bowser, Helga Sneddon, Michelle Harris, Kathy Brennan

Workshop 47
Health and Social Care Working Together to Improve the Quality of Life of Looked-After Children and Young People. Mary Sainsbury

Workshop 48
Hunting and Convicting a Travelling Sex Offender John Geden, Todd Zerfoss
Workshop 49
Exploring Cultural Competence. Fiona Milligan

10.30 Refreshments

11.00 PLENARY SESSION F

CHAIR: Hugh Connor, Chair of the Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland

Keynote 9: Ian Elliott
National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland
Clerical Abuse in the Catholic Church in Ireland - Transparency, Accountability and the Process of Review

11.45 Keynote 10: Professor Jane Barlow
University of Warwick
Preventing Child Maltreatment: Getting it Right from the Start

12.30 Closing Remarks
Dr Catherine Powell, BASPCAN Chair

13.00 CLOSE
Plenary Session A
16:00 – 18:00
Venue: Sir William Whitla Hall
Chair: Catherine Powell, BASPCAN

Congress Official Welcome and Opening
Catherine Powell
Chair, BASPCAN

The Victimisation of Childhood: Using Research Findings to Challenge Thinking About Risk and Danger Towards Children
Lorraine Radford
Independent Researcher

Lorraine Radford BA, MA, PhD, is an Independent Researcher and ex-NSPCC Head of Research. She has completed a number of externally funded research studies on violence and abuse, working with researchers in the UK and overseas. Her particular areas of research interest and publications include the prevalence and impact of child maltreatment and victimisation, the impact of domestic violence upon children and on parenting, safe child contact arrangements and gender and abuse. She has considerable experience working with a range of professional organisations and with the voluntary sector on developing training, policy and practice in relation to violence and abuse. Her latest research report can be downloaded from www.nspcc.org.uk/childstudy Her new book Rethinking Children, Violence and Safeguarding will be published in Spring 2012.

The media and campaigning organisations have influenced public perceptions of violence and young people by focusing on rare and sensationalist events such as homicides, extreme cases of child abuse and young people orchestrating riots from smart phones in inner city areas. Representations of children and young people as either ‘victims’ or ‘villains’ has consequences for their wellbeing – their experiences of violence are misrepresented and over simplified, fragmented accounts of the causes and consequences hinder progress in policy and practice. Drawing on recent research findings, this plenary presentation will consider what is helpful to know about the risks of abuse, neglect and violence when working or interacting with children and young people.

Key questions addressed will be:

What is known about the prevalence and impact of abuse, neglect and violence in the lives of children and young people living in the UK today?

Who does what, to whom? What are the risks to children and young people at different ages from different perpetrators? How much abuse and violence is committed by children and young people?

Is the world a more dangerous place where children experience more violence and commit more violent crime than ever before?

Are adults’ fears about and responses to child abuse and children’s violence part of the problem?

What are the challenges and opportunities we face in putting children’s experiences of abuse, neglect and violence and their rights and agency at the centre of thinking and practice?

A City Absorbed by Youth Suicide – Belfast: Reflections on Childhood Adversity, Aggression-Related Trauma Prevention and Recovery
Fergus Cumiskey
Contact Northern Ireland

Fergus brings thirty years of professional experience to his role as Clinical Director with Contact where he leads the regional lifeline crisis response counselling service. Fergus also chairs the NI Trauma Recovery Network. His abiding clinical interests include aggression related trauma and youth suicide prevention. Fergus is a practising psychotherapist and clinical supervisor. His career spans training and consultancy, leadership development, research and occasional writing, broadcast and conference projects.
Belfast kids grow up within walking distance of the city’s thriving metropolitan hub. The city climbs to the North and West along the broad arterial Falls, Shankill and Antrim roads, through tightknit redeveloped inner city terraces and flats towards suburban sprawl. Across the city, communities are coming to terms with the fifth year of recession and the sixteenth year of unbroken ceasefire. While we count our blessings, the peace dividend also revealed an increasing preparedness to report domestic and sexual violence, with prevalence rates on a scale comparable with western, industrialised anywhere. Our increasingly accurate reported suicide death rate starkly marks a persistent threefold likelihood of self-harm and death by suicide for young, impoverished Belfast men and boys. Communities mobilised in North and West Belfast regard youth suicide prevention as the most urgent public health crisis of our times. This keynote address to congress will discuss promising local suicide prevention initiatives and research findings from Fergus Cumiskey, Clinical Director of Contact NI, who created and provide the 24/7 regional crisis response Lifeline counselling and referral service, piloted to young people in North and West Belfast 2006-2008 and rolled out regionally to the entire NI population since May 2008, funded under contract from the NI Public Health Agency, with an annual £3.5m budget. As co-founding Chair of the NI Trauma Recovery Network (TRN), a secular social justice lobby group and think tank focussed on aggression related trauma recovery, Fergus will also present considerations for change in policy direction for gender and political violence awareness and prevention strategies, informed by reflections on reporting to 58 serious adverse incident reviews following client suicides over the past four years and his work on the urgent Belfast discourse to provide safer places at times of suicidal crisis.
Plenary Session B  
9:00 – 10:00  
Venue: Sir William Whitla Hall  
Chair: Nicky Stanley, Chair, Congress Scientific Committee, BASPCAN

Ministerial Address  
Edwin Poots  
Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety

Edwin Poots MLA was appointed Minister of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety in the Northern Ireland Executive on 16 May 2011. Edwin Poots was born in 1965 and was educated at the Wallace High School, Lisburn, and then Greenmount Agricultural College. He is married with four children. He is a farmer and was a member of Lisburn City Council from 1997 to 2010. He was elected as member for Lagan Valley to the Northern Ireland Assembly in 1998. Edwin was a member of the Environment Committee and chaired the Committee of the Centre (i.e. Committee for the Office of the First and Deputy First Ministers) in the 1998-2003 Assembly. On 8 May 2007, he was appointed Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure in the Northern Ireland Executive, a post he held until 9 June 2008. He was appointed Minister of the Environment in the Northern Ireland Executive on 30 June 2009, until May 2011.

Does Mandate Drift Help Explain the Decline in Rates of Reported Child Sexual Abuse Internationally? Reflections from Canada

Nico Trocmé  
School of Social Work, McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Nico Trocmé is a Professor of Social Work at McGill University where he holds the Philip Fisher Chair in Social Work and directs the Centre for Research on Children and Families. Dr. Trocmé is the principal investigator for the Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect (1998, 2003 & 2008), the Scientific Director of the Centre of Excellence for Child Welfare, and the lead researcher for a Federal-Provincial-Territorial initiative to develop a common set of National Outcomes Measures in child welfare. He is currently leading the evaluation of a family support programme for African Canadian families, the evaluation of a family-group conferencing model, analyses of the over-representation of First Nations children in foster care, and the evaluation of a social paediatric community programme.

The 1993 Ontario Incidence Study of reported Child Abuse and Neglect was the first study ever conducted in a Canadian province documenting rates and characteristics of child maltreatment investigations. Over a quarter of all investigations involved allegations of child sexual abuse (CSA), and the estimated rate of substantiated CSA per 1,000 children was 1.57, with another 1.46 CSA investigations per 1,000 children being classified as involving suspected CSA. Three national incidence studies have been conducted subsequently (1998, 2003 and 2008), and with each cycle the proportion of CSA investigations and the rate of substantiated sexual abuse per 1,000 children have declined. By 2008 rates of substantiated CSA had dropped to 0.49 per 1,000 children in Canada, 0.33 per 1,000 in Ontario. Possible explanations for this decline range from a real decline in rates of CSA in the general population to a growing reluctance to report CSA. Declines in CSA investigations have been noted in other countries, most notably in the United States where the decline in CSA is consistent with declining rates of reported violence and associated risk factors. Trends in Canada are not as consistent, however, the dramatic shift in the proportion of CSA investigated by child welfare authorities raises important questions about the effectiveness of our response to CSA. While CSA investigations have been decreasing, investigations involving neglect, emotional maltreatment and exposure to intimate partner violence have increased substantially to the extent that CSA investigations now constitute less than three percent of child maltreatment investigations. This dramatic shift may raise questions about the capacity of child welfare authorities to respond appropriately to the complexities inherent in CSA cases. Surveys of youth in child welfare care indicate that rates of CSA may be significantly higher than officially reported. This presentation will examine the practice and policy implications of these changes.
Parallel Session 1
10:30 – 12:00

Symposium 1:
Child Death Review in an International Context: Messages for Prevention
Convenor: Sharon Vincent
Venue: PFC OG/007

S1.1

Preventing Child Deaths: Learning from Review
Sharon Vincent
University of Wolverhampton, UK

Objectives
To compare and contrast child death review processes in Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Canada and the UK and identify messages for prevention.

Method
Case studies were undertaken in Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Canada and the UK. The case studies comprised: a) analysis of documents including international, national and local child homicide and fatality statistics, policy documents and annual reports and other documents from child death review teams; b) semi-structured interviews with key informants including policy makers, members of child death review teams, academics and practitioners.

Results
Processes for reviewing child deaths vary significantly both within and across countries, for example, in terms of which deaths are reviewed, whether review is rooted in legislation, whether or not dedicated resources are allocated to review and whether or not families are involved in reviews.

Conclusions
While child death review teams are struggling to demonstrate that their prevention initiatives are making a difference in terms of reduced numbers of child deaths, evidence from child death review has undoubtedly contributed to knowledge about abuse and neglect and contributed to the development of successful policies and practice initiatives to keep children safe. By pooling knowledge across countries we can identify good practice and further understanding of why children die to inform policy and practice around prevention.

S1.2

What Can We Learn from a Decade of Reviews of Child Fatality and Serious Harm Through Abuse from the Four Countries of the UK?
Marian Brandon¹, Peter Sidebotham², Sue Bailey¹, Pippa Belderson¹
1University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK, 2University of Warwick, Warwick, UK

Objectives
To distil learning from reviews of cases from the four UK nations to identify what’s new and what are recurring and enduring messages for practice.

Method
Major thematic findings from our studies of more than 700 reviews from England and 40 reviews from Wales over most of the last decade, will be compared with thematic findings from secondary sources outlining results of similar studies from Northern Ireland and Scotland.

Results
While there are many similar themes and findings across the four countries, discerning patterns over time are less clear where there are a small number of reviews. But we do know that cases of death and serious harm occur most often for children outside of the formal child protection system. Combining the findings from all four countries provides both powerful messages and important notes of caution about what can, reliably, be transferred to practice. Professional responses to neglect and the ways in which the child at the centre of the review gets lost will be explored.

Conclusions
Overall findings highlight the complexity of each child’s individual circumstances and the consequent difficulties professionals face in making sound professional judgements. It is the individual differences in each child’s case that pose the most challenges for understanding and hence for practice and decision making. This also creates a challenge for predicting and preventing serious harm.
and fatality and underscores the importance of supporting practitioners and the multi-agency workforce and getting the best from reviewing systems.

S1.3

The US Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) Case Registry: Lessons Learned

Lena Camperlengo¹, Teri Covington²
¹Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, USA, ²National Center for Review & Prevention of Child Deaths, Washington DC, USA

Objectives
To explain and discuss the role of the SUID Case Registry in improving the review and prevention of childhood deaths.

Method
In August 2009, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funded five states to conduct population-based surveillance of Sudden Unexpected Infant deaths (SUID). By adding new SUID-specific variables to the existing National Center for Child Death Review (NCCDR) system, the SUID Case Registry is able to examine all SUID cases in great detail. With two years of data collection completed, there is evidence that pilot programme states have enhanced capacity to bring infant death investigation and autopsy information to case reviews, improved data completeness and reduced the time from infant death to review and data entry.

Results
Only one and a half years into the programme, state grantees have identified 867 SUID cases, reviewed 655 cases, developed and implemented a robust continuous quality improvement system, and invigorated the Child Death Review system. State-based teams identified more cases than we anticipated, increased data completeness two-fold, created new and better relationships with local partners and thoughtfully contributed to improving the data collection tool.

Conclusions
By providing additional resources, the SUID Case Registry pilot programme has improved data quality of all child death review cases, not merely SUID cases. This would not be accomplished without improved communication with the medico-legal professionals involved in infant and child death investigation. Reports from grantees also suggest that the pilot programme has reinvigorated review teams with a sense of purpose and the programme has brought new medico-legal members to review teams.

S1.4

An Evaluation of the Delivery and Impact of Social Work Teaching and Learning on Child and Adult Abuse Inquiries in Northern Ireland

Stan Houston¹, Mary McColgan²
¹Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK, ²University of Ulster, Londonderry, UK

Objectives
This evaluation will review how social work programmes in Northern Ireland, at the qualifying and post-qualifying level, convey knowledge about case management reviews and inquiries concerning vulnerable children and adults.

Method
Three methods are employed: (a) questionnaire to all students (b) telephone interviews with a selected cohort (c) semi-structured interviews with course convenors.

Results
The presentation will discuss the results to date including a comparison of findings for two groupings: undergraduate social work students and postgraduate, post-qualifying social work practitioners.

Conclusions
The findings cover an important gap in knowledge: how social work students in one region, undergraduate and postgraduate, evaluate education and teaching on the very important theme of child and adult deaths.
Symposium 2:
*Signs Of Safety: Lessons from International Dissemination*
**Convenor:** Trish Walsh
**Venue:** PFC 2/026

**S2.1**

**The Safety in Partnership Approach in Northern Ireland, an Example of Adaptation from Signs of Safety.**
Deirdre Mahon, Karen O’Brien
*Western Health and Social Care Trust, Derry, Northern Ireland, UK*

**Objectives**
To describe how practice models can be developed to suit local conditions.
To develop understanding of the organisational change-effort involved in its implementation.

**Method**
The project will be described in a narrative of how Safety in Partnership came into being from initial exposure to Signs of Safety and the Structured Decision Making models through to the current stage of its implementation. The identification of key points along the way will highlight how organisational and management support can be developed. The specific challenges that were faced will also be outlined.

**Results**
The outcomes of the project and evaluation results to date will be presented. The future prospects of the project will also be considered in the light of the worsening economic and public service environment. Effective strategies can be developed to help overcome future threats.

**Conclusions**
Early indicators suggest that this approach can have a positive impact both on workers and families and creates a purposive focus for child protection work. Initiatives such as these need some committed local champions who can successfully persuade organisations to engage in introducing practice innovations.

**S2.2**

**Signs of Safety: A Child Rights Based Approach?**
Fergal Landy, John Canavan
*National University of Ireland Galway, Galway, Ireland*

**Objectives**
To present the findings of an evaluation of a Differential Response Model (DRM) in North Dublin with an emphasis on the application of the SoS approach by the project.


To outline key messages for other international dissemination initiatives.

**Method**
The evaluation involves a range of methods to elicit data about the project including subjective data from stakeholders such as social work and other staff, parents and children and objective data such as administrative data about the operation of the project. These methods include individual interviews, focus group interviews, online surveys with staff and other stakeholders, service user feedback surveys, practice observation and documentary analysis. The UNCRC will be used as a framework for analysis of the findings.

**Results**
The evaluation is ongoing, the results of the combined use of DRM and SoS will be presented with an emphasis on staff views about the application of the SoS child protection assessment and practice framework and researcher observation of SoS practice.

**Conclusions**
Conclusions on the suitability of the combined DRM/SoS approach within an Irish context will be made including consideration of organisational, cultural and socio-legal factors. The framework of the UNCRC will be used to reflect on the potential of SoS to be viewed as a means of child rights realisation and to present the lessons for international dissemination of SoS.
S2.3

The Western Australia Signs of Safety Project: Lessons at the Halfway Mark
Trish Walsh
Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Objectives
SOS is a framework which focuses on attempting to find workable solutions in families to child welfare concerns from the point of referral. Western Australia (WA) (www.gov.wa/cps; www.signsofsafety.net) are halfway through a five year implementation programme. Implementations projects are at various stages of development internationally. While no firm evaluation data is yet available, the extent of its adoption warrants a critical examination.

To briefly explain the core components of the SoS model.

To outline the WA programme at its half-way mark (2011) and describe the elements involved in this change-management strategy.

To propose some necessary preconditions for a successful implementation.

Method
A research visit to the Western Australian project in May 2011 informs this paper, including data gathering from key informants and visits to site offices. Theories of innovation diffusion, knowledge utilization and transfer inform the paper conceptually.

Results
Based on the Western Australia project, it is suggested that conditions for the successful implementation of SoS require significant and sustained resources and majority support vertically and horizontally throughout child protection systems. The identification and inclusion of key decision-makers within child protection systems, beyond the core agency itself, appears to be an important element in the adoption process. Building sustained support structures at local level requires imaginative approaches and flexibility in relation to role.

Conclusions
Visa Requirements for successful international dissemination of practice models such as Signs of Safety will be outlined. The outcomes of international dissemination efforts will only become clear once discernible criteria for measuring change in existing systems are developed and applied. In order for successful adoption of an innovation to occur, a range of stakeholders might need to agree and accept common criteria for success. Currently, dissemination efforts in child welfare services can be complicated by the range of outcome measures or goals adopted by different stakeholders.

S2.4

The Use of the Signs of Safety Framework: A Dublin Project
Mark Yalloway1, Eileen McRory2
1Health Services Executive, Dublin, Ireland, 2Daughters of Charity Child and Family Service, Dublin, Ireland

Objectives
To describe how the SoS framework is in use as an initial assessment tool in a Dublin statutory agency, working in partnership with the Daughters of Charity Child and Family Service and the experiences and observations of professionals using it.

Method
Presentation from members of two local area services (statutory and voluntary) in Dublin.

Results
Certain aspects of the approach, in particular group consultations using the SoS framework for presenting and analysing information (Lohrbach, 2000) helps to promote partnership working between voluntary and statutory service providers.

Conclusions
Reviewing the process of SoS implementation and reflecting on the issues raised can inform future development of this and other projects.
Symposium 3: Engaging and Working with ‘Hard To Reach’ Or ‘Involuntary’ Clients Where Children Are at Risk of Harm

Convenor: Claudia Bell
Venue: PFC OG/024

S3.1

Can Partnerships with Service User/Parents and Professionals Engage Parents in Low-Income Communities to Attend After-School, Multi-Family Groups to Practice Positive Parenting?

Lynn McDonald
Middlesex University, London, UK

Objectives

Rates of child neglect and abuse in communities with average incomes under $15,000 are 44 times higher than in those with incomes over $30,000. The stresses of poverty, social exclusion, and toxic environments contribute to risks of harm for children. Perhaps parent engagement could take place in deprived communities at primary schools by inviting all families to attend groups with their younger children. Parents/service users of children could plan, recruit, train, implement, and evaluate.

Method

Multi-family groups were held after school for all children (ages 4-7) in deprived communities. Parents were coached as they practiced leading positive parenting activities with their children for 8 weeks. FAST (Families and Schools Together) core processes were voluntary participation; face to face recruitment; teams must be culturally representative with 50% service user/parents and practitioners; experiential learning and focus on strengths; parent-child responsive play. Based on Paulo Freire’s adult education work, parents meet in small groups to share knowledge, start trusting and connecting, and become empowered. As stresses and social isolation reduce, new skills are used more.

Results

4 randomized controlled studies on FAST showed significant improvement in child functioning, reduced family conflict and increased parent friendships. Retention rates of 80% for parents who come once, hold in rural and urban schools in 14 countries. In 2010, United Nations commended and Save the Children endorsed FAST for engaging parents in deprived communities. Service users and practitioners adapt 60% of the manualized socially inclusive parenting programme for local use on culture, religion, race, poverty, drugs and crime.

Conclusions

Groups focusing on building relationships within and across families by teams of service users and practitioners reduces the potential power conflicts which lead to disparities and drop-out.

S3.2

Understanding Parental Engagement with Services when Children may be at Risk of Maltreatment

Dendy Platt
University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

Objectives

Parental engagement with professionals is a central concern for social work and other services in contact with children who may be at risk of maltreatment. Unless removal to care is necessary, parents’ engagement is fundamental to finding solutions to such problems, and is taken into account extensively in decision-making, including decisions about legal interventions. Understanding parental engagement is therefore of considerable importance. This paper will present an integrated conceptual model of factors affecting parental engagement with social work services in a statutory child welfare context.
Method
A selective review of the international literature was conducted, using empirical and conceptual material relevant to client engagement with services in contexts relevant to child protection. Of particular importance were Ward et al.'s (2004) Multifactor Offender Readiness Model, from which the current model was developed, and Littell & Tajima's (2000) model of participation in family preservation services.

Results
The outcome of the review was an approach to understanding parental engagement that sets out the relationship between the various factors involved. Engagement itself is conceptualised as the combination of an interactional component (the working alliance), with behavioural and attitudinal features such as keeping appointments. The model also includes factors believed to determine parental engagement. These will be described from two viewpoints, internal or individual determinants such as the parents' cognitive and affective responses, and external determinants such as the worker's approach, the availability of resources etc.

Conclusions
For the practitioner, the model offers a framework for thinking and analysis, within which to understand and assess parental engagement, to anticipate or address difficulties, and to improve decision-making. For researchers, it provides a conceptual approach through which the relationships between the various factors could be tested.


S3.3
A Relationship-Based Approach to Engaging ‘Involuntary Clients’: The Contribution of Recognition Theory
Danielle Turney
University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

Objectives
The importance of the relationship between social worker and service user has been highlighted in the recent Munro Review of Child Protection in England. However, in the Review, Munro notes that "the centrality of forming relationships with children and families to understand and help them has become obscured" (2011: 8). The aim of this paper is to consider the nature and purpose of the professional relationship in child protection practice and to outline a conceptual and ethical framework to support relationship-based work with ‘involuntary clients’ of children’s services.

Method
This theoretical paper draws on a literature-based study which explores the application of critical and social theory to aspects of social work practice. The particular focus here is on Honneth’s theory of recognition (Honneth, 1995, 2007).

Results
Having contextualised the discussion within a broader understanding of the role and importance of relationship-based practice, a conceptual and ethical framework is outlined that can, it is suggested, support effective relationship-based work and moral decision-making with involuntary clients. Relationship-based practice offers the potential for recognition, respect and reciprocity, and these three aspects of relationship provide a foundation for ethical engagement with involuntary clients. However, such an approach is not without tensions, and some of the challenges and dilemmas that accompany the process of trying to engage parents who do not want to be ‘worked with’ are identified.
Conclusions
Relationship-based practice grounded in an understanding of recognition theory offers an ethical approach to engagement that tries to acknowledge and work with the service user’s perspective, but does not obscure professional responsibility for decision-making. At its best, such practice can provide the client with the experience of being valued and recognised as an individual who can be seen as an ‘end in themselves’ rather than simply as a means to the end of protecting their children from harm.

S3.4
Engaging a ‘Hard-to-Reach’ Group of Young Mothers in Research
Claudia Bernard
Goldsmiths, University of London, London, UK

Objectives
This paper discusses some of the ethical and methodological challenges of engaging in research a ‘hard-to-reach’ group of young mothers with histories of child and adolescent maltreatment. The paper draws from an exploratory study that was primarily concerned to elicit the narratives of young mothers to identify how they recognise factors from their own harmful childhood experiences and the likely impact on their coping styles and parenting practices. Specifically, parental engagement within the context of a stigmatising discourse that puts forward a deficit model of teenage parenting will be the focus of this presentation.

Method
The study was qualitative and used in-depth and open-ended interviews with teenage black mothers about their experiences of being parented, and being a parent.

Results
Issues such as the silence surrounding experiences kept invisible through shame, disempowerment, their age, and racial backgrounds were interacting factors that influenced the young mothers’ capacity to engage with the research. Other important aspects include the challenges that are posed in striving to enable young mothers to have a voice in research to make visible adverse experiences, whilst at the same time addressing the issues arising with regard to the limits of confidentiality in relation to safeguarding concerns.

Conclusions
The paper concludes with a discussion of the problems and benefits of involving ‘hard-to-reach’ young parents in research. It is concluded that engaging young parents with harmful childhood experiences as research participants offers important insights into some of the dynamics of parental engagement, despite the difficulties in eliciting their participation.
Free Paper Session 1
Chair: Helen Buckley
Venue: PFC 3/017

F1.1

Improving Outcomes for Looked After Children: The New Orleans Model in Glasgow
Julie Taylor¹, Matt Forde¹, Lucy Morton³, Helen Minnis²
¹NSPCC, London, UK, ²University of Glasgow, Glasgow, UK, ³NSPCC, Glasgow, UK

Objectives
Children in care have higher rates of mental health problems than those in the general population. Notwithstanding the effects of abuse and neglect, placement instability is undoubtedly a key contributor to these problems. Children are both most vulnerable to the effects of poor quality care and most responsive to treatment in the early weeks and months of life yet, in the UK, permanency decisions are generally not in place until around the age of four. This collaborative study reports on the implementation and translation of the New Orleans intervention for infant mental health within a UK context.

Method
We report on an exploratory randomised controlled trial investigating the effectiveness (including cost-effectiveness) of the New Orleans Model in the Scottish context. Families with a maltreated child under 5 years are offered the New Orleans Model or “case management” i.e. quality assured services as usual, using random allocation. Well validated measures of parent-child interaction, cognition and attachment are used to determine effectiveness of the intervention; a process evaluation of the implementation runs concurrently.

Results
This paper reports on early data from the New Orleans Intervention in Glasgow and process points from the roll-out within other UK countries. The New Orleans context in Louisiana, USA, differs considerably from the Scottish context; which differs yet further from systems within England. Whole hearted buy-in from all partners - health services, children’s services, judiciary, third sector etc - is key to delivery.

Conclusions
Our discussions with the New Orleans team have highlighted concrete steps we can take, in Glasgow, to make better decision-making for vulnerable children a reality. Partnership working can be a challenge, but outcomes for children are undoubtedly improved.

F1.2

Transitioning from the State Care System: The Impacts of In-Care Experiences on the Post-Care Outcomes for Young People Leaving Care
Badal Moslehuddin
Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

Objectives
To gain an understanding of the association between out-of-home care experiences and a range of post-care outcomes commonly experienced by young people leaving the state care system, and to make recommendations for improved outcomes following their discharge.

Method
This doctoral qualitative study was conducted thorough face-to-face interviews with 20 young people in Victoria Australia who have left the state care system and were aged between 18-26 years.

Results
The study findings indicate that a range of factors associated with the out-of-home care experiences influenced young people’s ability to successfully transition to independence. These include the trauma associated with the pre-care abuse and neglect, inadequacies within the care system including multiple placements, and inadequate supports at leaving care and following discharge. These multiple and interacting risk factors have been compounded further by each phase of the care system that contributed to a range of poor outcomes following discharge.
Conclusions
The association between out-of-home care experiences and a range of negative outcomes experienced by care leavers following discharge draws attention to the need for a well-coordinated support services. These services should include early intervention to help young people to deal with their traumatic pre-care experiences, provision of a greater level of in-care consistency and stability, and planned transition pathways with ongoing and guaranteed post-care support.

F1.3
Staying in Foster Care into Early Adulthood: Experiences and Outcomes
Clare Lushey, Emily Munro
Loughborough University, Leicestershire, UK

Objectives
The Staying Put 18+ Family Placement Programme is a government funded pilot offering young people the opportunity to stay in their foster placement up the age of 21 years old. The objective of the evaluation was to explore the contribution that ‘Staying Put’ can make to promoting positive outcomes for young people including, remaining in employment, education or training; nurturing attachments to significant ‘parental’ figures and promoting transitions to adulthood that are more akin to those experienced by young people in the general population.

Method
A mixed method approach was employed. In-depth interviews with young people were undertaken by peer researchers (former care leavers trained in research methods). Interviews were also conducted with foster carers and leaving care personal advisers. Quantitative data were obtained from Management Information Systems to facilitate exploration of the similarities and differences in the characteristics and outcomes of young people that remained with their foster cares post 18 and those that did not.

Results
Findings revealed that a strong attachment to carers and feeling ‘part of the family’ were key factors influencing whether or not young people remained in foster care post 18 years of age. Other factors influencing decisions included practical considerations such as the financial implications of leaving care and the quality and availability of suitable accommodation. ‘Staying Put’ provided young people with stability whilst they navigated changes in other areas of their lives including transitions from school to work or higher education and gave them more time to mature and develop their skills in a safe and secure environment.

Conclusions
Staying in foster care post 18 years of age protects young people from accelerated and abrupt transitions to independence. It provides young people with continuity and stability; support from carers provides a foundation to promote education, the development of independent living skills and emotional maturity. However, it is also important to recognise that not all young people want to remain in foster care into early adulthood. It is important that services and support are also available to meet the needs of those who choose to move to independence, as well as those who are not eligible to ‘Stay Put’.

F1.4
The South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust Employability Service for Looked After Children - Sharing Our Experiences
Rosaleen Murphy, Alison Wilson, Campbell Killick
South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust, Newtownards, Down, Lisburn, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
To develop an innovative Employability Service for Looked After Children that would create training and employment opportunities for care leavers and aspire them to plan for their transition to adulthood.
Method

The Trust, as corporate parent and the largest employer in the geographical area, has been successful in developing an innovative approach to supporting care leavers to access employment and improve their socioeconomic status in the community.

Through a partnership model (16+ social workers, personal advisers and key workers), young people can increase their skills through training and work based learning and improve their job readiness.

Developed alliances with the Trust’s directorates and human resources departments have been the key to the success of the range of placement opportunities available.

Results

This initiative has benefited the young people immensely in that they have the opportunity to gain “real” work experience together with accredited qualifications and in some cases permanent employment.

Feedback from young people who have participated on these schemes clearly shows that they would not have been able to access these quality opportunities otherwise because of the barriers that they face.

Conclusions

“Looked after children” are one of the most disadvantaged groups in our society. Research shows they have often experienced a disrupted education and achieve fewer qualifications than their peers, experience poverty and social exclusion, mental health problems, teenage parenthood, imprisonment and unemployment (Bilson, Price & Stanley, 2009). There is also a belief that employers will discriminate if they are aware of a young person’s care history (Morgan & Lindsay, 2006).

The success of this service proves that care leavers can be just as successful as their peers and it sends a clear message to employers to open up similar opportunities.

Free Paper Session 2

Chair: Anne Lazenbatt
Venue: PFC 2/017

F2.1

Fabricated Induced Illness in Children: A Rare Form of Child Abuse?
Anne Lazenbatt1, Julie Taylor1
1Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK, 2NSPCC, London, UK

Objectives

Although child maltreatment due to abuse or neglect is pervasive within our society, less is known about fabricated or induced illness by carers (FII), a rare form of child abuse. The main objectives of this paper are to highlight and critically discuss the controversies and complexities of the condition known as fabricated induced illness (FII), the risks to the child; the paucity of systematic research regarding what motivates mothers to harm their children by means of illness falsification; and how the condition should be managed and treated for both mother and child; as well as implications for policy and practice.

Method

A scoping literature review was undertaken, consistent with a narrative synthesis approach suited to the appraisal of a contrasting body of studies that are principally qualitative in nature. It is based on an iterative, conceptual and interpretative approach emphasizing the importance of developing a critique based on the relevance, credibility and contribution of evidence.

Results

Evidence suggests a national under-reporting of FII, and how in practice these cases are encountered more frequently due to the chronic nature of the presentations, the large number of professionals who may be involved and the broad spectrum including milder cases which may not all require a formal child protection response. Diagnosis of FII can be especially difficult, because the reported signs and symptoms cannot be confirmed (when they are being exaggerated or imagined) or may be inconsistent (when they are fabricated).
Conclusions
The growing body of literature on FII reflects the lack of clarity amongst professionals as to what constitutes FII, the difficulties in diagnosis, and the lack of research into psychotherapeutic intervention with perpetrators. This lack of clarity further complicates the identification, management and treatment of children suffering from FII and may result in many cases going undetected, with potentially life threatening consequences for children.

F2.2
Reaching the Unreachable: Child Protection and Unborn Babies
Ann Hodson, Margaret Bruce
Dundee University, Dundee, UK

Objectives
Child protection has developed in response to practice wisdom rather than considered research evidence. This paper highlights the difficulties and ethical questions facing professionals when due consideration is not afforded to the rights of the pregnant woman or the legal status of the unborn child. Ultimately the paper questions, are unborn babies really ‘reachable’ within the current context of child protection practice?

Method
Doctoral research by Hodson (2011) found that pre-birth assessment is under researched. Subsequently, a research team from the University of Dundee is undertaking an evaluation of early intervention services for families where substance use may result in compromised parenting. The evaluation of a multi-agency pre-birth assessment and intervention team uses a mixed methods approach incorporating interviews with staff and service users and an analysis of case files.

Results
Hodson’s doctoral research highlighted that pre-birth assessment has received minimal research attention and is a challenging and complex area of professional practice. Preliminary findings from an 18 month evaluation of a pre-birth assessment and intervention team in one area of Scotland, suggest that co-location is regarded by the staff as an effective method of intervention. Also, that adopting a multi-agency approach with staff from different service areas has promoted open lines of communication between adult and child services.

Conclusions
Child protection pre-birth intervention may ultimately require professionals to make a decision resulting in a mother and child being separated at birth. Research findings indicate complex and ethical issues are embedded within pre-birth child protection practice. Although limited in scale, the ongoing evaluation of the multi-agency team in Scotland provides valuable data regarding approaches to pre-birth assessment and intervention. Ultimately this demonstrates how one group of professionals have tried to ‘reach the unreachable’ unborn baby in child protection cases.

F2.3
Opportunities and Challenges When Working with Substance Using Parents: Findings from a Focus Group with Family Consultants
Scottye Cash1, Jordan Ross2, Stephanie Ingram2, Robert Oats2, Ronald Thompson2
1The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA, 2Boys Town National Research Institute, Omaha, NE, USA

Objectives
This presentation will provide participants with an overview of substance abuse in child welfare, discuss findings from the study, and provide concrete ways to overcome the obstacles and challenges when working with these families. Substance abuse (SA) in the US is associated with approximately 40-80% of all child abuse and neglect cases. The caseworkers who work with families with SA must balance child safety and a parent’s recovery, including times when a parent relapses. This balance is difficult at best and affects every aspect of the casework process.
Method
The study used a semi-structured interview to guide a focus group conducted with a sample of in-home family services caseworkers. A total of five caseworkers participated in the focus group and their responses were coded, using content analysis, and are reported in the results section. Participants responded based on their experience in working with substance abusing clients, which make up approximately 75% of their caseload (the agency serves approximately 300 clients each year). The caseworkers in this study have each been with the agency for over three years and we asked them to comment on their work with these type of families based on their clinical judgment and experience. A brief overview of the themes and corresponding information are provided in the results section.

Results
Focus group dialogue produced multiple themes. Specifically, relapse planning is a critical component in the casework process to help parents prevent or moderate relapse. However when a relapse is imminent, the parent should have an established safety plan that helps them identify and secure a safe place for their child. Obstacles to goal attainment include poor family/friend support, failure to avoid high-risk situations, poor follow-up care, and balancing recovery with child welfare timeframes for reunification. Difficulties in accessing substance abuse treatment can comprise the parent’s ability to become sober.

Conclusions
Families with substance abuse face unique problems. The caseworkers readily recognised that relapse is a part of recovery and it is their job to help parents balance their child’s safety and their on-going recovery efforts which ultimately should either keep the child placed in their home or lead to a timely reunification. Caseworkers indicated a significant gap in the field in terms of child safety plans that are framed in the context of parental substance abuse. To address this gap, safety-planning tools are currently being developed using the latest empirical evidence on safety issues in substance abusing families. These will be discussed within the presentation. The caseworkers also address the parents’ social support systems and work with the parents to develop positive social supports. Caseworkers are also working with the clients to help them identify triggers that contribute to their substance use, and are developing plans to cope with these triggers in more positive ways. Finally, the agency as a whole is working to reduce the “silo-effect” often found between child welfare and substance abuse systems. They are developing systematic processes to ensure that their clients receive the support they need from the substance abuse treatment facilities in order to work towards recovery in as an efficient and effective way possible. It is critical that we have an understanding of the issues faced by substance abusing families and identify specific strategies to work with these families that balance child safety and the parent’s recovery.

F2.4
Family Support and Child Well Being – Exploring Practice
Mary Smith
University of Kent, Canterbury, UK

Objectives
Models of intensive Family Intervention Programmes and their variants as part of the ‘Think Family’ structure are being evaluated by a local borough using tools that measure cost benefits and outcomes in relation to a number of variables.

The focus of services are intense provision for hard to reach families.

Method
The author carried out additional small scale qualitative research to explore support for children and their families as this approach is widened. We have been focusing on what factors at an individual and organisational level are contributing to these outcomes with one team.
Results
The findings have centred around several key issues:

- Intensity of the role & variety of tasks carried out
- A focus on strength
- Workers see hope in difficult cases
- Style of working is crucial
- Perception of other professionals can be negative
- Balance of professional boundaries is an issue raised by all the workers

Conclusions
The research sought to explore how a model rooted in evidence based practice was being implemented. Issues such as role perception and the processes that are taking place when key workers put the model into practice are among key areas explored.

Free Paper Session 3
Chair: Helga Sneddon
Venue: Lanyon G74

F3.1
Introducing Support Care for Families in Need: Service Overview and Current Research
Louise Roberts¹, Philippa Williams²
¹Cardiff University, Cardiff, UK, ²The Fostering Network, Cardiff, UK

Objectives
The paper will provide an introductory overview of the Support Care service and its expansion across England and Wales. This will be undertaken by a representative from the Fostering Network, the organisation that has developed and promoted the service. Support Care involves the use of part-time fostering for families in need, with the aim of preventing breakdown and long-term separation. The paper will then outline the current research being conducted on Support Care, a qualitative, longitudinal study involving families in receipt of the intervention.

Method
The doctoral research is being conducted at several sites across England and Wales. The study has a longitudinal design and data collection spans the six to nine month period of the intervention. Qualitative interviews will be undertaken with children (if appropriate), parents, social workers and Support Carers at the beginning, mid-point and end of the intervention, supplemented with some additional data generation methods.

Results
At the time of Congress, data collection will be completed and a discussion of emerging findings will be offered. This will focus on parents and children’s experiences of the service and the negotiation of constructive relationships across stakeholder groups, in the context of prevention and family preservation.

Conclusions
Delegates will be advised on finding out more information about Support Care and how to establish a service within their local authority or area.

F3.2
Family Coaching Victoria - New Ways of Working with Vulnerable Families
Samantha Kolasa
Connections Uniting Care, Victoria, Australia

Objectives
The Family Coaching Victoria (FCV) pilot provides intensive therapeutic support to families at risk of having the children removed, or families who have recently had their children placed Out of Home Care for the first time. The programme can work with 27 families at one time for a period of up to 52 weeks. Families are referred into the programme by DHS Child Protection, and these families are considered the most high risk cases for child removal.

Method
The programme works collaboratively with the Queen Elizabeth Centre Parenting Assessment and Skill Development Service, Berry St Take Two therapeutic service and the Finding Solutions Plus Program at Connections. These services work together to ensure that families have a care team, that meet every 6 weeks, designed to meet the needs and the goals of the family. The intervention is aimed at increasing family stability, placement prevention, engaging the family in the community, and with appropriate secondary and universal services.
Results
The programme has a large number of resources attached to it allowing for a creative way of approaching placement prevention, and giving case workers a large amount of flexibility in meeting the client’s needs. The programme began taking clients on 1 December 2010 and has been full to capacity with 27 families since then. The programme runs until September 2012, after which it will be reviewed for further roll out.

Conclusions
Compared to the other pilots, the take up of referrals to the mainstream FCV case management/casework service occurred very quickly - with the service operating at full target capacity within its first three months of operation. In this context, the Executive and Operations Group has correctly prioritised the following:

FCV referral, assessment and care plan processes
1. Professional development and training
2. Flexible Support Packages
3. FCV pilot project - timeframe and funding issues
4. Other key areas - Finding Solutions, reinforcing FCV/ Child Protection linkages

F3.3
Family Support Hubs in the Western Area – An Early Intervention Approach
Pat Armstrong, Tom Cassidy
Western Health and Social Care Trust, Londonderry, UK

Objectives
The Western Health and Social Care Trust has been to the forefront in developing Family Support “Hubs” as a means of co-ordinating services to meet the needs of vulnerable children and families. As an umbrella term, “Family Support Hub” is conceptually linked to “Early Intervention” which, in turn, refers to intervention at “The point in time in which a child or young person becomes vulnerable to poor developmental outcomes” ‘(SCIE Research Briefing 27). It is generally accepted that Early Intervention Services are those which are delivered at level 2 of the Northern Ireland Family Support Model.

Method
Essentially, a Family Support Hub refers to a partnership arrangement with the community and voluntary sector to pool resources to intervene in the early stage of a family’s difficulties so as to prevent children’s developmental needs being compromised by parental life challenges. Currently within the Western Area there are seven Hubs at the pilot stages of development. The key strategic framework for such a development finds expression in “Families Matter” (DHSSPS); Care Matters (DHSSPS); Our Children and Young People - Our Pledge (OFMDFM) and Extended Schools (DENI).

Results
This paper will explore the relevance of Family Support Hubs to the Trust’s overall Family Support Strategy. Specifically, it will focus attention in the challenges for statutory agencies such as the Trust in operationalising a strategic vision of innovative Family Support interventions involving a coalition of partners compromising the community and voluntary sector.

Conclusions
The paper will conclude with an analysis of the current “state of play” in terms of the key themes emerging from pilot phase of the Family Support Hubs in the Western Area.

F3.4
Warts and All: A Qualitative Exploration of Family Support’s Approach to Children’s Behaviour in Dublin
Elizabeth McGettrick
Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Objectives
The main objective of this research was to qualitatively explore the views of family support service providers regarding the area of managing children’s behaviour. The first sub-objective was to discover how family support service providers view the area of children’s behaviour. A second sub-objective was to find out how family support employees work in addressing this area of children’s behaviour and why. A third sub-objective was to learn whether family support providers feel their work with children’s behaviour is successful or not.
Method

The method used was qualitative, composed of thirteen semi-structured in-depth interviews with purposive sampling of a diversity of family support service providers. Data analysis was done through open and axial coding and use of qualitative software. The research was grounded in interpretivism and phenomenology.

Results

The findings revealed four main themes. First, family support was seen to reframe children’s behaviour as a lack of acquired parenting knowledge, particularly in terms of non-physical development. The second theme was the importance of flexibility in how family support worked with families to address children’s behaviour, including in the duration of the work, using groups, working in the home, and looking at boundaries. Third, building relationship was seen as a main theme, which was an important component both for the worker and client and for the parent and child. The fourth theme was coordinating services for family support to be more effective.

Conclusions

This research highlights partnership as effective, which raises challenges and questions. In dealing with the behaviour of children, this research suggests actually focusing on parents and early intervention. Furthermore, it suggests building a relationship between parents and children and using Marte Meo.

Another conclusion was that family support services in Dublin have a very unclear role, which is positive and negative.

This study promotes forging strong links between services. The study also promotes investigation into mainstreaming family support, connecting it with other services like schools.

The findings also contest strict adherence to homogenous theories, models, and programmes.
F4.2

Child Trafficking - The Journey So Far
Paul Rigby, Sheila Murie, Moira McKinnon
Glasgow City Council, Glasgow, UK

Objectives
Provide comment on the process, and potential outcomes for children, of the policy and practice developments initiated in Glasgow in response to concerns about child trafficking. Develop a greater understanding of the journeys and experiences of children arriving in the city.

Method
Glasgow Child Protection Committee commissioned a programme of research, practice and policy development to address the issue of child trafficking in the city. Two exploratory research investigations identified the prevalence of trafficking in the city amongst the separated children population and the challenges faced by child protection professionals. A recent audit of electronic social work case records and National Referral Mechanism (NRM) referrals provided an overview of the children referred and the multi-agency response.

Results
Initial findings indicate that the programme of training and development initiated in Glasgow has raised awareness of child trafficking in the city. Thirty potential trafficking victims have been referred to the NRM and there are similar numbers of children where there are concerns, but insufficient evidence to support a referral. While difficult to comment fully on outcomes, there are indications that children do engage with education and support packages, although concerns remain that for a number of children the influence of traffickers does not end on contact with services.

Conclusions
Due to the complexity of trafficking, and despite the positive developments in Glasgow, much work remains outstanding to understand the concept of child trafficking within a UK child protection framework. There are concerns that the NRM process is not child centred, or child protection focussed, and it is problematic when identifying younger children. Despite progress, there is significant work required to appreciate the many complex factors that influence assessment and identification and contribute to effective support and rehabilitation packages.

F4.3

Cutting Them Free - Protecting Children from Sexual Exploitation
Jeanie Lynch
Barnardo’s, Devon, Torbay & Channel Islands, UK

Objectives
To raise awareness of the nature and extent of child sexual exploitation in the UK on a national level and local level. To campaign for a consistent approach by encouraging national and local government to work together to reduce the risks to children and young people. To develop new models and services which effectively reduce risks on a locality basis through a range of settings.

Method
Barnardos has operated child sexual exploitation services in the UK for over 15 years. Yet still this is a hidden area of child sexual abuse with only approximately 25% of local authorities having any protocols to protect children from this abuse. Barnardo’s South West have developed services in Bristol and Plymouth to support children at risk of sexual exploitation and support local safeguarding boards to address this issue. This is implemented through awareness raising, policy and training and maintaining a child centred focus through developing needs.
assessments tools and implementing the ‘4 As’ approach - Access, Attention, Advocacy and Assertive Outreach.

**Results**

Findings have shown that for many professionals and politicians the area of child sexual exploitation is still misunderstood. There is still an assumption that children under the age of 18 can consent to their own abuse. This is despite many we have spoken to being aware of children and young people who show multiple risk factors. Our work has enabled the local Safeguarding Children Boards in Bristol and Plymouth to begin to develop strategies to effectively deal with this.

**Conclusions**

Using a range of methods, including national campaigns and local awareness raising strategies, we are continuing to highlight the need for specific action to cut children free from this abuse.

**F4.4**

**Safe Accommodation for Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Young People**

Lucie Shuker¹, Isabelle Brodie¹,²

¹International Centre for the Study of Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Young People, Institute of Applied Social Research, University of Bedfordshire, Luton, UK
²Institute of Applied Social Research, University of Bedfordshire, Luton, UK

**Objectives**

To review research literature concerning young people in care who are at risk of, or who have experienced, sexual exploitation or trafficking; and to identify and summarise key messages and recommendations for practitioners.

**Method**

This paper draws on two literature reviews. The first, for the NSPCC, reviewed UK literature concerned with young people who are at risk of, or who have experienced, sexual exploitation or trafficking for sexual exploitation. The second review extended this to include young people who have been trafficked for reasons other than sexual exploitation. Searches were undertaken using relevant key words on a range of databases, and included the use of Hansard and publications from voluntary sector organisations in an effort to reflect current policy and practice concerns and to acknowledge that these sources are often ahead of academic research.

**Results**

A detailed care plan needs to address the risk of young people going missing, and carers need to understand the complexities of young people’s experience and be given practical ways to keep them safe. Multi-agency support and specialist therapeutic interventions are then necessary to build on the safety of a placement and increase young people’s resilience and engagement. Young people who have experienced exploitation should be empowered to be involved in their own care, and their agency seen as a resource not a problem. Finally, continuity of care is important in reducing the likelihood of further exploitation and placement breakdown.

**Conclusions**

Safe accommodation for sexually exploited and trafficked young people involves both physical safety and relational security. As a result these young people have specific needs that cannot be addressed by standard local authority provision. Carers need training and support to navigate the tension between caring for and controlling these young people, particularly in preventing young people from going missing. Specialist services that recognise the distinct needs of both groups are well placed to support both young people and their carers in this respect, and are an important resource in keeping sexually exploited and trafficked young people safe.

**Free Paper Session 5**

**Chair: Margaret Lynch**

**Venue:** PFC 3/006a

**F5.1**

**Lawful Correction or Child Abuse: Clarifying Boundaries – A Study of Some Australian Legal Professionals’ Views and Experiences**

Bernadette Saunders, Bronwyn Naylor, Renata Alexander

*Monash University, Victoria, Australia*

**Objectives**

- To identify the range of laws addressing physical discipline in Australia, and how they differentiate
between lawful correction and criminal assault or severe child abuse

- To explore the application of these laws in practice and identify key sources of confusion for legal practitioners
- To propose legal reform and community education

Method

This collaborative research included the following:

- Review of Australian court cases and legislation
- Surveys of Victorian legal practitioners
- Interviews with Victorian legal practitioners, including magistrates and judges

Results

Parents and other adults responsible for children’s care and protection in Australia are subject to inconsistent messages regarding the lawful limits of physical punishment producing confusion. Legal professionals in Victoria, like members of the public, have differing perspectives on the acceptability of physical punishment. Many seek greater clarity regarding the boundaries of lawful correction while others believe physical punishment should be unlawful. Yet judicial discretion is highly valued, particularly in family law decisions. Some legal professionals resist reform. Quantitative and qualitative findings illustrate inconsistent outcomes in various jurisdictions, perspectives on law reform, and personal / professional views on this important issue.

Conclusions

In Australia taking seriously children’s rights to protection from physical violence remains an unresolved challenge, despite ratification of the UNCRC in 1990. Tolerance of physical ‘discipline’ and control of children continues despite the banning of physical punishment in 30 countries, and regular comments by the Committee of the United Nations Convention the Rights of the Child reinforcing the unacceptability of violent responses to children to any degree. This research, together with other recent research on physical punishment of children, supports moves toward policy and legislative reform in Australia, as well as parent and professional education measures.

F5.2

Victimisation-Related Injury in Children and Adolescents: Comparison of Hospital Admission Rates in England and Western Australia

Arturo Gonzalez-Izquierdo¹, Melissa O’Donnell², Allison Ward³, Leah Li¹, Andreas Roposch⁴, Jan Van der Meulen⁵, Fiona Stanley³, Ruth Gilbert¹

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Objectives

Instances of childhood victimisation, involving violence, emotional or sexual abuse or neglect by carers or other individuals, affect 40% to 60% of children each year. The incidence of severe victimisation, resulting in injury and admission to hospital, is not known. We aimed to compare rates of victimisation-related injury in children up to 17 years of age in England and Western Australia, taking into account developmental age groups, gender and deprivation.

Method

This is a retrospective cohort study using hospital administrative data on children admitted to hospital for acute injury to an NHS hospital in England or to any hospital in Western Australia between 2000 to 2008. We analysed the incidence of acute victimisation-related injury admission based on ICD-10 codes reflecting maltreatment, assault, undetermined cause or adverse social circumstances.

Results

Incidence of victimisation-related injury followed a ‘J’ shaped curve with peaks in infancy (England 81.6, WA 164.9/100,000 children per year - cy) and 5-fold higher rates in 16 to 17 year olds (England 195.7, WA
Rates were lowest in 5 to 10 year olds (England 14.1, WA 20.5/100,000 cy). Age and deprivation adjusted rates were twice as high in WA compared with England but did not differ for children aged 3 to 10 years. Girls aged 11 to 15 years had higher rates than boys in WA but rates were higher in boys in both countries and other ages.

Conclusions
In both countries, rates increased steeply with deprivation quintile. In England, use of victimisation-related codes declined in adolescents over 15 years, but increased in Western Australia, suggesting under-recording in England. Victimisation-related injury is far higher in adolescents than in younger children, reflecting a major public health burden. Coding practices for children and young people over 15 years should be harmonised to ensure adequate recording of victimisation across services for children and adults.

F5.3
The Law and Corporal Punishment
Aída Fernández
Universidad Autónoma de Bucaramanga, Bucaramanga, Santander, Colombia

Objectives
To reflect on the necessity of continuing the enactment of laws to prohibit corporal punishment, all over the world, as a method used by parents to discipline their children, keeping in mind that the legality of this technique is just one of the many factors that contribute to the perpetuation of its use, which has negative effects on children and their development in the short and long term, and that constitutes a violation of their fundamental rights.

Method
This documentary research included a review of reports and studies from international, regional human rights organisations, data provided by NGOs, and national legislation, the tabulation and analysis of such information.

Results
Findings indicate that progress towards legal prohibition of corporal punishment to children by parents has accelerated, but efforts have to continue in order to achieve a universal ban. Countries which prohibited the use of corporal punishment in childrearing, revealed a decrease in all degrees of severity, and a decline of adult support. In many cases, law reform is accompanied by widespread awareness raising of children’s rights, together with professional training in positive discipline.

Conclusions
So long as the law does not prohibit corporal punishment as a method of discipline used by parents to rear their children, the assumption that it is acceptable is unchallenged. Academia, and especially the law schools are entitled to promote a suitable response from states. However, it is important to point out that legal reform has to be supported by social change, which demands the engagement of the entire community, to encourage the eradication of corporal punishment.

Free Paper Session 6
Chair: Judith Harwin
Venue: PFC 2/018

F6.1
The Development of Effective Abuse Prevention Education in Primary Schools in Northern Ireland
Phyllis Stephenson, Aisling McElearney
NSPCC, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
To explore the need for preventative education in primary schools to teach children how to keep safe from bullying, child abuse and domestic violence and identify the key barriers and facilitators with regard to effective programme development and implementation.

Method
The project conducted in two phases involved an in-depth consultation with children, parents, school leadership, teachers, non-teaching staff who work in schools, and cross sector statutory and voluntary agencies. Methods included a photography project, questionnaires, focus groups and semi structured interviews.

Results
Findings indicate that all key stakeholders support the development of prevention education in primary schools. Significant gaps exist in children’s knowledge and understanding particularly in relation to the
more sensitive issues of domestic abuse, appropriate and inappropriate touching from persons known to the child and the risks posed by strangers. Many teachers and other school staff have a shared understanding of the role they can play in teaching children how to keep safe however, they are concerned about dealing with issues such as sexual abuse and domestic abuse. They also lack confidence in their ability to respond effectively to disclosures.

Conclusions
This research provides strong evidence for the need to develop a strategic approach to the teaching of “keeping safe” messages through preventative education in primary schools. Stakeholders were clear that preventative education needs to be embedded in school ethos and integrated across the curriculum. Significant training, development and support must be provided for principals and whole-school staff as well as parents to build their capacity to teach “keeping safe” messages. Stakeholders recognised the limitations of focusing on school-based prevention in isolation and identified the need to adopt wider public health and education approaches to support such a development.

F6.2
Impact of a Universal School-Based Violence Prevention Programme on Violent Delinquency: Distinctive Benefits for Youth with Maltreatment Histories
Claire Crooks, Katreena Scott, Wendy Ellis, David Wolfe
1University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 2University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada, 3Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Objectives
Child maltreatment constitutes a strong risk factor for violent delinquency in adolescence, with cumulative experiences of maltreatment creating increasingly greater risk. Our previous work demonstrated that a universal school-based violence prevention programme could provide a protective impact for youth at risk for violent delinquency due to child maltreatment history. In this study we conducted a follow-up to determine if participation in a school-based violence prevention programme in grade 9 continued to provide a buffering effect on engaging in acts of violent delinquency for maltreated youth, 2 years post-intervention.

Method
Secondary analyses were conducted using data from a cluster randomized controlled trial of a comprehensive school-based violence prevention programme. Students (N = 1,722; 52.8% female) from 20 schools participated in 21 75-min lessons in grade 9 health classes. Individual data (i.e., gender, child maltreatment experiences, and violent delinquency in grade 9) and school-level data (i.e., student perception of safety averaged across students in each school) were entered in a multilevel model to predict violent delinquency at the end of grade 11.

Results
Individual and school-level factors predicting violent delinquency in grade 11 replicated previous findings from grade 9: being male, experiencing child maltreatment, being violent in grade 9, and attending a school with a lower perceived sense of safety among the entire student body increased violent delinquency. The cross-level interaction of individual maltreatment history and school-level intervention was also replicated: in non-intervention schools, youth with more maltreatment in their background were increasingly likely to engage in violent delinquency. The strength of this relationship was significantly attenuated in intervention schools.

Conclusions
Follow-up findings are consistent with the buffering effect of the prevention programme previously found post-intervention for the subsample of youth with maltreatment histories.

F6.3
Evaluation of the Effectiveness of a School-Based Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Programme
Ian Barron, Keith Topping
University of Dundee, Dundee, UK

Objectives
Internationally, efficacy studies of school-based child sexual abuse prevention programmes display serious methodological
shortcomings (lack of control groups, abuse survivor and adolescent participants, recording of disclosures and programme fidelity/cost-effectiveness measures).

Method
Addressing these gaps, a pre/post-test wait-list control design was used to evaluate a prevention programme (Tweenees) delivered to abuse survivors (n=10), grade six (n=88) and grade seven/eight students (n=117), compared to a wait-list control (n=185). Outcome measures included knowledge questionnaire, coding of disclosures and video interaction analysis of lessons. Costs were calculated per pupil, class and school.

Results
While survivors made greatest knowledge gains, grade six students disclosed most. Adolescents made small knowledge gains indicating a ceiling effect. Video analysis suggested disclosures occurred due to low levels of adult control.

Conclusions
In conclusion, school-based child sexual abuse prevention programmes are cost-effective in supporting children’s safety. Recommendations are made for future research.

F6.4
Multiple Perspectives and Understandings of Children’s Participation and Decision-Making in the Primary School Context: A Case Study of two Republic of Ireland Schools
Karen Mahony
Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Objectives
The study being presented aims to explore the multiple perspectives and understandings of children’s participation and decision-making in the primary school context and whether it is appropriate to translate this in to reality.

In light of this, the current paper will:

• Present the methods adopted in a current PhD study, which explores multiple understandings of children’s participation and decision-making in the primary school context, and
• Examine the preliminary findings of the study.

Method
The study employs a predominantly qualitative approach, utilising creative techniques embedded within a participatory action research process to facilitate the stakeholders’ engagement. The study essentially has two layers:

1. A Participatory Action Research (PAR) design (Lykes, 2001, 1997; Veale, 2005)
2. An appraisal of the school’s action research by the enquirer using participant observation techniques and additional qualitative instruments.

Results
This current paper will present the preliminary findings of the PhD study, which is still in progress. The preliminary findings presented will include those relating to:

• Phase 1 of the study, which explores stakeholders’ understandings of children’s participation and decision-making in the primary school context and the foundation of a participatory action research project taking place in the two primary schools.
• Phase 2, which tests stakeholders’ understandings of children’s participation and decision-making through the administration of primary school children’s fora, as well as re-visiting stakeholders to re-examine their understandings and share lessons learned.

Conclusions
The paper will conclude by presenting the main methodological challenges of exploring the multiple perspectives and understandings of children’s participation and translating those understandings into practice.
Free Paper Session 7

Chair: Jenny Pearce
Venue: PFC 2/011

F7.1

Recognition as a Framework for Ethical Participatory Research: Developing a Methodology with Looked After Young People
Carol-Ann Hooper, Robert Gunn
University of York, York, UK

Objectives

To develop and theorise an approach to participatory research with looked after children which ensures that their voices are heard, and also that the well-being of those involved remains at the centre of the process throughout.

Method

Local authorities are now required to develop a pledge defining what support, services and care looked after children can expect from them, and to consult with children and young people in doing so. The authors worked in partnership with a young people’s working group established by City of York Council (CYC), supported by the Rights and Advocacy Service, to steer the development of the CYC pledge. Eight young people were involved in the working group, and another 35 were consulted.

Results

Over a year, during 2010-2011, a consultation was conducted, a pledge developed and disseminated in various ways (leaflets, a poster and a DVD), and a report written. The authors were available to the project throughout and their involvement varied at different times, including consulting regularly with the Children’s Rights Officer, attending some group meetings, analysing the data and writing a report. The principles which emerged to achieve the objectives were:

1. building the research around the young people’s existing relationships,
2. respecting the group’s decisions, and
3. honouring the views expressed.

Conclusions

The rationale for children’s participation is commonly framed in terms of rights, but rights to participation may sometimes conflict with welfare rights, and an individualistic discourse obscures the importance of relationships to children’s development and well-being. The authors suggest Honneth’s theory of recognition offers a useful broader framework for ethical participatory research with children and young people. Honneth identifies three forms of recognition as important to assure human beings of their dignity or integrity - briefly love, rights and solidarity. The paper will illustrate how these were reflected in the research methodology.

F7.2

An Approach to the Education of Children Filled with Distress and Rage
Joan Mackenzie, Neil Govan, Alasdair Black
Kibble Education & Care Centre, Paisley, Scotland, UK

Objectives

The evaluation of an approach, based on the teaching of Bruce Perry, for working with adolescents whose childhoods have been characterised by chaotic parenting, substance abuse, domestic and community violence. The approach emphasised the importance of building relationships and a relaxing fun environment. Therapeutic play was introduced into the programme and calming activities such as fishing and drumming. A snoezelen room was used as a resource for young people to relax and “talk out” rather than “act out” anxieties. Has this approach been able to address harmful behaviours and promote the balance of social and emotional wellbeing with educational achievement?

Method

The evaluation was based on work carried out with children referred to Kibble School on day placements, the majority of whom had been or were currently “looked after”. We undertook an evaluation of key indicators: attendance, frequency of restraint, educational attainment and placement retention. We also took into account the views of young people, parents and referring agencies. Questionnaires were sent to educational psychologists and social workers, to parents and to young people using the service.

Results

Results have indicated high attendance, reduced rates of restraint, and high rates of placement retention. Educational attainment (measured by passes in national
qualifications) showed some improvement. The young people reported positively on their experience and parents reported that their children were picking up fewer charges in the community, were better behaved in the house and were better at resolving problems. Referring agencies also reported back positively.

**Conclusions**

Putting the theories of Bruce Perry in to practice by providing a nurturing environment and using techniques to lessen anxiety and stress would appear to have a positive impact on a group of troubled adolescents. It suggests that with such a group meaningful learning is better facilitated by first addressing the roots of distress and rage.

**F7.3**

**When Children Go Missing from Home: The Value of Return Assessment Interviews in Safeguarding Children**

Susan Redington¹, Julie Taylor², Louise Hill³, Anne Stafford⁴
¹NSPCC, Nottingham, UK, ²NSPCC, (Seconded from the University of Dundee), UK, ³Centre for Excellence for Looked after Children (CELCIS), University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK, ⁴University of Edinburgh/NSPCC Centre for UK-wide Learning in Child Protection, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

**Objectives**

Across the UK, an estimated 1 in 9 children run away from home or substitute care. There are many reasons why children run away, yet as thirteen year old Amie explains, 'nobody runs away for no reason' (DCSF, 2009). Statutory guidance recommends a ‘return interview’ to be conducted by an independent person within 72 hours of a child’s return home to identify potential harm, understand why a child went missing and to try and prevent repeat episodes (DCSF, 2009).

**Method**

Analysis of NSPCC ‘Home and Away’ service for children who go missing from home and are identified as vulnerable (e.g. missing over 24 hours, known mental health problem, engaged in criminal activity, known to be hurt or harmed, at risk of sexual exploitation or in contact with a person posing a risk to children).

**Results**

Between April 2010 and March 2011, 152 children were referred to the NSPCC Home and Away service (59% females, 41% males). The majority of the children are aged between 13 and 15 years old (n=104). As part of the Return interview assessment process, 111 children were identified as having additional needs. For these children, key vulnerability factors were identified: Significant parental difficulties in managing their child’s behaviour (70%), problems at school (57%), young person’s emotional health (53%) and significant family stressors (e.g. parental mental health, disability, bereavement) (47%). The service provides direct 1-to-1 support, information/signposting and referrals to appropriate agencies.

**Conclusions**

Going missing from home is often an important sign that a child and family need support. The Return Assessment Interview gives a child the opportunity to talk about why they were missing or ran away and for their support needs to be identified. This is an early opportunity for professionals to ensure that children are given a space to be heard and are effectively safeguarded.

**Free Paper Session 8**

**Chair: Amy Weir**

**Venue:** PFC 2/025

**F8.1**

**Children’s and Young People’s Views of the Child Protection System**

Jeanette Cossar, Marian Brandon, Peter Jordan

University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK

**Objectives**

To seek children’s and young people’s views about the child protection system and to consider how their views might contribute to improving responses to abuse and neglect.

**Method**

This research was commissioned and published by the Office of the Children’s Commissioner in England, (available at http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/content/publications/content_486). The study was conducted in two local authorities and consisted of activity-based interviews.
with twenty-six children and young people, aged between six and seventeen, all with a current child protection plan and all living at home. In addition a day’s workshop was facilitated by a combination of adult and young researchers, involving six young people to further develop themes from the interviews. A thematic analysis was undertaken of the interview and workshop data.

Results
The research found that although children often agreed that there were difficulties within their families, they tended to focus on their own behaviours rather than those of their parents. Some children disagreed with what they took to be the professional concerns about their families. Children varied in their understanding of the child protection system. They described the impact of the child protection system itself on themselves and their families, suggesting that, whilst it could be helpful, in some instances formal child protection procedures added to the stress in their families.

Conclusions
The importance of being attentive to the child’s view of problems that have brought them to the attention of services was highlighted by this research. It is also crucial to take account of children’s perspectives on professional interventions. In addition to formal procedures for involving children the relationship between the child and the social worker was fundamental in helping children to feel that their voices were heard in the child protection process.

F8.2
Making Their Evidence Count: The Experiences of Young Witnesses in Criminal Proceedings in Northern Ireland.
David Hayes¹, Lisa Bunting²
¹Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK, ²NSPCC Northern Ireland, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
To gather information on the experiences of young witnesses in criminal courts in Northern Ireland in order to inform policy and practice and make recommendations regarding improving the process to ensure that young witnesses are enabled to give their best evidence.

Method
Structured interviews with young witnesses (n=37) who received a service from the NSPCC Young Witness Service (YWS) and their parents (n=33) and a survey questionnaire administered to YWS staff (n=16).

Results
Support by the YWS was viewed positively by both young people and parents. Delays were common and a lack of pre-trial support and information about case progression was reported. Many young witnesses reported seeing the defendant either in the court or over the TV link which was a major concern for them. Being questioned in court was problematic for many young people often with little perceived intervention. Engagement with the criminal justice system and court processes was often traumatizing for both witnesses and their families. Many parents commented on a lack of post-trial follow up and available support services.

Conclusions
Further consideration of the support needs of victims and families whose cases are heard at the lower Courts and greater prioritisation of young witness cases is needed. In line with recent developments in England and Wales, consideration should be given to developing guidance and training initiatives for judicial and legal professionals in Northern Ireland in relation to the questioning and cross-examination of young witnesses.

F8.3
Children’s Participation in Child Protection Court Cases
Carmel Corrigan
Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Objectives
In Ireland, children’s participation in child protection court cases is largely achieved through Guardians ad litem. This process and its influence on court decisions are largely hidden due to the in camera rule. The objectives of the research are:

• To illuminate the process of establishing the child’s wishes and feelings and determining what serves their best interest.
• To explore the views of District Court judges, Guardians and children on the role and influence of the Guardians on judicial decision making.
• To examine the level of participation achieved by children through the Guardian ad litem service.

Method
In-depth interviews were conducted with twenty Barnardos’ Guardians ad litem, eight District Court judges and six children who had a Guardian ad litem appointed to them.

Results
This is a work in progress and results are not definitive at this time. Early indications suggest that children are made aware that the Guardian may not agree with what they want and that their wishes may not be appropriate or possible in securing their care. Views on the level of participation allowed to children by the Guardian ad litem system diverge widely, as do views on their influence on judicial decisions.

Conclusions
Only tentative conclusions can be made at this point. It would appear that the Guardian ad litem system represents the voice of the child, but that this is not necessarily consistent with children’s participation at a meaningful level. Professional opinions tend to outweigh those of the children involved. There also appears to be evidence of some negotiation regarding the best interests, wishes and feelings of the child and a degree of pragmatic negotiation with the HSE regarding what is achievable in the context of state resources and services.

Children Who Are Seen But Not Heard: Early Childhood Perspectives on Meaningful Listening to and Engaging with Young Children
Claire Richards
University of Worcester, Worcester, UK

Objectives
1) To reconsider some of the issues effecting engagement and participation with children under five. An Early Childhood perspective may offer a refreshing challenge that views the nature of this engagement as complex or problematic.
2) To promote an understanding of how Early Childhood practitioners promote active listening and participation with children under five.
3) To share examples of good practice of engaging with young children with other professional disciplines, and to consider some of the wider implications in safeguarding and protecting children.

Method
The study will comprise a literature review of methods and approaches on the engagement of children within the field of Early Childhood. This is a multi-method study, including a questionnaire to be distributed to 80 students of Childhood Studies, to be followed by a focus group of 8 students who are employed practitioners.

Results
The study is due to commence in October 2011 and the findings to be collated in January 2012. A number of themes may be identified from the two stages of the research; the questionnaires and focus group in relation to the multi-voiceness of practitioners and children.

Conclusions
It is anticipated that the research will offer some inspiration and recognition among multi-professional disciplines that the engagement of young children may not be as challenging or complex as might be perceived. This may reduce the possibility of avoidance of engagement with young children, while challenging perceptions of child incompetence, in describing aspects of their world in the context of safeguarding and child protection.

Workshop 1
Venue: PFC 3/011
Safeguarding Children and Engaging Parents in Pre-Proceedings Meetings
Judith Masson², Jonathan Dickens¹, Julie Young¹, Kay Bader³
¹University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK,
²University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

Objectives
This workshop will explore the opportunities and challenges presented by ‘pre-proceedings meetings’, called to address the needs of children and engage with parents when families are ‘on the edge’ of care proceedings.
It will be led by a team from the Schools of Law at Bristol University and Social Work at East Anglia, currently undertaking research on these meetings in England and Wales. (There is also a symposium on the pre-proceedings process more generally). We anticipate a good number of attendees from Northern Ireland, so the workshop will provide opportunities to compare practice across the countries.

Method
The facilitators will present a typical case scenario for a pre-proceedings meeting, and invite the participants to assess the perspectives and priorities of the various parties to the meeting - social worker, social work manager, local authority/HSCT lawyer, the parent(s), and their legal representative. The aim is to identify the internal tensions, differences between the groups, and overlaps. The meeting brings a new intensity to the multiple imperatives in child safeguarding work.

Results
The workshop will consider where and how the interests and concerns of the different parties might coincide or clash; and how the individuals might conduct themselves, inside and outside the meeting, in order to capitalise on the potential for agreement, and to resolve or avoid the conflicts. Participants will be encouraged to share and reflect on their experiences of effective and not-so-effective strategies in the meetings, and the factors that make the difference.

Conclusions
The workshop should enable participants from legal and social work backgrounds, and from different countries with parallel but different guidance on pre-proceedings meetings, to deepen their understanding of the underlying professional and personal dynamics. It should increase their awareness of the range of strategies that practitioners and parents might use to try to achieve the outcomes they wish.

Workshop 2
Venue: PFC 2/013

Medical Care for the Victim of Child Sexual Abuse
Rich Kaplan
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, USA

Objectives
To understand the medical issues in caring a possible victim of child sexual abuse.

Method
This will be a workshop presentation on the elements of providing medical care to these young people. This goes beyond investigation and focuses on the medical needs of such children. It will include such issues as:

1. Guidelines for the medical care for possible victims
2. The general medical needs of possible victims
3. The treatment of conditions resulting from sexual abuse
4. The ongoing medical needs of such children

Results
As a consequence of this training, participants will better understand the medical needs of possible victims of child sexual abuse.

Conclusions
Understanding the medical needs of such children is critical to the overall response to child sexual abuse.

Workshop 3
Venue: Lanyon G49

In My Shoes, a computer assisted interview for professionals working with children and vulnerable adults
Liza Bingley Miller¹, Phil Jimmieson², Rachel Calam¹, David Glasgow³, Antony Cox¹, Bill Joyce³

¹University of Manchester, Manchester, UK, ²University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK, ³Child and family Training, York, UK, ⁴Instone Bloomfield Charitable Trust, Brackley, UK
Objectives
The aim of In My Shoes (IMS) is to provide a means of engaging with children and building rapport between the child and interviewer. It promotes communication in a unique way enabling children to talk about their views and understanding, wishes and feelings. The approach has proved effective in helping children to communicate who have had difficulty concentrating when using other approaches.

Method
IMS has been developed over a number of years with the support of Department of Education; Universities of Liverpool and Manchester and the Instone Bloomfield Charitable Trust. The programme is described in Calam.R.M; Cox.A.D; Glasgow.D.V; Jimmieson.P; and Groth Larson.S (2000) Assessment and therapy with children: can computers help? Child Clinical Psychology and Psychiatry, 5(3) 329-343. IMS is supported through a training programme that approves users of IMS, providing the software and comprehensive user guide.

Results
Evaluation of the use of IMS identified its usefulness in a wide range of contexts Including:

- Contributing to assessments of children’s needs, and risks relating to abuse and neglect
- Contributing to assessment and care planning for children.
- Communicating about pain and discomfort, past or present, including children in hospital
- Assessing the needs of sibling groups
- Talking about school related issues.
- Enabling children with learning disabilities or hearing impairments to communicate
- Engaging adolescents who find face-to-face interviews challenging
- Communicating with vulnerable adults.

Conclusions
At a time when Inspections and Serious Case Reviews repeatedly identify that the voice of the child is not heard. IMS is seen as an invaluable tool that any professional working with children who engages in interviewing will find it helpful. It has been used by psychologists, social workers, child psychiatrists, other mental health staff, health workers, educational workers and specialists in forensic services. In My Shoes enhances the skills of practitioners and clinicians in direct work with children and young people.
Invisible Child Maltreatment and Long-Term Social Harm: A Social Psychological Study of Social Support Based on a National Sample
Mogens Christoffersen
The Danish National Institute of Social Research, Copenhagen, Denmark

Objectives
Research on child maltreatment has suggested that children exposed to abuse and neglect exhibit various social, cognitive and emotional developmental problems. The paper explores long-term consequences and addresses the following questions: how many children are exposed to child maltreatment without the knowledge of the local authorities? Will young adults suffer from PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder), if they have been exposed to child maltreatment? Will social support from a significant other reduce the developmental problems despite all odds?

Method
Three datasets were used: the first sample was a stratified random probability sample of adolescents born in 1984 (personal interview N=2,989). Another sample of 900 children was drawn at random from social services cases and evaluated by social workers. The third consisted of hospital registers including all children born 1994-2006 which was analysed to estimate the number of cases of child maltreatment known to the local authorities and hospital wards (N=914,800 children).

Results
Most child-maltreatment is invisible for local authorities and hospital wards. While 5.6 percent of the birth cohort experienced physical abuse, only 1.1 percent of a birth cohort was known to the local authorities, and only 0.1 percent of a birth cohort registered at a hospital ward. The study confirms that social support for a great many of the young adults reduces the risk of PTSD symptoms, even when they experienced poor parenting with the destructiveness of physical abuse, sexual assault, psychological maltreatment and physical neglect. The study confirms that social support is a mediator between child-maltreatment and later PTSD reactions among young adults.

Conclusions
Child maltreatment is often hidden from local authorities. In particular, children suffering from ADHD are hindered from mobilizing social support networks. Social support and being bullied in school are powerful factors in the wellbeing of children and adolescents growing up. This knowledge can help to understand the mechanism through which social support and bullying operate in child maltreatment-PTSD outcomes relationships. Social support and being bullied in school are powerful factors in the wellbeing of children and adolescents growing up. We hope that these findings can contribute to interventions designed to prevent or lessen the long term effect of child maltreatment.

Children and Young People’s Missed Health Care Appointments: Reconceptualising ‘Did Not Attend’ to ‘Was Not Brought’ - A Review of the Evidence for Practice
Catherine Powell¹, Jane Appleton²
¹NHS Portsmouth/University of Southampton, Hampshire, UK, ²Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK

Objectives
To promote an understanding of children and young people’s missed health care appointments as a potential marker of child neglect, rather than simply an issue of ‘wastage’ for health care organisations.

Method
Literature and policy review. Taking a children’s rights perspective, we examined current policy and practice concerning children and young people’s missed health care appointments and no access home visits (e.g. by health visitors). We also reviewed recent national serious case review overview reports and national child death review reports in England, with a particular focus on the
references that these reports make to missed health care appointments and non-engagement with health services.

Results
We found that there was significant evidence to support a proactive response in cases of children and young people’s missed health appointments or no access visits. Failures to attend for health care, or a failure to engage with health services in the home, continue to be described as a key feature in serious case and child death review some two decades after Reder et al’s (1993) seminal review described the importance of ‘intermittent and terminal closure’ in cases that were subject to a child death inquiry.

Conclusions
We conclude the paper by suggesting that reconceptualising child and young person DNA as WNB will lead to positive interventions to safeguard and promote the welfare of children that go beyond the missed appointment to a move towards the child-centric practice described in recent key reviews. We hope that this session will allow some time for debate, and importantly, new ideas for resolution of this enduring issue.

F9.3
Child Maltreatment Recorded in General Practice in the UK: A Study Using The Health Improvement Network (THIN) Database
Jenny Woodman1,2, Ruth Gilbert1, Marian Brandon3, Danya Glaser1,5, Janice Allister4, Irene Petersen2
1MRC Center of Epidemiology for Child Health, UCL-Institute of Child Health, London, UK, 2UCL-Department of Primary Care and Population Health, London, UK, 3School of Social Work and Psychology, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK, 4Royal College of General Practitioners, London, UK, 5Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, UK

Objectives: To estimate the frequency and types of recorded maltreatment and relevant concerns by General Practitioners (GPs) in the UK, over time and by child characteristic.

Method
We identified children <16 years in the Health Improvement Network (THIN) primary care database (N=1,568,596). We identified records of ‘maltreatment or relevant concerns’ using 351 Read codes in the child’s medical record. Codes ranged from those specific for child maltreatment (e.g. ‘child protection plan’) to those reflecting serious welfare concerns (e.g. ‘vulnerable child’). Rates of first recorded maltreatment/relevant concern per calendar year were examined from 1995 to 2009 by age, deprivation and type of concern. This work was undertaken as part of a PhD.

Results
Between 1995 and 2009, the rate of recorded maltreatment/relevant concerns increased from 2.3 per 1000 child years (cy) to 8.6/1000cy.

“Child protection procedures” were more frequently recorded (3.8/1000cy) than direct references to maltreatment (2.6/1000cy) or serious welfare concerns (2.8/1000cy; 2009 figures). For most types of maltreatment/relevant concern, children <1y and the most deprived were more likely to have a record.

Children rarely had codes differentiating categories of maltreatment: physical abuse (0.4/1000cy) emotional abuse (0.2/1000cy), neglect (0.2/1000cy); sexual abuse (<0.1/1000cy; 2009 figures), 6% of children with a child protection plan record (2009) also had a code indicating category of maltreatment.

Conclusions
Rates of recorded maltreatment/relevant concerns in General Practice have increased since 1995 but are still much lower than estimated annual incidence of maltreatment in population-based studies (~10%).

GPs tended to use broad codes that did not specific the exact nature of concerns or category of maltreatment. Where category was specified, physical abuse was most common. This contrasts with population-based studies which report neglect and emotional abuse as most prevalent.
Qualitative research is needed to understand whether improved recording would help GPs respond to maltreatment and how this might be achieved.

**Free paper Session 10**

*Chair:* Bernard Gallagher  
*Venue:* PFC 2/026

**F10.1**

*Hidden From Plain Sight? What’s Domestic Abuse Got to do With Residential Child Care?*

Ann Donaldson  
*University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK*

**Objectives**

To demonstrate how more detailed information about the prior experience of domestic abuse in the lives of children and young people entering care could improve the future growth and development of those accommodated in Scottish residential child care units.

**Method**

This small scale exploratory research exercise is based on a questionnaire-based survey of 19 Scottish residential unit managers and a case study carried out in a Scottish residential child care unit. These are analysed with reference to a review of recent literature on the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people and to the current policy and practice context in Scotland.

**Results**

Despite a high percentage of young people entering care who have experienced domestic abuse in their family, information about this was not generally provided to residential unit managers; the reasons for this are given. Without this background information, care plans may not meet young people’s long-term emotional and developmental needs and adversely impact their personal relationships. Participants identified the need for specialist training on domestic abuse and its impact on young people, for increased multi-agency working with specialist community-based gender-based violence (GBV) services and for GBV prevention work with young people and unit staff.

**Conclusions**

This study shows that domestic abuse can have a devastating impact on young people’s growth and future relationships. It is vital that information about any domestic abuse in a young person's background is provided to residential units. This would allow the assessment of any traumatic impact and care plans being more carefully tailored to meet the particular needs of this vulnerable group. This study highlights the need to address the barriers to a trauma-informed approach to the assessment and care of accommodated young people and to integrate residential child care units into coordinated community-based responses to domestic abuse in Scotland.

**F10.2**

*Staying In Touch: Keyworking and Young People During Transition Out of Residential Care*

Gloria Kirwan, Stephanie Holt  
*Trinity College Dublin, Ireland*

**Objectives**

The keyworker relationship has been identified as an important factor for young people during their time in residential care and also when making the transition to aftercare. This paper presents findings from research into the experiences of those who receive and those who provide keyworker support. The paper explores the role, as perceived by graduates of the care system and keyworking providers, that keyworking plays in supporting and enhancing the transition from residential care to aftercare and into post-care independence.

**Method**

Supported by a review of research literature, this study conducted in-depth interviews with care leavers and residential care providers to document their experiences and understandings of keyworking. A wide range of services and service-user representative organisations assisted the recruitment of participants thus providing access to information about participant experiences across a diverse set of service settings.

**Results**

The research documents the potential of keyworking relationships as a protective factor for young people during their time
within residential care and also during their transition into aftercare and the further transition into long-term post-care independence. The study reveals many instances in which keyworking relationships endure long after the young person leaves care. Finally, the findings reveal that the involvement of care providers in long-term keyworking relationships is an unacknowledged and under-recognised aspect of the contribution they make to the wellbeing of people who experience out-of-home care.

Conclusions

This study highlights the role of the residential childcare keyworker model, thus far undocumented in many respects, in achieving positive outcomes for young people in residential care including helping them negotiate the transition from care to aftercare and post-care independence. The potential of importing this model into a range of adult services is posed by this study and is worthy of further consideration.

F10.3

The Care of, and Outcomes for, Maltreated Children Looked After in Therapeutic Residential Care in England: The Views and Experiences of Former Residents

Bernard Gallagher
University of Huddersfield, Huddersfield, UK

Objectives

There is a dearth of information, especially outside the US, on process and outcomes concerning maltreated children who have been in therapeutic residential care.

This research study, based upon one organisation in England, providing therapeutic residential care, in the independent sector, had two main objectives:

1. To ascertain what former residents felt about the care they had received inside, outside and after they left the home.

2. To determine these young adults’ outcomes on a broad range of measures.

Method

Semi-structured interviews with 16 young people and adults who had been resident in therapeutic children’s homes for an average of just over 4 years. The mean age of the respondents was just over 18 years. All of them had experienced severe maltreatment, often including sexual abuse. The interviews covered a wide range of process- and outcome-related topics.

Results

The young adults were broadly satisfied with the care they received, especially in terms of, for example, relationships with staff, life story work and their leisure time.

Their views on the care they received in terms of therapy, schooling, friendships and preparation for leaving were mixed.

The young adults’ outcomes were good in terms of, for instance, their emotional and behavioural well-being, education, accommodation and substance use.

The rate of criminal convictions among this group was higher than that of their peers in the general population.

The young adults had relatively little contact with family members.

Conclusions

Therapeutic homes can provide a high quality of care to severely traumatised children, and in many domains of their lives, such as relationships, life story work and leisure activities.

Providing care to such children may be challenging, though, and there may be areas of their work where owners, managers and the staff need to improve.

Therapeutic residential care can have an important role in preparing traumatised children to move on to less restrictive placements, and enabling them to achieve relatively good outcomes in many different areas of their lives.
F11.1
Implementing Safety Nets: Improving the Detection of Child Abuse in the Emergency Department
Kate Bradman, Rachel Rowlands
Princess Margaret Hospital, Perth, WA, Australia

Objectives
To implement an effective, reproducible method of detecting child abuse in children presenting to the Emergency Department (ED) with injuries.

Method
Child injury proformas were introduced and completed for all children under the age of two years presenting to the ED with injuries. The notes of these children were then audited on a weekly basis by a multi-disciplinary team consisting of emergency doctors and nurse, hospital social worker and child protection doctor and social worker.

Results
Post implementation there was a 40% increase in referrals from the ED to the Child Protection Unit (CPU) and a reduction in the number of referrals following the weekly net meetings.

Conclusions
Implementation of the proformas and weekly meetings has increased the awareness of non-accidental injury amongst medical and nursing staff and has increased the identification of potentially abused children. We are currently advocating that the process be implemented in all Perth metropolitan hospitals.

F11.2
Safeguarding Children Supervision: Development and Implementation of a Regional Nursing Policy and Procedure in Northern Ireland
Una Turbitt
Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
This project, sponsored by the DHSSPS, was established to review safeguarding children supervision arrangements for key nursing groups within the five Trusts in Northern Ireland. The project team was required to develop regional policy and procedures that set out minimum standards and a safeguarding supervision nursing process that contributes to improved service delivery and outcomes for children.

Method
Extensive consultation with the nursing profession was an integral aspect of this project. Over 150 nurses were involved in workshops, consultation meetings and questionnaires. A baseline assessment of existing arrangements was carried out relating to levels of supervision, policy, procedures, documentation and access to specialist safeguarding nurses. In addition, a training needs analysis was conducted into the training needs of specialist safeguarding nurses. A three day training programme was developed and delivered to safeguarding supervisors. A pilot phase of the revised process involved 16 nursing teams including health visitors, school nurses, community children’s nurses, CAMHs and adult mental health nurses.

Results
A regionally agreed safeguarding children nursing supervision policy and procedure for key nursing groups has been developed and endorsed by DHSSPS for implementation by Trusts in Northern Ireland. A structured safeguarding nursing supervision procedure and documentation with minimum regional standards have been developed with the support of nurses. 74 % of nurses who received safeguarding supervision during the pilot described their experience as excellent or very good. The benefits of safeguarding supervision for nurses and challenges to providing effective supervision have been identified. Group supervision was introduced as this was found to be particularly effective.
Conclusions

Safeguarding children practice is complex, stressful and demanding. Getting it right means better outcomes for children, families and communities. It is essential that nurses who contribute to the multi-disciplinary and multi-agency approach to safeguarding children have access to a robust, supportive and effective supervision system.

Recommendations from the project relate to the responsibilities of DHSSPS, Public Health Agency and Trusts. The project report has been endorsed during the recent RQIA inspection (RQIA, July 2011). It is essential that the challenges presented are translated into implementation plans and that progress is reviewed and maintained.

F11.3

It Makes Everyone Anxious - What to do About Unexplained Injuries in Young Children; the Dilemmas in Assessing Future Risk from a Clinical and Legal Point of View

Sue Foley¹,², Angela Jones²

¹The Children’s Hospital at Westmead, Westmead, NSW, Australia, ²NSW Legal Aid Commission, Penrith, NSW, Australia, ³The University of Technology, Sydney, NSW, Australia

Objectives

This presentation will outline the legal challenges and clinical dilemmas for assessment of risk in families where a young baby has been diagnosed as having had unexplained injury in an Australian setting.

Method

Five de-identified cases will be analysed and discussed. The legal principles and the clinical theories underpinning both risk and potential interventions towards safety will be identified and critiqued. The hypothesis that safe parents are preferable to out of home care will be debated.

Results

Despite the anxiety experienced by child protection specialists, legal professionals and parents or carers, the processes associated with a careful “safety potential” as well as “risk potential” assessments can assist in identifying how the rights of children and families can be upheld. There is often debate between those with the responsibility of “forensic assessment” and those with a future orientation. Empathy for the injured child can misplace a holistic focus on the future wellbeing of a future healthy and attached child. This is a controversial outlook and causes a lot of anxiety in a variety of professions.

Conclusions

Careful clinical assessments in a legal setting can be of great assistance in ensuring that the rights and needs of children and families are met through the development of appropriately clinically informed “care plans” and “intervention plans”. The guaranteed implementation of these plans can assist in managing the counter transference and anxiety about future risk of harm for children.

Free Paper Session 12

Chair: Danielle Turney
Venue: PFC OG/024

F12.1

How and Where Social Workers Relate to Children in the Home and Elsewhere When Inquiring into Child Protection Concerns

Harry Ferguson
University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK

Objectives

Remarkably little research attention has been given to face to face child protection work, where it actually goes on and the impact of particular spaces and places on what gets done and how. Social workers are required to see children on their own as part of good practice. This paper presents findings from a research project which sought to deepen understandings of how and where social workers relate to children in child protection work.
Method
An ethnographic approach was adopted. Most research of this kind has not followed practitioners around to wherever they may go, especially into the home. So I shadowed social workers as they went about their work, observing them in the car, on the home visit and when relating to children in places like schools. The encounters between social workers, children and their carers were observed by me and audio recorded. In designing and analysing the study a theoretical framework was used that draws on mobility studies (to capture movement in the car, by foot on the street, in the home etc) and relationship-based practice (to capture face-to-face dynamics).

Results
The findings suggest some commonalities in how and where children are related to. These include: the popularity of the child’s bedroom as the place to see them alone; the benefits and dangers of seeing children there, when adults who have harmed them are in the house; the importance of schools as safe spaces in which to see children; confusion about what I call ‘professional touch’ and its appropriate uses with children; how social workers experience the home as an ambiguous space and avoid the hard questions and moving around it to see the child because of the intolerable feelings the work brings up.

Conclusions
I will outline in the paper how I am trying from this work to develop a concept of ‘intimate child protection practice’ which takes into account where the work goes on, the embodied practices involved in trying to keep children safe, and the kinds of training, and organisational supports that are needed to ensure it is done effectively.

F12.2
Making Initial Decisions: Observing How Social Workers Deal With New Referrals of Children and Families
David Saltiel
University of Leeds, Leeds, UK

Objectives
To examine how social workers make decisions in every-day practice where the work is characterised by significant degrees of stress and uncertainty.

Method
This research was part of a wider doctoral study of decision-making in social work with children and families. Qualitative observations were made over a three month period focusing on how social workers dealt with new referrals. A number of referrals were tracked and the ways workers formed judgements and made decisions were observed. These initial decisions are extremely important in ensuring referrals are responded to safely and appropriately.

Results
Many of the observed referrals were characterised by complex, disputed and incomplete information. Clear-cut situations amenable to forensic investigation were rare. Instead workers had to quickly make sense of this complexity in a busy working context. Limited resources and a high level of referrals meant that gate-keeping was a constant preoccupation. Informal communications between team members and managers were important in counteracting a tendency for intervention thresholds to rise to potentially risky levels and for services to be minimised.

Conclusions
Many referrals were ambiguous due to poor, complex and disputed information. They could be understood and responded to in several possible ways. Many informal processes were observed allowing social workers to make sense of them. These enabled decisions to be made quickly but were also prone to error. Informal skills were used to process cases, improve the quality of information for decision-making and create alliances with families. The ambiguity of referrals was reinforced by the nature of many families who had complex, often unstable networks of relationships. Professionals and families tried to co-construct new and provisional versions of safe relationships.

F12.3
Thresholds for Child Protective Interventions: A Conceptual Analysis
Dendy Platt, Danielle Turney
University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

Objectives
The threshold at which state social work services respond to children, who may
have been maltreated, or are at risk of maltreatment, has been the subject of debate in the UK and elsewhere over a number of years. The aim of this paper is to present a conceptual model that helps to explain how threshold decisions are made.

Method
The model was developed following a comprehensive review, of research conducted in the UK between 1999 and 2010, related to the assessment of children and their families. The model reflects the findings of relevant studies. It was supplemented, however, by a selective review of research from outside the UK, which was used to refine the conceptual approach.

Results
The studies reviewed identified a range of factors affecting thresholds, including the nature of the welfare concerns for the child, the policy and organisational circumstances, the role of collaborative practice amongst a range of professionals, and the decision-making strategies operated by front line social workers, teams and managers. These strategies were described in a variety of ways, many of which will be familiar to participants; our model pulls together the various findings into a comprehensive approach.

Conclusions
We argue that the ‘common sense’ technical / rational understanding of thresholds is insufficient, based as it is on a yardstick for measuring the risk of harm, combined with policy regarding ‘acceptable’ cases. The picture is more complex, suggesting that threshold decisions are mediated through decision-making strategies at local level. These strategies often appear as shortcuts to thinking, arising from a pressurised working environment. We argue, however, that they are consequential features of the context within which children’s social work services operate, and that taking them into account allows for a more nuanced understanding of the way thresholds are managed.

Free Paper Session 13
Chair: William Baginsky
Venue: Lanyon G74

F13.1
Protecting Visible Minority Children: Family Dynamics and Protective Authority Intervention Strategies
Sarah Dufour¹, Chantal Lavergne²,³, Judith Gaudet³, Dominique Couture¹
¹Université de Montréal, Montréal (Québec), Canada, ²Centre Jeunesse de Montréal-Institut Universitaire, Montréal (Québec), Canada, ³Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal (Québec), Canada

Objectives
Our qualitative study explores the point of view of child protective service (CPS) caseworkers about their own work with visible minority families.

Method
Each of 24 Montreal CPS caseworkers identified, described and analysed two of their own cases involving visible minority children: one particularly successful case and one particularly difficult one. Explicit content analysis was then applied to the verbatim interview transcripts, enabling us to develop a typology of families served. Additional information was gathered from the children’s case files. In focus groups, caseworkers confirmed the family types and suitable strategies for dealing with them.

Results
There are two key issues: parental co-operation and views on parental and spousal roles. “Oyster” families have a hard time co-operating with the caseworker. Their ideas about the family, different from those of the host community, are grounded in strong beliefs. “Seeker” families have equally different conceptions, but are co-operative and open to change. Although the conceptions of “Shield” families are indistinguishable from those of the host society, the parents are resistant to help. “Team player” families are co-operative and agree with what is expected of parents in Quebec to a certain extent, but need support to meet those expectations.
Conclusions

We describe the four types of families and the best strategies to use with each of them. This study underscores the fact that visible minority families receiving child protective services are a far from homogeneous group and that there are a number of effective methods that can be used with them. In short, casework with such families is not necessarily doomed to failure or even more challenging.

F13.2

Protecting Black and Minority Ethnic Children: An Investigation of Child Protection Interventions

Mwenya Chimba\textsuperscript{2}, Dolores Davey\textsuperscript{1}, Teresa de Villiers\textsuperscript{1}, Asma Khan\textsuperscript{1}

\textsuperscript{1}Cardiff University, Cardiff, Wales, UK, \textsuperscript{2}Black association of Women step Out, Wales, UK

Objectives

To report on a study currently being undertaken which aims to extend understanding of agency responses to child protection issues amongst BME children and young people who have experienced domestic abuse within their family settings, and the part played by cultural factors in informing these responses. In particular, the study seeks to establish the child protection register categories and the length of periods of registration that are more commonly used in relation to BME children and young people. Also, to explore the perceptions and understanding of child care social workers working with BME children and families.

Method

The study is being undertaken together with an independent sector organisation, operating throughout Wales, which provides support and accommodation to BME children and families fleeing domestic violence. Retrospective interrogation of the organisation’s data base has been conducted to establish the age, gender and ethnic background of the children and young people who have been subject to child protection interventions, together with the categories and periods of registration used. Qualitative interviewing of a sample of families and of unrelated social workers regarding their experiences and perceptions of child welfare issues within a context of cultural difference will also be reported upon.

Results

Findings in relation to trends in the use of the child protection register for this group of BME children and young people will be presented as will the main themes emerging from the two sets of interviews. A series of discussion groups comprising respondent (and other relevant) families and respondent (and other interested) social workers will follow the interviews. The aim of these will be to identify shared key pointers for social work practice with this service user group. These recommendations will be presented alongside the data derived from the agency records and the interviews with BME families and with practitioners.

Conclusions

It is anticipated that the insights derived from the research study will enable improved understanding of the complexity and diversity of child protection interventions from both a BME family and a social work practitioner perspective. It is these insights - and the recommendations for social work policy and practice that will flow from these - that will be presented.

F13.3

Bridging the Gap: Exploring Best Practice and Key Safeguarding Principles for Professionals Seeking to Engage with Faith Communities where Particular Beliefs and Practices (i.e. a Belief in Witchcraft and Spirit Possession) Cause Emotional Trauma and Physical Harm to Children and their Families

Claudia Bell

CCPAS, Kent, UK

Objectives

1) To understand why many BME faith communities mistrust and fail to engage with statutory authorities and voluntary agencies.
2) To use this knowledge to raise awareness amongst social care professionals and to form meaningful links with community leaders through which safeguarding can be communicated effectively.
Method
In 2007, Trust for London[1] grant-funded CCPAS to identify and engage particularly with African churches across London. After three years, the Centre for Social Work Research[2] undertook an independent evaluation of CCPAS’s work. This involved gathering both qualitative and quantitative data from feedback forms collected from CCPAS’s training events.

[1] Trust for London is the largest funder of projects tackling poverty and inequality in London.

[2] CSWR brings together the University of East London and the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust in a centre of excellence for social work research.

Results
CSWR’s Key Finding 1 identifies that existing child protection frameworks are effective when assessing cases where children have been accused of witchcraft and spirit possession. The evidence suggests that, where harm related to a belief in witchcraft or spirit possession is suspected, another abusive or potentially abusive factor is usually present. Key Finding 2 identifies that a broader approach is needed to promote child safeguarding; this is more effective in engaging communities and churches than an isolated narrow focus on witchcraft and spirit possession alone.

Conclusions
CSWR found that CCPAS’s approach is new and innovative and significant inroads have been made into the spirit possession problem - despite some stumbling blocks. The major lesson is that promoting children’s rights, together with safeguarding issues, requires balancing respect for the faith communities’ traditional values and practices against that of the UK’s current legal framework, norms and values.

Workshop 4
Venue: PFC 2/018

Sharing the Learning from Case Reviews and Serious Case Reviews (SCRs): Developing a Typology of Patterns of Problematic and Successful Safeguarding and Child Protection
Sheila Fish
SCIE, London, UK

Objectives
To develop a common framework for the analysis and presentation of learning from case reviews and serious case reviews in order to support the collation and sharing of findings regionally, nationally and internationally.

Method
Since 2004 the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) has been developing a systems approach for case reviews and serious case reviews. This has included a simple, six part categorisation scheme of types of underlying pattern that support good practice or make poor safeguarding practice more likely. We have been expanding and modifying sub-categories of findings as successive systems case reviews are completed.

Results
By the end of 2011 over 20 systems case review examples will have been completed. Common findings across case reviews are already evident. They include examples of issues that have not emerged previously in case reviews using a methodology that is compliant with the English statutory guidance on the conduct of SCRs. Illustrations will be shared in the workshop for debate and discussion.

Conclusions
England has a long history of conducting SCRs as a means of learning lessons following the injury or death of children linked to abuse or neglect. Yet to-date there has been no consistency in how ‘lessons’ are conceptualised or presented. This has hampered efforts to share the learning from any single case review, and to collate findings across multiple reviews. The typology of patterns being developed promises to facilitate both these tasks.
Workshop 5
Venue: PFC 2/025

What Young People Tell Us About Negative and Harmful Experiences of Participating in Organised Sport
Anne Stafford¹, Kate Alexander²
¹University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK, ²University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

Objectives
To understand the nature of children’s negative and harmful experiences of participating in organised sport in the UK; for children participating at all levels of sport, and for boys as well as girls.

Method
The research was conducted between 2007 - 2010 and based on an online survey of students in the UK (age 18), yielding more than 6000 responses; and follow-up interviews with 89 young people.

Results
Young people painted a mainly positive picture of sport participation. However, alongside this sat a range of more negative and harmful experiences. They reported: widespread emotionally harmful treatment (75%); high levels of sexual harassment (29%); and a sport ethic which normalises bullying, humiliating treatment, sexualised behaviour and competing through injury. There was widespread acceptance of this as ‘normal’ and ‘just what happens in sport’. Peers were the most common perpetrators but sporting adults were also implicated, often not dealing with it effectively. The research raises important issues about the inter-relationship between sport, body image, diet and cultures of excellence.

Conclusions
Sport should focus more on a children’s rights approach to sport participation. Greater attention should be paid to creating a positive sporting ethos where children and young people are respected, where their voices are heard and used to shape sporting experience, training and performance needs.

Workshop 6
Venue: Lanyon G49

The Role of The College of Social Work in Raising Standards in Child Protection Social Work
Claire Barcham¹, Patricia Kearney²
¹The College of Social Work, London, UK, ²SCIE, London, UK

Objectives
To help stakeholders understand how the work of The College of Social Work in England will impact on the capabilities and skills of Social Workers at the front line.

Method
Throughout 2011 SCIE worked with The College on behalf of the Social Work Reform Board to develop standards of capability that would be owed ‘by’ the profession, inform all of what standards to expect, and build the confidence of practitioners and other stakeholders. Liaison with the Munro review team has continued throughout this time.

Results
Through a series of England wide practitioner workshops details for each area of capability established, informed by ‘real’ experience and expectations. Potential ‘blocks’ were identified and fed back into other areas of the Reform Board and College’s work.

Conclusions
The Task Force was told that the quality of Social Work, including Child Protection, relied on ‘mechanistic’ approaches. By taking a radically different approach which focused on the capabilities that should be expected by professionals at different levels of experience, and emphasising the important of professional decision making and leadership, The College is raising both expectations and professional pride.
Workshop 7
Venue: PFC 3/011

Looking for a Needle in a Haystack? How the Evidence-Informed Practitioner Can Find the Evidence They Need, When They Need it and How to Use it Effectively
Michelle Harris, Avery Bowser, Kathy Brennan, Helga Sneddon
Centre for Effective Services, Belfast, UK

Objectives
We live in a world where you can access thousands pieces of information at the click of a button. But how can you best find the evidence you need to help with your practice and how do you know that’s quality information? Participants will learn how to look for evidence effectively - where to search, how to get the information you need and how to decide is it good enough. It will also look at how to best translate this evidence into daily practice.

Method
The workshop will address the commonly held belief that there is a significant gap between the worlds of research and practice. It will bring together a wealth of experience in both areas and involve participants in identifying the barriers and enablers to better identification of robust relevant research evidence and to the translation of the learning from this to practice.

Results
The interactive workshop will use the experiences of participants as part of the learning and will allow opportunities to identify areas of practice in which research evidence can most usefully be applied.

Conclusions
This workshop will be of interest to those agencies and individuals who are required to produce reports for child protection cases either for court or as part of case conferences, those who produce courts in relation to youth justice, those who have a role in producing written material for advocacy for children and young people, or any manager or practitioner concerned with ‘evidence proofing’ their practice and interaction in order to produce better outcomes for the children and young people with whom they work.

Workshop 8
Venue: PFC 3/006a
“The Risk Model” - A Practice Tool Used in Local Authorities to Improve the Quality and Consistency of Decision Making in Risk Assessment
Dafydd Paul1, Bruce Thornton2
1Gwynedd Council, Gwynedd, Wales, UK, 2JBT Training and Development, Flintshire, Wales, UK

Objectives
To develop an approach to assessing risk of significant harm that:
- Is highly practical for workers in the midst of real case work demands
- Is applied in all cases
- Is proportionate
- Improves quality and consistency of decision making
- Enables workers to undertake specialist assessments where needed

Method
The risk of significant harm is the threshold for compulsory intervention. For every decision scrutinised by conferences or Courts, many other critical decisions will have been taken in routine practice settings. Improving quality and consistency of these decisions in day to day practice is a key safeguarding objective.

This project has developed a model for integrating risk assessment into social work processes and developing tools for risk screening, risk assessment and enquiring as to “the significance of any harm”. A library of additional tools were developed to support specialised assessments.

Implementation includes training, mentoring, small group work and facilitated workshops.

Results
Currently adopted in 8 metropolitan and rural Councils in England and Wales. The Risk Model was awarded the Social Care Accolade 2011 by the Care Council for Wales in the category of “Supporting Effective Intervention for Children and their Families”. The benefits include enhanced professional confidence for individual workers and reassurance for organisations that safeguarding issues are always assessed.
Conclusions

The Munro Report stressed that social workers should be judged by the quality and consistency of their decision making rather than the outcomes. The Risk Model is improving the quality and consistency of decision making in Local Authorities in the critical area of assessing significant harm to children.

Workshop 9
Venue: PFC 3/017

Cultural Humility: A Paradigm Shift in How to Work with Diverse Populations

Robert Ortega, Kathleen Coulborn-Faller
The University of Michigan School of Social Work, Ann Arbor, MI, USA

Objectives

The objectives of this workshop are to enable participants to:

- Differentiate cultural competence and cultural humility
- Incorporate cultural inclusion that recognises multiculturalism, “intersectionality” of social identities, and “epistemic privilege”.
- Bridge cultural perspectives between self and other
- Develop skills that reflect cultural humility
- Frame cultural humility as a skills-based approach to child welfare service delivery
- Assess a cultural humility approach as a global perspective

Method

In child welfare, culturally competent approaches reflect a complex set of relationships that differentiate individuals and families. In our global society a wide variety of cultural experiences and expressions of cultural traditions have emerged. We present a cultural humility training that emphasizes important concepts such as multiculturalism, intersectionality, and cultural humility as important threads to engage families as active participants in maintaining a safe, secure and stable living environment for their children. In this workshop we will present our curriculum, clinical case examples and workshop exercises along with results from our pre- and post-session evaluations from over 300 participants from across the US.

Results

Feedback from evaluation of our workshops consistently affirms the utility of a cultural humility approach. Evaluation results indicate that the cultural humility workshop (1) clarifies the importance of culture in assessment and treatment, (2) helps workers develop a better sense of their role in their work, (3) teaches skills for working across cultural differences, and helps workers gain valuable information to help them with their work. High ratings were given to case examples and exercise utilized in the workshop.

Conclusions

A cultural humility perspective is child and family-centred. A diverse child welfare workforce alone will not assure respect for and sensitivity to cultural diversity. Our approach recognises the fact that even child welfare workers bring to the work setting their own cultural differences, tensions, biases and stereotypes, and power differentials - consciously or unconsciously - that may impact on how they work with colleagues, children and families alike. A cultural humility perspective raises the likelihood that all interactions between and among workers, children, and families necessitate awareness and sensitivity to cultural differences and the consequence of cultural differences. Strengths and limitations of this approach from a global perspective will be assessed.

Workshop 10
Venue: PFC 3/005

Using Schlossberg’s Transition Theory to Understand Young Children’s Transitions into Care and to Develop More Child Centred Social Work Practice

Karen Winter
Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives

To develop, through the use of Schlossberg’s Transition Theory as applied to the perspectives of young children in state care, a better understanding of the impact of the transition on them and to use that knowledge to develop more child centred social work practice in this area.
Method
This paper is based on doctoral research that was carried out between 2005 and 2008 and that involved in-depth case studies of young children in care (aged 4-7 years), their parents and their social workers regarding the children’s involvement in social work decision making meetings.

Results
Findings indicate that young children have deeply held views and insights regarding their transition into state care that, for a variety of reasons, are often overlooked. Despite the often long-term involvement of social workers, the transition, when it did occur, was sudden and unanticipated. The resultant changes in family rules, roles and rhythms that accompanied the transition into a new family were made more challenging by the severance of previous sources of support that came from either the family or the neighbourhood and by the lack of space to address these issues with the new carers or the social worker.

Conclusions
The issue of young children’s perspectives regarding their transitions into state care is a neglected area as is the development of theoretically informed practice frameworks. In light of the findings of this paper and building on the recommendations of the U.K Munro Review of Child Protection that focus on the development of more child centred social work practice, this paper offers a theoretically informed view of young children and their transitions into care, based on the work of Schlossberg, that it is hoped could be used to enhance practice in this area.

Workshop 11
Venue: PFC 2/013

Emma Campbell
Children’s Law Centre, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
Youth advocates and CLC staff will:
- Share their experience of running a “Rights in Action” campaign in their communities
- Identify and discuss the challenges faced and outcomes achieved through the campaign process, both on an individual and community level
- Facilitate discussion on promoting/supporting greater involvement by “hard to reach”, vulnerable young people in local youth advocacy work
- Briefly consider the interdependence of Young People’s Participation, Protection and Provision Rights as outlined in the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child 100 and the implications for multi-disciplinary working in achieving best outcomes for children and young people.

Method
As this workshop will be mainly youth led, with some co-facilitation by Children’s Law Centre staff, methods of delivery will include informal presentation with possible use of audio visual aids and structured discussion around key points.

Results
The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child says that all children and young people have a right to know their rights and to actively participate in all decisions which impact on their lives. The realisation of this right is key to ensuring a child’s survival and development.

Overall we aim to promote the benefits of youth advocacy project work in helping marginalised young people to better survive and thrive now, but also to develop and realise their potential in the long term.

Conclusions
Ultimately we hope this workshop will enable practitioners to make connections between youth advocacy/participation projects and their own sphere of work with children and young people, with a view to supporting clients to access this resource at local level.
Workshop 12
Venue: PFC 2/011

Developing a Therapeutic Programme that Integrates Risk Assessment and Risk Management into Treatment with Adolescents who Display Harmful Sexual Behaviour
Karen Parish, Peter Clarke
Glebe House, Cambridgeshire, UK

Objectives
- To create a treatment programme where risk is ‘owned’ by the young people.
- A programme that enables young people to understand their sexually harmful behaviour and identify risk factors.
- To encourage the young person to assess situations themselves and develop appropriate risk management skills and strategies.
- To use the information gathered through treatment to aid professional risk assessments, assessments that not only look at the static and dynamic risk factors but that include the developmental context within which the offending took place.

Method
The workshop will use a case study to demonstrate how risk assessment and risk management can be integrated into treatment. It will use interactive discussion to explore the information available prior to treatment, information gathered through treatment, the development of relapse prevention strategies and the risk assessment processes throughout and following treatment.

Results
Glebe House is a therapeutic community that has been working with young people with challenging behaviour for over 40 years; Glebe House has a specialism working with young people with harmful sexual behaviour. Glebe House provide a two year residential treatment programme for adolescent males aged 16-21 years as well as providing a community based service.

The workshop aims to demonstrate how risk assessments can benefit from the active engagement of the young people being assessed.

Conclusions
The active engagement of a young people in their risk assessments helps them to develop an internal understanding of risk.

It also aids risk management, by providing professionals with more contextual factors that can therefore aid and inform safeguarding.
Gerison Lansdown was the founder director, in 1992, of the Children's Rights Alliance for England, established to promote implementation on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. She has published and lectured widely on the subject of children’s rights, both nationally and internationally. Her publications include ‘The Evolving Capacities of the Child’ UNICEF 2005, and ‘A Human Rights-Based Approach to Education for All’ UNESCO/UNICEF 2008. She is currently Vice Chair of UNICEF-UK and Co-Director of CRED-PR, an international initiative to develop child rights educational programmes for professionals working with children.

The right of children to be heard and taken seriously is often construed as being in conflict, or in tension with their right to protection. However, promoting children’s participation rights can serve as a major contributory factor in their own protection. While clearly governments, policy makers, child protection professionals, communities and families have key responsibilities for creating safe environments for children to grow up in, they are less likely to do this successfully without the active engagement of children themselves. Creating the opportunity for children to articulate what is happening to them provides responsible adults with greater understanding and insight into the nature of violence or abuse children experience. Encouraging children to gain the confidence to speak out when adults harm them, serves to challenge the impunity of abusers. Involving the energies, creativity and knowledge of children in the development of child protection strategies will result in more relevant, targeted and effective systems. Engaging children as active participants in providing protection both mobilises their potential capacities and contributes towards their understanding of and capacity for non-violent conflict resolution. 

A growing body of evidence from both the developed and developing world indicates that children can and do play a significant role in helping address violence – for example in the fields of bullying and cyberbullying, situations of conflict, safe schooling, living on the streets, or violence within the home. It is no longer acceptable to perceive children as passive recipients of adult protection. They need to be respected as active contributors able to participate in the analysis of their situation, the development of strategies needed to promote protection, the implementation of those strategies and monitoring and evaluation of their effectiveness.

Children and Forced Marriage - Prevention, Protection and Prosecution

Nazir Afzal

Nazir Afzal OBE, is Chief Crown Prosecutor for the North West of England and was formerly Director, Communities for the Crown Prosecution Service and Legal Director in CPS London.

During a 20 year career, Nazir has prosecuted some of the most high profile cases in the country and advised on many others. Many of his cases have set precedents for how the criminal law should operate. He initiated ground breaking conferences and seminars that have addressed: ‘Honour’ crimes, forced marriage, stalking, crime in sport, sexual exploitation, airport crimes, anti-social behaviour and gang crime. Nazir is a tutor for several leadership programmes in the public and private sector. He is a Governor of Brunel University and unpaid consultant to voluntary sector organisations working with vulnerable people. In 2005, he was awarded an OBE by the Queen for his work with the CPS and involvement with local communities. In 2007, he was awarded the CPS’s Public Servant of the year, named Legal Personality of the Year by the Society of Asian Lawyers, the UK Government’s Justice Award 2007 and awarded the Daily Mirror newspaper “People’s Award” voted for by readers. Recently he was awarded the Asian Woman Magazine Excellence Award and the Law Society/Bar Council Mentoring Award. Nazir was also
selected for the Asian Power 100 along with the Muslim Power 100 list, thereby recognised as one of the 100 most influential leading Muslims and Asians in the UK.

There are no specific offences of ‘forced marriage’ or ‘honour crimes’. Forced marriage and honour crimes are umbrella terms to encompass composite offences already covered by existing legislation, for which there is already guidance. Both are a violation of human rights and may be a form of domestic and/or sexual violence. The majority of victims are under the age of 18. This is a child protection issue. Many of these crimes are extremely well-organised, planned by more than one individual and may have been instigated by others (which include family, extended family and community members). The conspiratorial nature of such crimes requires us to consider whether we need to use the tools that are most effective against organised crime. Expert evidence from those who have an understanding not only of honour crimes and forced marriage, but specifically about the communities within which they most occur, will be of great assistance.

Those who participate in these types of crimes, both in the UK and abroad, are often keen to use the youngest member of the family to carry out harmful acts. These cases involve some of our most vulnerable victims and witnesses who often have the least confidence in criminal justice. They may also need support mechanisms throughout the rest of their lives. This presentation will consider the particular needs of the victims and witnesses of these crimes, such as language and cultural barriers and insecure immigration status.
Parallel Session 3
16:00 – 17:30

Symposium 4:
Child Welfare Paramountcy - Best Interests or Best Not Mentioned?
Convenor: Alice Diver
Discussant: Jacinta Miller
Venue: PFC 2/026

S4.1
A Right to Kin Contact? Discretion as a Means to Promoting Child Welfare Paramountcy
Alice Diver
University of Ulster, Londonderry, UK

Objectives
In cases involving adoptive placement, judges may opt to ‘make no order’. Wide discretion is often therefore afforded to social workers and/or new parents, for example to decide on the level, frequency and manner of kin contact between children and their original family members. This paper will consist of comparative, doctrinal analysis of recent case law on kin contact. Northern Ireland is of particular interest, given the ongoing consultation/reform of adoption law and policy in this region.

Method
It will examine the extent to which courts dealing with such cases make reference to or are guided by provisions such as Article 8 ECHR (respect for family life) and the best interests of the child principle. It will ask whether domestic, statutory welfare checklists merit some degree of amendment in respect of regulating kin contact or preserving the ties between original family members (such as siblings or grandparents).

Results
Case law will be discussed and decisions evaluated against a hypothetical welfare checklist, aimed at preventing ‘make no order’ outcomes. Comparison will be made of potential results, in respect of gauging whether court-ordered contact might offer a better means to promoting the best interests of the child in such situations.

Conclusions
The conclusion is likely to argue either for reform of the current policy on ‘make no order’ decision-making or to find that the granting of wide discretion is necessary to achieve workable outcomes in difficult cases involving child protective, intervention / placement.

S4.2
Children and Consent to Medical Treatment: Autonomy a Relevant Consideration?
Jacinta Miller
University of Ulster, Londonderry, UK

Objectives
This paper questions whether the same degree of respect for the principle of autonomy exists for children as it does for adults when health professionals dispute decisions in relation to consent to or refusal of medical treatment. It is subsequently questioned whether the current approach within the domestic law of the United Kingdom is compatible with the obligations stemming from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Method
The current UK approach will be outlined through a review of case law, legislation and current academic commentaries, against a broader background of general comments, concluding observations and decisions of the Committee on the Rights of the Child with particular reference to the concepts of ‘consent’, ‘participation’, ‘autonomy’ and ‘best interests’.

Results
Outcomes will be examined in light of (1) age categories and decision making and (2) factors informing the Court’s and the CRC Committee’s review of children’s decisions which are disputed by health professionals.
Conclusions

It is questioned whether it is time to acknowledge the paternalistic approach to review of decisions in respect of consent to or refusal of medical treatment by children: rarely if ever will society allow a child to consent to or refuse treatment when this results in harm to the child even if that decision is rationally made by a ‘Gillick competent’ child. It is submitted that the approach ought to be about facilitating enhanced child participation in medical treatment decision making, rather than a fictive view of the child as a decision maker.

S4.3

Snaring the Pied Piper on the Net: The Protection of Children from Online Sexual Grooming – An Irish Perspective

Sharon McLaughlin
Letterkenny Institute of Technology, Co. Donegal, Ireland

Objectives

The process by which a child is systematically prepared for future sexual exploitation by an adult - a process known as “sexual grooming” - has been the subject of much debate in recent years. While recognising that the practice of sexual grooming existed long before the emergence of the internet and related technologies, this paper will focus primarily on the online dimension of this behaviour and, in this context, will examine the role of law and education in combating this problem.

Method

A discussion on the nature and extent of sexual grooming will provide the contextual backdrop to this paper. This discussion will be followed by an examination of the relevant legal provisions in Ireland, with a particular focus on the deficiencies of these provisions. Based on a jurisdictional comparison with Australia, proposals for reform of the law in Ireland will be put forward. The merits of an educative approach to tackling the problem will also be examined.

Results

A jurisdictional comparison of grooming laws in Ireland and Australia makes it clear that the Irish provisions in respect of grooming are inadequate to protect children in the online environment. In the absence of adequate legal provisions, the role of education in the detection and prevention of grooming becomes even more important.

Conclusions

The conclusion will argue that there is a pressing need for reform of the Irish legal provisions applicable to sexual grooming. Among other conclusions, it will argue that a specific offence of grooming should be introduced and, more specifically, one which is capable of dealing with the online dimension of this practice. It will also be argued that information campaigns and initiatives (curricula-based and otherwise) have a pivotal role to play when it comes to tackling the problem of sexual grooming, and that parents as well as children must be targeted by such measures.

S4.4

Children and Grandparent Relationships: Examining Welfare Paramountcy in the Shadow of Developing Non-Legal Norm

Lynn Ramsey
Letterkenny Institute of Technology, Co. Donegal, Ireland

Objectives

This paper explores developments in the legal status of grandparents in relation to grandchildren in Ireland and the UK. Whilst the legal rights and responsibilities of grandparents may appear to be limited, there have been a number of significant developments which indicate a broadening of their rights: the new parenting plans in England, Wales and Scotland include consideration of grandparents; a Grandparents Charter has been adopted in Scotland and the Irish Law Reform Commissions in 2010 recommended changes to the law relating to applications for contact and guardianship for grandparents.
Method
The study compares legal developments in Ireland, Scotland and England and Wales against the backdrop of the legal concept of welfare paramountcy. The study employs focus groups of children and young people in Ireland reflecting on their relationship with their grandparents.

Results
This paper explores growing concerns that a rapidly developing received wisdom about the benefits of the grandparent/child relationship is taking place without detailed consideration of the rights of the child.

Conclusions
There is a lack of understanding of children’s perception of the grandparent/child relationship and the need to consider the inherent tension in an expanded legal consideration of the rights of the extended family and its impact on the concept of child welfare paramountcy.

Symposium 5:
The AIDES Initiative: Description and Assessment of the Quebec Adaptation of the Common Assessment Framework.

Convenor: Claire Chamberland
Venue: PFC OG/024

S5.1
The AIDES Initiative: A Social Innovation Focusing on the Needs of Children
Claire Chamberland¹, Carl Lacharité², Danielle Lessard¹, Guylaine Fafard², Louise Lemay³
¹Université de Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada, ²Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, Trois-Rivières, Québec, Canada, ³Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, Québec, Canada

Objectives
Paper’ objectives: 1. Describe the AIDES initiative, Intersectoral Action for Child Development and Safety, an innovative intervention practice modelled on the British Common Assessment Framework and its derived Core Assessment Tool; 2) Present the design of the initiative’s implementation and impact assessment.

Method
AIDES tested an innovation aiming to improve collaboration between partners concerned with the well-being and safety of children presenting complex needs. For each child, practitioners 1) conducted an analysis with the parents and partners focusing on all the developmental needs of the child; 2) used a participatory approach with the parents, and 3) developed and implemented an action plan.

A sample of 184 children and their parents, as well as practitioners and managers, were invited to participate in the study. Participants were recruited from four experimental sites and four control sites in urban, semi-urban, and rural areas. The implementation assessment, which was inductive and used a qualitative design, documented practice conditions and collaboration. The impact assessment, which was hypothetico-deductive and used a quasi-experimental, pre-post-intervention, quantitative design with a control group, measured the proximal, intermediate, and final effects on the children and parents.
Results
The researchers will answer the following questions: What is the AIDES project? What challenges were faced by the practitioners? What factors facilitated or impeded implementation? What were the collaborative practices? What are the implications for parents, children, and practitioners? How is the quality of participation in the project related to observed improvements in the children and parents?

Conclusions
Lessons learned from this experimental adaptation of the British model for children in need will be presented. Lastly, recommendations for the continuation of this initiative in Québec will be provided.

S5.2
Louise Lemay1, Sarah Dufour2, Véronique Bouchard2, Stéphanie Plourde3
1Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke (Québec), Canada, 2Université de Montréal, Montréal (Québec), Canada, 3Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, Trois-Rivières (Québec), Canada

Objectives
Identify, from the experience of parents participating in the AIDES initiative, the conditions that influence the quality of parent-practitioner collaboration within social practices focusing on the well-being and safety of children.

Method
The qualitative component of the study of parent-practitioner collaboration involved the participation of 40 parents and 40 practitioners, divided into two groups: one exposed to the AIDES initiative and the other exposed to current practices. Both groups participated in telephone interviews using the critical incident method to report their meaningful experiences self-evaluated as satisfactory or not. These contrasting cases allowed for documenting the conditions associated with the quality of the collaborative relationships. The results presented here are derived from content analysis of the interviews with the parents.

Results
The results relate to the conditions that influence parent-practitioner collaboration in regard to two major dimensions: 1) the strategies used by the actors in their relationships, as perceived by the parents, and 2) the causal attributions made by the parents to explain the results of their collaboration with the practitioners, deemed satisfactory or not. Two interaction sequences constructed from critical incidents illustrate the conditions that influence collaboration and reflect the dynamics of the relationships experienced.

Conclusions
The importance of promoting active participation of parents in support practices affecting their children needs no further demonstration. Accounting for the views of parents is essential for understanding the conditions associated with this participation and to adjust social programmes and practices in order to maximise parent-practitioner collaboration focused on meeting the needs of children.

S5.3
Quality of Exposure to the AIDES Social Innovation and Developmental Outcomes of the Children and Parents
Claire Chamberland1, Marie-Ève Clément2, Carl Lacharité3
1Université de Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada, 2Université du Québec en Outaouais, Gatineau, Québec, Canada, 3Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, Trois-Rivières, Québec, Canada

Objectives
Understand how quality of exposure to the AIDES (Intersectoral Action for Child Development and Safety) social innovation contributed to the developmental outcomes of children and parents, taking into account the initial risk conditions.
Method
A sample of 161 children was interviewed before and after the AIDES initiative trial. Three groups were formed according to whether exposure to AIDES was null (zero exposure), minimal (partial or fragmented), or optimal (adequate). During home interviews, standardised instruments were administered and provided information on parenting; quality of the family environment; cognitive, language, behavioural, and emotional development of the children; and victimisation of the children.

Results
The following hypotheses will be tested:
Quality of exposure to AIDES helps to explain differences in the developmental outcomes of the children and parents (by controlling the initial development and risk conditions); acts as a moderating factor on the relationship between the initial risk conditions and the developmental outcomes of the children and parents; acts as a mediating factor between the initial risk conditions and the quality of relationship between the parents and the pivotal practitioners; acts as a mediating factor between the quality of participation in AIDES and the developmental outcomes (post-test results) of the children and parents.

Conclusions
It is not surprising that quality of exposure to AIDES explains the differences between the three groups. The implementation of an innovative intervention practice demands that particular attention be given to the support (training, clinical support) provided to the practitioners involved in the project.

Objectives
To illustrate the diversity of situations experienced by participants in an evaluative study of the AIDES (Intersectoral Action for Child Development and Safety) social innovation, which is modelled on the British Common Assessment Framework.

Method
The AIDES initiative experimented with an innovative intervention practice aiming to improve collaboration between parents, practitioners, and various partners concerned with the well-being and safety of Canadian children aged 9 years and younger presenting complex needs. The AIDES implementation and impact assessment produced a variety of data on the experiences of 184 families and on the effects of their participation in the initiative or in current services. Data from two families, chosen because of their representativeness regarding processes and effects, were summarised and will be presented in the form of case histories.

Results
These case histories provide an in-depth understanding and illustration of differential effects depending on whether families were involved or not in AIDES. Convergences and divergences between the case histories will be identified.

Conclusions
The case history approach was fruitful in providing an in-depth understanding of the unique experiences of children and their families in AIDES compared to those in regular services. It also allows for assessing the level of appropriation of innovative practices by practitioners and for identifying promising strategies to promote.

Illustrations of the Unique Experiences of Children and their Families Participating in a Social Innovation
Danielle Lessard¹, Guylaine Fafard², Carl Lacharité²

¹Université de Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada; ²Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, Trois-Rivières, Québec, Canada
S5.5

Practice Conditions and Social Innovations: Facilitators and Barriers to Implementing the AIDES Initiative

Sarah Dufour, Danielle Lessard, Claire Chamberland
Université de Montréal, Montréal (Québec), Canada

Objectives
As part of the implementation assessment, identify the conditions of practice that facilitated or hindered implementation of the AIDES initiative.

Method
Evaluators conducted semi-structured telephone interviews with 35 respondents (18 practitioners and 17 managers) who participated in the AIDES initiative trial. Respondents were chosen to include all participating organisations (child protection services, front-line social services). Participants' comments were submitted to descriptive content analysis.

Results
Conditions facilitating or impeding implementation of the initiative included the following dimensions: 1) tools and approaches used (framework, needs analysis workbook, participatory approach, intervention plan or integrated services plan for the children); 2) quality of the experiment (e.g., training, support received); 3) organisational elements (socio-political issues, organisational functioning, cooperation between organisations); and 4) individual elements (e.g., enthusiasm or resistance of participants).

Conclusions
The study highlights critical elements to consider in implementing and maintaining significant changes in practice among organisations providing assistance to vulnerable children and their families. Social innovations that do not consider such elements are likely to compromise their deployment and sustainability.

Symposium 6:

Transitions for Young People into and out of Secure Settings: Issues for Practice and Policy

Convenor: Teresa Geraghty
Venue: PFC OG/007

S6.1

Transitions into and out of Secure Accommodation in Northern Ireland
Teresa Geraghty
NCB NI, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
To explore the routes into and out of secure accommodation for all of the young people in Northern Ireland who were assessed as being in need of secure care over a one-year period.

Method
Data were gathered in two ways: examining the case files of the young people in the sample and ascertaining by questionnaire, interview and group discussion, the views of relevant parties, including social workers (SWs), managers, staff at the secure facility, Guardians Ad Litem, voluntary sector representatives, and young people who had experience of secure care.

Results
As the challenges posed by the young people increased, so did the use of residential care. By the time assessment for a secure placement took place, almost three-quarters of the young people (71 per cent) were living in residential care. Residential care was also the most likely destination for young people leaving secure care: 84 per cent of the group moved into a residential setting, with 68 per cent returning to the unit from which they were admitted.

This pattern poses a number of questions: continuity of care versus the ability to start over with a 'clean sheet'.

Conclusions
This review highlights the closeness of the relationship between the open residential sector and secure care. Any plans for alternatives to reduce the need for secure accommodation must include strengthening the capacity of residential care. The outcome of any stay in secure care is dependent on the services and supports available to the young people.
person when they move into an open care placement.

S6.2

Managing the Transition from Secure Settings in England

Diane Hart
NCB, London, UK

Objectives
To illustrate the needs of young people moving on from secure settings and to develop tools for practitioners and policy makers that would improve transition planning.

Method
Three secure establishments were worked with - a young offender institution, a secure training centre and a secure children's home exploring their arrangements for supporting young people's transition back to the community. Two young people from each setting who were due to complete a criminal justice sentence within the next month were interviewed to elicit their views on what would enable them to achieve a positive transition. The young person's records were examined, planning meetings were observed and their subsequent experiences were tracked. A follow up interview was conducted with each young person between one and three months after release.

Results
At follow-up two young people had returned to custody; two were doing well and had a sense of optimism regarding the future; two were surviving in the community but not completely settled. While the findings are not generalisable, the factors that made a positive difference to the outcomes for these young people were:

- 'End to end' services – before, during and after time in secure care
- Thorough assessment of individual needs
- Flexible interventions tailored to meet these needs
- Fast access to continuing services and support on release
- Engagement with young people and their families
- Multi-agency involvement, with clear roles and responsibilities.

Conclusions
The main focus within 'resettlement' policy tends to focus on issues such as accommodation or employment. There is insufficient recognition of the factors that enable young people to take advantage of these resources. Emotional needs that tend to be overlooked include the importance of continuity in relationships, the need to feel valued and the impact of institutionalisation.

S6.3

An Inspection by the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority of the Care Pathways for a Select Group of Young People Who Met the Criteria for Secure Accommodation

Gerry Marshall
The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA), Belfast, UK

Objectives
To examine the pathways through care for an identified group of ten young people who met the criteria for secure accommodation and to identify the key milestones/factors that influenced the outcomes they experienced.

Method
RQIA examined the pathways through the care system of ten young people who met the criteria for secure accommodation. This research group was subdivided into two sections - one group of five who met the criteria and were placed in secure care and a second group who also met the criteria but did not receive a placement. The young person's records were examined, interviews were completed with the young people, key social work staff and the chairpersons for Restriction of Liberty Panels.

Results
For young people with complex needs the care system contains both strengths and deficits which can affect their journey through care. The Restriction of Liberty Panel system plays a pivotal role as does the quality and intensity of service provision prior to and following their admission to a children's home. The inter-engagement between children's homes and key intervention/support services can also directly influence the outcomes for young
people with complex needs. A greater ability to therapeutically engage ‘at risk’ young people and provide a stable living environment is required to produce improved outcomes and reduce the need for restriction of liberty placements.

Conclusions

In Northern Ireland there is a core group of young people each year, who are admitted to secure accommodation for their own safety or that of others. There is a need for greater analysis of the service provision to young people with complex needs and how it can develop and improve in order to reduce this recurring flow of young people into a restricted liberty setting.

S6.4

Secure Care, Transitions and Meaning
Nicola Carr
Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives

This presentation explores how the interpretation of the experience of secure care from the perspective of the young person is an important and often overlooked aspect of transitions from a secure setting. Analytic attention on outcomes has tended to focus on measures such as recidivism (in the juvenile justice population) and subsequent placement trajectories of young people. This presentation highlights the importance of paying attention to young people’s subjective narratives regarding their placements in secure care particularly in the context of their transitions from these placements.

Method

The presentation draws on data from an ongoing study, which explores young people’s transitions from secure settings within the juvenile justice system. Literature on the utility of biographical approaches in exploring the meaning of secure placement and the concept of ‘transition’ is also critically explored.

Results

Subjective narratives - i.e. the ‘meaning’ attached to care experiences - are an important component in transitions from care. This is particularly the case for transitions from secure care where young people’s understandings of the rationales for their placement are key in their movement onwards.

Conclusions

Biographical approaches that focus on the lived experiences of young people are particularly apposite in attempts to understand the dynamic and contingent nature of transitions from secure care.
F14.1

When ‘Everyone’s Doing It’: Co-Offending and Co-Victimisation in Complex Child Sexual Exploitation

Ella Cockbain, Richard Wortley, Cheryl Thomas
Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science, University College London (UCL), London, UK

Objectives
- Investigate the extent and nature of co-offending and co-victimisation.
- Identify a new model of grooming for this multi-agent crime.
- Address the implications for intervention.

Method
Internal child sex trafficking (ICST), often labelled ‘on-street grooming’, is a new child-protection priority in the UK. This study analysed police data from several major investigations, together spanning over one-hundred victims and offenders and extensive repeat-victimisation. Primary data included interview transcripts, telephone forensics and surveillance reports. First, case-analysis was used to establish the extent and nature of co-offending and co-victimisation. Here, co-offending is defined as co-operation in planning or committing a crime; co-victimisation is an analogous process involving the simultaneous or sequential abuse of multiple victims. Second, a social psychology framework enabled different grooming processes and their possible impact to be identified.

Results
Co-offending and co-victimisation proved defining features of ICST, but varied considerably in their expression. Co-offending, for example, ranged from the provision of an abuse location to the simultaneous anal and vaginal rape of a single victim. Co-victimisation was closely linked to victim peer-recruitment, which contributed to the proliferation of harm. Grooming, meanwhile, confounded the stereotypes of a slow, deliberate and sophisticated process; instead, it was often rapid, instinctive and mundane. Drugs and alcohol featured prominently. The traditional model of grooming as a unidirectional vertical process from offender to victim had insufficient explanatory power. Instead, a new and more extensive model is proposed, which includes reciprocal horizontal grooming between victims and co-victims, and offenders and co-offenders.

Conclusions
The group dynamics of ICST sustain and spread abuse. Effective grooming, within and between the offender and victim groups, appears to normalise abuse, encourage victim compliance, overcome taboos, and fuel a sense of impunity. An accurate understanding of the complexities of this multi-agent crime opens up new avenues for research and intervention, including universal prevention programmes and targeted enforcement.

F14.2

Online Voyeurs of Indecent Images of Children and Paedophiles: The Importance of Knowing the Difference.

Charles Fortt¹, Steve Lowe²
¹Family Risk Assessment Ltd, Beccles, UK, ²Phoenix Forensic Consultants Ltd, Godalming, UK

Objectives
To discuss the spectrum of offender characteristics and reconviction rates and consider how indiscriminate labelling of online voyeurs of indecent images of children as being paedophiles, automatically at risk of contact sexual offending, results in a disservice to children and ultimately is counter-productive.

Method
The authors are in private practice as expert witnesses and regularly report to courts in criminal and family proceedings. Their independent but common experience has revealed institutional and societal responses to online voyeurs of indecent images of children that are inconsistent with research studies.
Results
Findings in the research literature are not reflected in common perceptions of police, probation, judicial and social work professionals. The label of paedophile is frequently misapplied to voyeurism-only offenders who are over-estimated as posing significant risk of causing direct harm to children.

Conclusions
The steep rise in public access to the internet has resulted in a corresponding increase in convictions for possessing indecent images of children, whilst the overall trend for contact offending has been going down for some time now. Parents who would not otherwise meet the criteria for paedophilia are being labelled as such and consequently are being regarded as posing significant risk to their children, resulting in disproportionate sentencing and needless separation from their children.

F14.3
Including Families in Multiagency Working on Child Sexual Exploitation: CROP’s Involvement with ENGAGE, Blackburn, UK, 2009-11
Emma Kelly¹, Peter Jenkins¹
¹Salford University, Salford, UK; ²Manchester University, Manchester, UK

Objectives
To evaluate multi-agency Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) work by CROP (the Coalition for The Removal of Pimping), with ENGAGE in Blackburn. The paper evaluates the contribution of a parent support agency to a multi-agency CSE team, in relation to achieving three key objectives, i.e. prevention, protection and prosecution. It also aims to identify good practice in multi-agency CSE work, including effective liaison between agencies and, crucially, the active involvement of families affected by CSE.

Method
The evaluation is based on a mixed methods approach, employing structured analysis of transcribed audio-taped interviews made with 7 ENGAGE staff members; in addition, 3 interviews with parents were recorded by note-taking. These interviews were supplemented by quantitative data, such as records of parental engagement, quarterly reports and prosecution data. In addition, feedback from parents from parent training groups was also accessed.

Results
CROP provided support to 69 families affected by CSE between 2009 and 2011, delivering 10 training sessions for 240 professionals and 7 parent groups. Its work with parents directly aided the prevention, prevention and prosecution of CSE.

Conclusions
Of particular note is CROP’s role in repairing relationships between children and parents. In turn, parents were supported in sharing information with the Police. This may partially account for a significant increase in prosecutions: between July to September 2010 52 charges were made by Police.

F14.4
Challenges to Successful Prosecution of Cases Involving Child Sexual Exploitation
Aravinda Kosaraju
Coalition for the Removal of Pimping (CROP), Leeds, West Yorkshire, UK

Objectives
To develop an understanding of the factors that contribute to the successful prosecution of cases involving Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and use the learning to inform policy and influence practice around safeguarding children from sexual exploitation.

Method
This is a paper developed as part of the research work of the Coalition for the Removal of Pimping (CROP), a charity (registered in England and Wales) working with parents and carers of sexually exploited young people. This is a small scale study involving interviews, focussed group discussions with some stakeholders and observation of court proceedings by the researcher. Sources of information include parents whose lives are affected by the sexual exploitation of their children, professionals working with children and police officers who were part of a couple of police operations investigating sexual offences against children.
Results
CSE case investigations and prosecutions are difficult by their very nature. Organised nature of abuse, impact of abuse on victims, lack of specialist support, delay in investigation, victim disengagement, further intensifies the complexity of trying these cases. CSE prosecutions are far and few. Charges and sentencing do not reflect the seriousness and enormity of crimes committed. This paper highlights swift action; a culture of belief; trained specialist investigative, prosecutorial teams; robust mechanisms for multi-agency working and information sharing; a family centred approach to victim/witness care, as fundamental to engaging victims and witnesses throughout the criminal justice process.

Conclusions
Attitude of criminal justice agencies towards victims, defence tactics that undermine the victim and the proceedings often influence the outcome of the prosecution process. Effective multi-agency working is key to identifying at risk children and to developing appropriate safeguarding responses. Willingness of the victims/witnesses to go through the criminal justice process; a robust multi-agency partnership and communication strategy; and an intensive victim/witness care plan are crucial to the successful prosecution of perpetrators. Keeping parents and carers informed and included in the process enables them to better support their children going through a court process as victims and witnesses.

Free Paper Session 15
Chair: Brigid Daniel
Venue: PFC 2/018

F15.1

The Rhythm of Neglect: An Exploration of Professionals' Understandings and Experiences of Neglect Cases in Light of the Recent Irish Publication of the Roscommon Inquiry
Nicola O'Sullivan¹
¹Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, ²Bessborough Care Centre, Cork, Ireland

Objectives
To explore whether and how professionals perceive child abuse inquiries to have influenced their understandings of neglect, with a view to developing a practice based model for assessing and responding to long term neglect.

Method
This post graduate research was conducted in the South Lee area of cork with a small but diverse group of professionals, where the researcher was employed as a coordinator of a Child Protection Family Support Service. The study is a qualitative study, using semi structured interviews with nine professionals engaging or responding to cases of neglect in their practice. The study also reviewed the report of the Roscommon Child Care Case (2010) which details decades of chronic neglect and abuse suffered by six children in Ireland, culminating in these children being removed into the care of the HSE.

Results
The findings indicate that professionals recognised distinct and manifest parallels between their own practice and the situation elucidated by the Roscommon Child Care Case. The publication of the Roscommon Child Care Case did not appear to add to professionals learning in any significant way, rather it heightened their awareness of the vulnerable space within which they engage with children who experience neglect, arguably causing them distress.

This study has shown that changes are required on a national level if neglect is to be tackled in a meaningful way.

Conclusions
Though projects like the Roscommon Child Care Case aim to posit cause and suggestions for reform of child care practice, in reality, because of their narrow focus, they tend to allocate culpability to a localised section of the national child protection social work service.

Learning from inquiries would be more effectively achieved if the key learning points were given more attention than the more sensationalist aspects of the case. In order to support children we must support and educate workers, think strategically and ensure that resource allocation is embarked upon in a measured manner.
F15.2
Tackling Chronic Neglect - The Challenges and Opportunities
Lynne Peyton¹,²
¹Peyton Child Care Consultancy and Training, Northern Ireland, UK, ²Health Service Executive, Dublin, Ireland

Objectives
To increase understanding among professionals, policy makers and judiciary of the enduring consequences for children of chronic neglect though a study of 100 families involving almost 300 children.

To examine the challenges involved in supporting parents while safeguarding children and to examine threshold issues within the context of personal, professional and societal values.

Method
This study was commissioned by the statutory authority in Ireland following an Inquiry which identified an over reliance on family support despite the lack of benefits for children, a tendency to view neglect as less serious than other forms of abuse and a reticence among professionals in challenging parents, A review of practice and management was carried out in 100 cases in 3 Offices with different geographical and socio-economic characteristics, including an inner city area and sparsely populated rural area. It comprised an examination of case files, focus groups/interviews with a range of disciplines, professional managers and legal advisors.

Results
The characteristics of neglecting families in Ireland are considered along with the challenges and outcomes of the strategies and serviced employed to combat neglect.

Neglect continues to be the most commonly identified form of child abuse in Ireland and the UK. Despite extensive research corroborating the long term impact on children’s psychological and emotional well being and the findings of serious case reviews, professionals are still uncertain about thresholds for intervention and there is an apparent reluctance by the judiciary to challenge parents to play their part in meeting appropriate standards of care.

Conclusions
This study will be relevant to professionals in other jurisdictions. It will inform a national audit of neglect in Ireland in 2012.

F15.3
Exploring the Experiences of Vulnerable Children to Emotional Abuse and Neglect in a Community in Ghana
Saka Manful
University of Ghana, Accra / Greater Accra, Ghana

Objectives
To explore the experiences of vulnerable children to emotional abuse and neglect in a community in Ghana. This is in recognition that there exists a strong global consensus among governments and professionals in both the North and South of the high potential of the UNCRC as a legal framework for the protection of all children from all forms of abuse and neglect for the realization of children’s rights to improve their well being.

Method
The study was conducted in a poor community at Ashiaman; a disadvantaged town in Ghana. Random and purposive sampling was used to select 20 participating children and 20 adults. Data for analysis was obtained through survey questionnaire, observations and individual narratives with the study participants.

Results
The study revealed that child abuse and neglect rather than stopping is on the increase in Ashiaman. It was explained that the rise was due to general poverty in the town which is aggravating the needs of vulnerable children in the community. A significant finding of the study is the extent of vulnerable children’s needs and how participating children accessed their informal relationships to obtain support services to meet their protection needs; thereby preventing abuse and neglect by adults and their peers.
Conclusions
This paper argues that instead of blanket implementation of UNCRC borrowed from rich Northern countries, global advocacy should focus on understanding the social, economic and political context of poor countries. Particularly important is the unique traditional cultural space where care and protection are provided for all vulnerable children in society. It appears developing this form of protection for vulnerable children would complement the UNCRC to prevent abuse and neglect of children. The study suggests this perspective would open up variety of relevant interventions to effectively deal with the rising child abuse and neglect cases.

F15.4

Health Visitors’ Role in Assessing Oral Health in Children: Investigating Dental Neglect Thresholds
Caroline Bradbury-Jones2, Julie Taylor1,2, Nicola Innes2, Dafydd Evans2, Fiona Ballantyne3
1NSPCC, London, UK, 2University of Dundee, Dundee, Scotland, UK, 3NHS Fife, Fife, Scotland, UK

Objectives
This study investigates the oral health/child protection dyad from a health visiting perspective in Scotland. It aims to understand health visitors’ role in the assessment of oral health in preschool children in relation to dental neglect. Specifically it:
1. Explores how health visitors engage in oral health promotion
2. Gains insight into the manner in which health visitors assess dental neglect
3. Develops understanding of threshold levels of dental decay used by health visitors as indicators of the need for targeted health visitor support
4. Identifies the factors relating to dental neglect beyond which health visitors initiate child protection intervention.

Method
This is an exploratory study of qualitative design using the Critical Incident Technique (CIT). We are interested in how health visitors actually assess oral health in children and what action they take when an assessment indicates a threshold level of dental decay. Health visitors (n = 15) will be recruited throughout January/February 2012. Data will be collected through 1:1 CIT interviews.

Results
We will use the conference to present our findings. This will provide opportunity for conference delegates to learn about the outcome of the study at an early stage of dissemination.

Conclusions
Abused and neglected children have higher levels of tooth decay than the general population. While dental neglect may exist in isolation, there is increasing evidence that untreated dental disease may be an indicator of broader child neglect. We know that health visitors use dental neglect as a proxy indicator of broader neglect in children. However, it is not known what health visitors actually do to assess for dental neglect. It is important to know this because their role in the accurate, timely assessment of children for dental neglect means that they are catalysts in securing a child’s safety and well-being.

Free Paper Session 16
Chair: Donald MacKenzie
Venue: PFC 3/006a

F16.1

What Information do Practitioners Need to Better Support Child Survivors of Sexual Exploitation and Related Trafficking in India?
Claire Cody
Centre for Rural Childhood, University of the Highlands and Islands, Perth, UK

Objectives
To understand the ‘knowledge gaps’ among practitioners working directly with children and young people affected by sexual exploitation and related trafficking in West Bengal, India and to identify areas where research could inform the development of effective aftercare strategies for this population.

Method
Twelve non-governmental organisations (NGOs) were visited in West Bengal in September 2010. Practitioners from these organisations were asked to identify the lessons they had learnt from working with this population, the perceived challenges and the information and knowledge gaps.
Practitioners reported a number of obstacles and expressed a desire to know what other models of aftercare had been tried and tested, what the current work is achieving and what happens to these children and young people in the long-term.

Practitioners highlighted three main areas where knowledge and information is needed: strategies and approaches for follow-up once young people have been re/integrated; different models of alternative therapy; and vocational training programmes to create sustainable livelihoods for young people. In addition, practitioners wanted to know more about the sexual exploitation of boys and how to support boys in their recovery.

Conclusions

These discussions support past research findings that highlight the lack of an evidence-base for effective interventions and models for sexually exploited and trafficked children and young people globally. One particular gap is the limited funding and resources to ensure interventions are monitored and evaluated. Another is the lack of knowledge transfer and opportunities for practitioners to share experiences with their peers. Funders should prioritise these gaps and address them through supporting partnerships between local research institutes and NGOs.

These preliminary discussions have led to further funding for an action-based research project.

F16.2

The Delivery and Evaluation of a Guided Approach to Therapeutic Work with Children and Young People who Have Been Sexually Abused: Organisational Strategy and Model Integrity vs. Operational Imperatives, the Challenges and Learning So Far
Jon Brown, Trish O’Donnell
NSPCC, London, UK

Objectives
To share learning to date from the design and delivery of one of the NSPCC sexual abuse theme commissions with a particular focus on some of the tensions that exist between ensuring model integrity and the realities of service delivery. Potential solutions derived from experience to date will be shared along with ongoing challenges still to be resolved.

Method
This is ongoing action research. Learning has been gained from inter and intra divisional working forums within the NSPCC, in particular the Commission Delivery Group and the commission Advisory Group.

Results
Our findings to date suggest that it possible to design and deliver a relatively complex therapeutic treatment guide with manualised components for children and young people who have been sexually abused with a clear evaluation plan, whilst responding to the operational demands of a large, UK wide organisation. Some flexibility and compromise is necessary whilst recognising the boundaries beyond which this cannot go in order to achieve integrity of delivery and good quality outcomes for the children and young people receiving the service.

Conclusions

The learning to date is that:

• Service and evaluation clarity of design is critical
• Identification of what can be flexible and what cannot in order to ensure integrity of delivery is key
• An early anticipation, recognition and appreciation of the operational and “real life” demands of those tasked with delivering the commission is important
• Regular communication within the organisation and with key external partners is key
• Clarity and timeliness of problem identification and identification of solutions is important in reducing the risk of longer term and potentially more intractable challenges.

F16.3

Dympna Browne
Child Care Centre, 87 Lisburn Rd, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
This presentation will explore the particular challenges in identifying and assessing
concerns regarding child sexual abuse in children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

**Method**

Current assessment procedures used to investigate CSA are examined in relation to what is known about the communication, interaction and thinking styles of children with ASD.

**Results**

Children with ASD have particular developmental characteristics that increase the risk of undetected sexual abuse. Examination of current assessment procedures indicate that they may be inadequate in the evaluation of child sexual abuse concerns in children with ASD and may actually interfere with the recognition of sexual abuse.

**Conclusions**

Children with ASD may be at increased risk of sexual abuse. However, research indicates that the abuse of children with disabilities often goes unrecognised. It is incumbent upon clinicians and researchers to develop reliable methods of evaluating concerns about child sexual abuse which are sensitive to the particular needs of the child with ASD.

F16.4

**Meaningful Partnership: Re-Imagining How Social Work Can Facilitate Sustained Change to Provide Safety in Families Where There Are Risks of Sexual Abuse**

Matthew Gibson

*University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK*

**Objectives**

Using a case example of high risk sexual abuse, where the risks to the children were minimised or denied, show steps to produce an informed network with the ability to provide sustained changes to create safety. While partnership with families has been shown to be vital in child protection cases, creating a partnership in environments of elevated professional and familial anxiety is challenging. By involving others in the community along with the immediate and wider family, the case will show that co-creating a training programme and support to the network, re-imagines the social work role to produce meaningful partnership.

**Method**

A case example in the statutory services in New Zealand of a family of Maori decent where the father had sexually abused 2 of the 5 children. Specific training and support for those in the network was co-created with the network so issues could be understood and plans supported.

**Results**

The family felt informed, involved and on a par with the professionals involved with the case. They felt they had others who could support them and assist in ensuring the plans were adhered to. The case was used as a training example to develop practice in Auckland in both statutory and non-statutory agencies.

**Conclusions**

Professionals have access to a variety of training and support networks in ensuring their work in cases of sexual abuse is appropriate as well as to manage their anxiety while families do not. They cannot therefore be expected to understand the complexity of the issues. Providing this for the family by working with the community re-imagines the working relationship, who you are working with and what you are looking to do. While this is a case example it shows how to create meaningful partnership and can offer valuable learning for anyone working in the field.

Free Paper Session 17

Chair: Nicky Stanley

Venue: PFC 2/011

F17.1

‘He Won’t Last a Term’: Supporting the Educational Transitions of Looked after Young People at Key Stage 4.

Jenny Driscoll

*King’s College London, London, UK*

**Objectives**

To further understanding of the ways in which looked after young people nearing the end of compulsory education can best be supported in school and encouraged to continue in education and training post 16.
Method

This paper is drawn from the first stage of a longitudinal doctoral research study following up to 20 looked after children in England from years 11-13 (ages 15-18). It discusses the findings from interviews with twelve designated teachers for looked after young people and 4 Virtual Heads.

Results

For many looked after children, schools are a key source of stability in lives which are otherwise characterised by uncertainty and disruption. Designated teachers habitually negotiate the inherent conflicts between the need for sensitive and consistent pastoral support for looked after children and the pressure on schools to demonstrate academic ‘success’ and can be effective advocates for young people at risk of exclusion. But many young people enter the care system late in childhood, with significant educational needs and/or mental health difficulties, and a large proportion are excluded from mainstream education. Year 11 is a time of multiple changes, in care and education.

Conclusions

In a political climate in which the UK government has stated an intention to realise the potential of schools as ‘engines of social mobility’ through increased focus on discipline and academic attainment, this small study highlights 3 key issues for looked after young people: the pastoral importance of school in providing stability and thereby supporting placements under stress; the inherent tensions for designated teachers advocating for vulnerable students in a culture of pressure to demonstrate attainment; and the concentration of pressure on looked after young people in year 11, when public examinations and educational transitions coincide with the initiation of leaving care arrangements.

F17.2

Promoting the Health of Looked After Children

Lin Graham-Ray
CLCH, London, UK

Objectives

Looked after children and young people represent one of the most vulnerable groups within our society and experience significant inequalities in health compared to their contemporaries who are not looked after by the local authority. Tackling these disparities and improving their health relies on a sustained multidisciplinary approach to their care involving social care, health, education and many other agencies. This presentation raises awareness of the complex needs of looked after children and examines the factors contributing to their poor health outcomes.

Method

This presentation draws on the experiences of the first looked after children’s nurse in London and how building a team to meet health needs has contributed to improved health outcomes for looked after children.

Results

Evidencing experiences of paramount importance when ensuring high quality delivery of health care to looked after children and young people. It has enabled prioritisation by all agencies taking action to address the health inequalities.

Conclusions

By recognising the potential benefits of working together and integrating all services with nursing practice it has been acknowledged that all professionals expertise is equitable and a holistic service for looked after children is offered, which is pivotal to collaborative working. We will share our pathways and protocols as well as present methods of engagement and best practice with this group of vulnerable children and young people. Highlighting safeguarding issues and working with risk. In addition we will draw on messages from our patient group, representing their views on service provision.

F17.3

Therapeutic Consultation: Working with Hard to Reach Traumatised Adolescents

Noel Macnamara
Australian Childhood Foundation, Melbourne, Australia

Objectives

This paper will outline the implementation of a model for supporting adults working with traumatised young people. These young people have been subject what Sutton (1991) describes as ‘Triple Deprivation’. The first layer is external influences out of the child’s control: abuse and neglect. The second is the impact on the child’s inner world, most
significantly their attachment. The third is the organisational response, whereby professionals become paralysed with the conflicting emotional demands. This obscures critical thinking and reflection, which impacts on the capacity for planning.

Method

The ACF has developed a model, grounded in theories of neurobiology and attachment, for understanding the effects of abuse and neglect for children who have suffered relational trauma. Integration of these theories provides a framework for understanding: these children have come to organise their neurobiology and psychology in response to seeing others as threatening.

A model integrating this understanding on the neuropsychobiological responses of the adults working with traumatised children has been implemented and evaluated. In depth interviews and focus groups with staff have produced a rich description of the impact of early intervention of the model.

Results

These children are hard to reach and appear numb to experiences around them. When a painful feeling threatens to erupt, they shield themselves from these through sex, violence, drugs, etc. The adults are often trapped in the space of coping rather than thinking. They experience feelings of rejection, inadequacy, fear and helplessness. Initial evaluation results indicate that this model suggests that it offers an effective means of enabling adults to remain in a ‘therapeutic space’ with these young people.

Conclusions

Early implementation of the model has indicated positive outcomes for adults working with ‘hard to reach’ young people. The evidence base for the model and the model itself will be presented and implementation issues will be explored.

F17.4

Innovations and Interventions for Young People in Transition

Rhian Stone
Solas-Cymru, Newport, Wales, UK

Objectives

To demonstrate the positive impact of experiential and engagement activities on young people who have experienced homelessness and are now in transition from supported housing. To enhance an understanding of how to boost self esteem, increase confidence and raise aspirations in young people who have experienced some level of trauma and displacement in their lives.

Method

H2H is our system of rewarding participants in engagement and educational activities. Research was carried out by Solas-Cymru to identify the outcomes for 51 young people aged 16 to 21 who used its supported housing service in 2010/11. Using engagement summaries, the ‘outcome star’ and internal monitoring, Solas collated evidence to demonstrate the impact of its interventions.

Results

80% of all young people accessing the service in 2010/11 reported an increase in self confidence and raised self-esteem. 28 young people successfully transitioned into their own accommodation in the community and 100% of these young people continued to maintain their tenancy after 6 months. At the time that they moved on 35% had also taken up employment, education, training and apprenticeship opportunities.

Conclusions

The H2H reward system helps young people to work towards successful transition into adulthood and independence by increasing both their knowledge of living alone including the pitfalls and challenges but also by raising self-confidence and self-belief so that they are better prepared to live independently. If other agencies working with vulnerable young people adopted this approach there would be a greater number of successfully maintained tenancies ‘after moving into independent living’ and less young people experiencing repeat homelessness and poor outcomes and life chances.
Free Paper Session 18

Chair: Brid Featherstone
Venue: PFC 2/025

F18.1

‘I’m Just a Mother. I’m Nothing Special, they’re all Professionals’: Unequal Encounters and the Role of Parental Advocacy

Brid Featherstone
The Open University, Milton Keynes, UK

Objectives

This paper discusses findings from an evaluation of an advocacy scheme for parents whose children were subject to child protection proceedings including a pilot project with ‘entrenched’ cases where co-operation between parents and professionals was considered to be problematic.

Method

The evaluation involved questionnaires and/or interviews with service users, social workers, advocates and conference chairpersons.

Results

The findings suggest that parental advocacy was helpful in ensuring that parents were able to engage with processes they found intimidating and that advocates played an important role in communicating professional concerns to parents, thus promoting children’s safety within a recognition of parents’ needs for support and advice about the law and local authority procedures.

An exploration of three case-studies where co-operation was considered problematic highlighted how little control mothers, in particular, felt they had over whose definition of co-operation prevailed and illustrated how micro-practices reproduced wider patterns of disadvantage. In such contexts, advocacy was of value but its limitations were recognised.

Conclusions

Parents’ need for support and advice are poorly recognised in the current policy context. It will be argued that this is not ethically acceptable and that it may be unwise in terms of promoting parental engagement.

F18.2

Making a Difference in their Lives: Working with Complex Families in an Uncertain World

Jordan Ross2, Scottye Cash1, Stephanie Ingram2, Robert Oats2, Ronald Thompson2
1The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA, 2Boys Town National Research Institute, Boys Town, NE, USA

Objectives

To describe the substance abuse history, level of motivation to change, and perceived social support in sample of clients served by an in-home family services (IHFS) programme in Iowa. Data will also be presented on the Strengths and Stressors (SS) instrument that measures the following domains: Environment, Parental Capabilities, Family Safety, Child Well-Being and Social Support. This preliminary study is a first step in understanding the complex dynamics occurring within these families with respect to substance abuse. Future directions and potential interventions to address these issues will be included in the presentation.

Method

The data were collected from a sample of families who were enrolled in IHFS services from February 1, 2011 to the present. Families who consented to participate were interviewed using the following measures: Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ), Family Support Scale (FSS), Alabama Parenting Questionnaire (APQ), Addiction Severity Index—Lite (ASI), and the University of Rhode Island Change Assessment Scale (URICA). The sample includes 45 families, representing 86 adults and 96 children.

Results

IHFS families have significant stressors in all SS domains. Few parents reported that extended family/friends and community supports were helpful. On the SDQ, 52% of children scored in the high range of problems and parents reported difficulties with Inconsistent Discipline and Poor Supervision. Current substance use (last 30 days) was 49% with 89% indicating a lifetime use. Over 50% of parents reported lifetime struggles with depression and/or anxiety and were
prescribed psychotropic medication. For SA parents, their motivation to change was precontemplation, which indicates they did not feel that they had a problem with SA.

Conclusions
Families in this study exhibit stress in multiple areas of their lives, while reporting few social supports. The lack of social support is concerning, especially when parents indicate problems with child behavior and their parenting skills are lacking. A large percentage of the families reported current and historical substance use. Parents also reported lifetime problems with anxiety and depression; it is possible that parents are self-medicating with substances to treat their mental health issues. Additional findings that discriminate between SA and non-SA families will also be presented. Implications for intervening with complex families will be discussed.

F18.3
Learning Disabled Parents and the Courts: Whose Neglect?
Clive Yeadon
Self-employed, Bristol, UK

Objectives
To explore and consider the application of child protection strategies by statutory agencies, where concerns arise for the upbringing of children by parents who themselves have learning disabilities.

Method
To summarise the literature on the subject, to analyse exemplar cases (duly anonymised) and to propose key principles for ongoing and future practices by social work professionals and their colleagues in associated statutory and not-for-profit agencies.

Results
It will be suggested that much present practice results, for a variety of reasons, in what by their impact are discriminatory in/actions. The ‘victims’ of such practice may be either or both parents and their child/ren, yet in the majority of instances, professionals have followed departmental policies and guidance, and have acted in a manner perceived as being in their client’s “best interests”. Institutional inertia appears to be a significant factor in the effective management of what can be complex situations, to the detriment of each of the respective parties.

Conclusions
Experience suggests that Many parents who have learning disabilities are treated unjustly within the ambit of statutory “child protection” procedures. Where the courts rely wholly upon the submissions of local authority professionals, there is some evidence to suggest that conservative practice remains unchallenged. The shift from ‘prevention’ to ‘prosecution’, that is, from the exploration of effective and efficient community care supports for parents with learning disabilities, to the bringing of care proceedings on grounds of neglectful parenting is frequently camouflaged by the desire for “safe” practices which, analysed differently, prove to be discriminatory by nature. Good practice models would combat this trend.

F18.4
Moving Mountains: Enabling Children, Disabling Child Abuse. Assuring the Safety of All Children
Karel Amaranth
Children’s Hospital at Montefiore, Bronx, New York, USA

Objectives
Statistics indicate that children with disabilities are at least three times more likely to be abused than typical children. Services are complicated by the challenges of identifying abuse of children with disabilities, lack of prevention programmes and public perception that children with disabilities are not abused.

The objectives are:

• Training staff to effectively communicate with children with disabilities, their families and services providers.
• Preparing professionals with prevention and identification strategies
• Forming collaborations and developing a multidisciplinary advisory board to create a network of support, expertise and resources.
• Developing materials in a child advocacy interview setting to support children with disabilities.
Method
The Butler Child Advocacy Center, a programme of the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore has worked with partners including the Kennedy Center for Child Evaluation at Einstein College of Medicine and Teachers College Columbia University to develop innovative services and best practices for evaluating children with disabilities for child abuse. The project, Moving Mountains, has developed relationships with services providers, parents, medical providers and community organisations to raise awareness of abuse of children with disabilities. Models for interviewing, engaging and supporting the children and their parents have been developed and will be shared with participants at the workshop for their use.

Results
Increased awareness within the disabilities services community, criminal justice and families of the vulnerabilities and strengths of children with disabilities;

Materials for supporting and evaluating abuse of children with disabilities;

Increased services at the Child Advocacy Center focused on children with disabilities.

Conclusions
Although challenging, children with disabilities can and must receive services to identify abuse and provide remedies including medical services, criminal justice, mental health and family support. Child advocacy centres have the positioning to advocate for children with disabilities and to raise awareness of the risks of abuse and evaluation methods to address abuse and safety issues.

Free Paper Session 19
Chair: Jenny Pearce
Venue: Lanyon G/74 (64)

F19.1
Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Youth’s Internet Behaviour and Internet-Related Victimization
Gisela Priebe1, Kimberly J. Mitchell2, David Finkelhor2
1Lund University, Dept. of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Lund, Sweden, 2Crimes against Children Research Center, Dept. of Sociology, University of New Hampshire, Durham NH, USA

Objectives
To investigate lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) youths’ Internet behavior and internet-related victimization, as compared to heterosexual youth.

Method
The study was based on data from the 3rd Youth Internet Safety Survey (YISS-3), a cross-sectional national telephone survey of 35 LGB and 1,191 heterosexual youth internet users, ages 10 through 17.

Results
LGB youth, compared to heterosexual youth, had a higher amount of internet use and seemed to be more active users of the Internet, including establishing close online relationships and engaging in sexual behaviour online. Significantly more LGB youth reported any online sexual solicitation and involuntarily exposure to pornography when online during the past year. However, this relationship was eliminated after taking into account the activities LGB youth engaged in on- and offline. About one-tenth of both LGB and heterosexual youth had experienced any online harassment during the past year.

Conclusions
Many LGB youth seem to use the internet for friendship, romantic or sexual purposes to a higher degree than heterosexual youth. This places some of them at increased risk for internet-related sexual victimization. At the same time the internet offers great opportunities for health providers to reach these youth who traditionally have been hidden and hard to contact.

F19.2
Withdrawn

F19.3
Contending with Crime: Children’s Perspectives on their Neighbourhood
Margaret Rogers
Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
Objectives

This study set out to gain a greater understanding of children’s lived experience during middle childhood, in the setting of their local neighbourhood, in an area of urban disadvantage in Ireland. The purpose of the study was to explore the daily lived experience of a group of children as perceived and described by themselves. The study was conceived and implemented as an attempt to add to our understanding of children’s perspectives on their lives. It is underpinned by a conceptualisation of children as active agents in their development and active participants in their environment, having an in-depth knowledge and expertise.

Method

The study adopted a constructivist approach which was concerned with eliciting a richly detailed, authentic account of children’s daily lives as described and presented by themselves, rather than a quantitative or positivist examination of socio-economic macro system effects. The methods used were designed to facilitate children’s active participation in both choosing and generating data in a variety of formats and settings. Visual methods, in particular photographs taken by the children, as well as children’s drawings, individual interviews and group discussions were primary data generating methods. Fieldwork for the study took place over a full year.

Results

The study findings offer a detailed insight into the everyday lives of the children who participated, particularly their relatively autonomous free-time spent in the company of friends. Accessing the participants’ perceptions, values and experiences of the neighbourhood and their views of what would make it “a better place for children” was prioritised. The key concerns identified by the children generally fell into two categories. Firstly, there were risks that emanated from the behaviours of groups or individuals in the neighbourhood involved in anti-social behaviour or crime. Secondly, hazards arising from the institutional failure to address issues of environmental estate management.

Conclusions

This is the first study of its kind to be undertaken on this topic in Ireland. The study findings reveal children to be significant users of their neighbourhood. As such, they are shown to have developed a detailed knowledge of its affordances (Gibson, 1979) and substantial local expertise in relation to the palpable hazards which the children encountered and negotiated in their environment and their detailed knowledge of risks and concerns associated with aspects of their neighbourhood. The children’s play was shown to be an important source of resilience, supporting them in dealing with the challenges and adversities they faced.

F19.4

The Dilemma of Protecting Neglected and Abused Children in Pakistan

Syed Hamidullah
Punjab College of Excellency, Wah Cantt (Rawalpindi), Pakistan

Objectives

This paper is focused on the study of a group of children who are seen at public places including hotels, motels and bus stands/resorts in all four provinces of Pakistan. These children are found at specific places where tired travellers take a halt for a few moments. They are identified by having a cloth on their shoulder and rush up to clean the wind screen of vehicles and look forward to the kind hearted passengers to give them some money for their service.

Method

For collection of data no rigid techniques have been adopted. For primary data we have used probing and Targeted Group Discussion (TGD) techniques and for the secondary data, we have utilized libraries, newspapers and record of active NGOs working in Pakistan.

Results

This paper unveils all the facts and figures about the poor segment of our society. All children are aged 4-15 years and they belong to underprivileged and/or broken families. They are vulnerable children including orphans, escaped, on-street, unclaimed and poor. They are unaware of their religion. They are out of schools from day one. There are cases of sexual abuse and drug addicts (taking hashish, heroin, samad bond (petroleum jelly) and scorpion). At night these children sleep on the footpath or under bridges or in huts exposed to poisonous insects. Psychological harassment is a common phenomenon among these children.
Conclusions
As a result, these children are exposed to delinquent behaviours such as smuggling; drug trafficking, child trafficking, child begging, dacoit, hired assassination, suicide bombing etc.

There is severe need of future planning to defuse this problem on sustainable footing and sincerely work towards the prevention, treatment of child abuse, neglect and exploitation which is security threat not only for our poor society but for international community too.

Free Paper Session 20
Chair: John Devaney
Venue: PFC 3/017

F20.1
One Child Death is Not Enough: The Findings from a National Study of Non-Accidental Child Deaths
John Devaney1, Anne Lazenbatt1,2, David Hayes1, Lisa Bunting1
1Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland UK, 2NSPCC, Belfast, UK

Objectives
This paper presents an overview of the key findings arising from an overview of twenty-four case management reviews undertaken in Northern Ireland into the non-accidental death of a child

Method
This study involved the secondary analysis of twenty-four case management review reports completed during the period 2003-2008. The cases reviewed involved the non-accidental death of children of varying ages.

Results
The analysis identified two key age groups of children at greatest risk - young infants and adolescents. Factors associated with non-accidental death of these children included parental factors of substance misuse, domestic abuse and mental illness; factors associated with adolescents own mental health linked to experiences of adversity in earlier childhood; and a pre-occupation amongst professionals with identifying risk rather than providing support.

Conclusions
The research reinforces the need for professionals to provide earlier and more focused support to children and families before problems become entrenched. It also highlights the importance of recognising and responding to the long term negative impact of emotional abuse and physical neglect on children.

Recommendations are made about how the learning arising from the review of child deaths can be maximised in the future at a local, national and international level.

F20.2
Serious Case Reviews - Lessons for the NHS in Wales
Caroline Jones, Lin Slater
Public Health Wales NHS Trust, Cardiff, South Wales, UK

Objectives
The authors scrutinised 62 Independent Health Management Reviews conducted in accordance with Safeguarding Children: Working Together under the Children Act 2004 (Welsh Assembly Government, 2006) in order to consider implications for the Welsh Health Service, in particular:

• Lessons for practice in the Welsh Health Service.
• Implications for governance, in particular whether systems and practice support effective safeguarding.
• Barriers to effective safeguarding.
• How the voice of the child is heard by practitioners.
• Effectiveness of practice in respect of recognition of child abuse and neglect, assessment and intervention.

Method
The methodology used was an adaption of that used by previous authors conducting similar studies on multi-agency working in child protection. This involved layered reading of the reviews to extrapolate both quantitative and qualitative data.
The Theoretical Framework
The analysis of the cases takes a public health approach to safeguarding in considering the interaction between systems and practice and outcomes for children. The desired outcome from the study is to embed key lessons into core practice.

Results
Preliminary findings:
1. Highest vulnerability indicated infants of first time parents, with non-accidental head injury resulting in death or serious injury. Previous injuries were often not recognised.
2. Vulnerable adolescents were a significant group specifically as a result of death by their own hand.
3. Family dynamic in respect of parental child attachment requires wider recognition and early intervention.
4. The complexity and diversity of the health service indicates the need for care plans to inter-digitate for complex families.

Conclusions
A coordinated health services approach to early intervention for families may be best achieved by taking a public health approach.

F20.3
Children who are Killed or Seriously Abused Despite their Welfare Being Considered Within the Family Court Jurisdiction
David Spicer, Shropshire, UK

Objectives
This paper will examine
1. The circumstances that lead to children being exposed to an agreed regime of care by Family Courts that has exposed them to death or serious injury.
2. The common characteristics in the cases in which this has occurred.
3. The interest or otherwise that the judiciary and family court administrators have in addressing these issues.

Method
Analysis of lessons learned through practice as an Independent Overview Author in Serious Case Reviews.

Results
The paper will identify the common features in these cases including the role played by jointly instructed experts.

Conclusions
1. The common weaknesses in child protection interagency arrangements identified in research persist through family court proceedings and expose children to serious risk by a lack of challenge, and analysis, and the formation of ill-informed judgments arising from a dangerous consensus.
2. There is no appetite among the judiciary to acknowledge or address the practices and processes that expose children to these risks.

F20.4
Infant Suffocation in the Sleep Environment: Are these Deaths Child Neglect? Should they be Prosecuted?
Theresa Covington1, Patricia Schnitzer2
1Michigan Public Health Institute, Okemos, MI, USA, 2University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, USA

Objectives
To assess the extent to which infant deaths due to accidental suffocation were neglect-related, and any actions that should be taken by child welfare or the criminal justice system in response to these deaths. A secondary objective was to determine if the addition of attributes that might influence the determination of neglect resulted in increased classification of neglect and choice of more severe action.

Method
Professionals responsible for responding to child deaths were asked to classify 4 vignettes that described the accidental suffocation death of an infant sleeping in an adult bed. Vignette 1, written to assess whether social norms regarding the infant sleep environment influenced their determination of the death as neglect-related, described the overlay death of a 4 month old infant put to sleep in an adult bed with its parents. The subsequent
3 vignettes included at least one additional attribute that might affect classification of neglect. Attributes assessed were poverty (vignette 2), substance use (vignette 3), chronicity and intent (vignette 4).

Results
Eighty-nine percent of professionals classified vignette 1 as at least somewhat neglect-related (24% as definitely neglect). The addition of poverty (vignette 2) did not change this result; however, the proportion classifying it as definite neglect was 31%. The addition of an impaired caregiver resulted in 94% classifying the death as neglect-related (43% definitely neglect), while the addition of chronicity and intent resulted definite neglect classification by 68%. Results for actions followed a similar pattern of incremental increases in the proportion of professionals choosing substantiation (from 33% in vignette 1 to 71% in vignette 4) and prosecution (from 4% to 36%).

Conclusions
The addition of attributes often associated with neglect resulted in increased classification of neglect and choice of more severe action. Chronicity and intent were the most influential attributes when determining the role of neglect and subsequent actions for infant suffocation deaths in the sleep environment.

Free Paper Session 21
Chair: Monica King
Venue: PFC 3/005

F21.1
Inspections of Services to Protect Children in Scotland - the Role of Scrutiny in Delivering Improvements in the Safety and Well-Being of Children at Risk of Abuse and Neglect
Emma McWilliam
Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland, Scotland, UK

Objectives
To develop a multi-agency approach to scrutiny which acts as a catalyst for change and improvement in the delivery of services to keep children safe and meet their needs.

Method
Inspections of services to protect children first took place from 2005-2009, providing baseline information about how well children were protected. Learning from these inspections and a review of national policy about the role of scrutiny contributed to the development of new methodology for a second cycle of inspections of services to protect children. Now at the start of each inspection, chief officers and child protection committees present evidence about how well they protect children which informs a risk assessment. Inspection activities are proportionate according to how well services know themselves and can demonstrate the progress they have made.

Results
Chief executives of councils and health boards and chief constables report favourably on the benefits of inspection in supporting improvements in performance and practice change as well as providing public assurance. Discussions about findings take place iteratively between senior managers and inspectors and have promoted partnership working. Good practice examples have been identified, collated and disseminated. Evaluations against quality indicators demonstrate measurable improvements over time in the impact services are having on children’s lives.

Conclusions
The innovative approach to inspections of services to protect children in Scotland is attracting considerable interest across the UK and more widely. A sharper focus has been achieved on listening to children and families who use child protection services and in improving outcomes for children in need of protection.

F21.2
The Experience of a Local Inter-Agency Committee in Developing an Alternative Response Model through Inter-Agency Partnership in Jobstown, South Dublin
Mick McKiernan1, Colette McLoughlin1, Fergal Landy2
1Health Service Executive, South Dublin, Ireland, 2National University of Ireland Galway, Galway, Ireland
**Objectives**
To document the experience of a local inter-agency committee in developing an alternative response model through inter-agency partnership.

**Method**
A formative and improvement oriented, independent evaluation was commissioned which documented the model and generated data through individual interviewing and focus groups with both front line and management staff from all of the agencies in involved in the project. The overall aim of the evaluation was to describe the development of the model to date, and to inform its continued evolution and implementation.

**Results**
The findings outline the stakeholders’ perspectives on their involvement with the ARM. The findings demonstrate that stakeholders feel the model is achieving its stated aims for some but required a longer term assessment. A set of interrelated key challenges were identified:

- Anonymising of referrals, timing of consent.
- Appropriate structure and membership of the management committee; ensuring clear governance of interventions, including clear communication between management and front line staff and robust case planning and review.
- Developing a common way of understanding and assessing child protection and welfare concerns and need; Developing the capacity of a range of agencies to lead interventions.

**Conclusions**
It is possible to make substantial gains when there is strong leadership in place and a commitment by a range of relevant agencies to work towards a shared purpose. The study has confirmed that developing a common language or achieving consensus on the precise meaning of key terms is not a straightforward matter. It has shown that mutual understanding can be enhanced in an environment where power differentials are openly acknowledged, and relationships of trust and open channels of communication exist between professionals and organisations. This reflects the importance of inter-personal and inter-organisational relations based on trust, openness and honesty.

**F21.3**

**The Development of a Safeguarding Hub: An Academic – Practice Interface to Promote Best Practice for Improving Outcomes for Children, Young People and Their Families**
Janet Webb, Jonathon Davies
*University of Greenwich, London, UK*

**Objectives**
The University of Greenwich has established an inter-professional Safeguarding Hub as a collaborative forum to promote best practice in safeguarding the welfare of children and young people in London and Kent. As part of this work the hub is undertaking a phased consultation exercise to identify service development and research priorities. The purpose of the exercise is to create a shared evidence base tailored to the needs of local populations and the practitioners serving them.

**Method**
Initial focus group meetings identified its potential and key activities of development. Four key areas are being developed: a web based blog/chat room; dissemination of information; training and education initiatives; service development and research. For the first consultation exercise three local (deprived) communities have been selected: one area has a high teenage pregnancy rate and high incidence of young and single parents, one has a large travelling community and one has high rates of deprivation and a high incidence of drug and alcohol misuse. Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with individual practitioners across the different sectors serving these communities.

**Results**
Data analysis is therefore currently ongoing and this abstract is being presented on the basis of data that will be forthcoming from the first phase of the consultation exercise. It will have been collected and analysed by the time of the conference.
Conclusions

Work to date has confirmed the value of a safeguarding hub as a forum for working inter-professionally with safeguarding practitioners. Whilst there are the Scottish Child Care and Protection Network and the North South Child Protection Hub there is nothing locally for practitioners to access that interfaces academia with practice within the national legislative and policy frameworks. The presentation will address specifically how the hub (specifically its members and partners) have determined the first phase of research priorities and what these priorities are.

F21.4

An Organisational Approach to Evidence-Informed Practice: Are we there Yet?
Greg Antcliff1, Annette Michaux1, Robyn Mildon2
1The Benevolent Society, NSW, Australia,
2Parenting Research Centre, Victoria, Australia

Objectives

Many programmes and practices found to be effective in child and family research fail to translate into outcomes across a number of service settings. Implementation science offers an evidence informed approach to implement practice change in organisations (Fixen, Naoom, Blase, Friedman & Wallace, 2005). This paper will discuss The Benevolent Society’s approach to implementing evidence-informed practice and the organisational development strategy to embed a Resilience Practice Framework (Daniel & Wassell, 2002) into services working with vulnerable children and families in two states of Australia.

Method

This project involves 300 staff from The Benevolent Society in two states of Australia.

Stage 1 of the implementation involved training staff in the Resilience Practice Framework and resilience based practice tools. Staff participated in structured learning circles to deepen their knowledge and embed the framework into their practice.

Stage 2 of Implementation involved using the “Knowledge to Implementation cycle” (Mildon, 2010). This involved developing outcomes across all child and family services; collect and summarise the corresponding evidence informed practices; select and adapt knowledge to the local context; and select, tailor and design the interventions.

Results

Stage 1 results indicate that the learning and development strategy was successful, fully meeting the learning outcomes and knowledge transfer. The quantitative and qualitative data evidenced the need for further support to embed the practice change (application of knowledge).

Stage 2 organisational outcomes were developed and the corresponding 40 evidence-informed practices identified. The evidence informed practices and strategy to implement them will be presented along with the barriers and facilitators to cultural practice change and key messages for other organisations embarking on evidence-informed practice.

Conclusions

Transforming practice in organisations takes time and requires a disciplined approach. It takes dedicated resources and commitment to move beyond learning and development strategies that may not be sustainable. Are we there yet? No. But we have made a good start!

Workshop 13

Venue: Lanyon G49

Safeguarding from a Distance: Meeting Educational Needs of Practitioners in an Online Environment
Marjorie Keys1, Ruth Mitchell1, Lindsey Robb2,1
1Edinburgh Napier University, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK, 2City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

Objectives

Since 2006, Edinburgh Napier University has provided postgraduate child protection education at Masters level. The module content is all provided online, and although there are optional study days, a number of practitioners complete their studies without ever meeting other students or the lecturers. During their programme, students are required to demonstrate the acquisition and development of skills and knowledge that are considered necessary for effective safeguarding practice. There can however be some challenges when facilitating such learning in an online environment.
Method
These challenges include:

- Maintaining a safe and supportive environment for online discussion
- Facilitating inter-professional communication, considered necessary to enable students to see the perspective of others (SCIE 2007)
- Encouraging student participation in a range of online activities that are designed to promote engagement
- Recognising and responding to the "silent student"

Results
The team originally resisted the move towards online provision of child protection education, believing that child protection could only be taught effectively in a face to face setting. However, our experience has been that with careful thought, planning and preparation, it is possible to overcome many of the challenges.

Conclusions
It is hoped that delegates at this workshop will bring their own experience to contribute to discussion of how it is possible to overcome these and other challenges that may be identified. The workshop will provide opportunity for delegates to hear honest accounts, with input from both tutor and student, that illustrate not only the difficulties, but some of the strategies that have been used to good effect and that result in students deriving significant benefit from the use of an online environment.

Workshop 14
Venue: PFC 3/011

Over Optimistic or Over Zealous - Managing the Challenges of Handling Allegations and Complaints Against Foster Carers
Robert Tapsfield
The Fostering Network, London, UK

Objectives
To examine how allegations against foster carers are handled given the far reaching effects of these on fostered children, foster families and agencies. Allegations against foster carers present particular challenges as the child protection system often struggles to deal with the differences presented by allegations against those who are neither employees nor volunteers. This leads some carers who are exonerated to give up fostering, thus reducing the already limited supply of foster homes. It sometimes results in the precipitous removal of children, against their wishes, from foster care provoking feelings of rejection and failure as well as increasing instability.

Method
The interactive workshop will draw on the recent collaboration with Professor Nina Biehal and Elizabeth Parry, University of York which lead to their paper, Maltreatment and allegations of maltreatment in foster care: a review of the evidence 2010; and the work on developing protocols covering the management and investigation of allegations against foster carers in England and Scotland. The views of foster carers, their families, and of children in care will also be presented and participants will have the opportunity to reflect on practice.

Results
Findings indicate that in UK 3.5-4 per cent of foster carers were the subject of allegations in a single year and that the proportion of foster families with substantiated reports of maltreatment during that year was less than one per cent.

Thresholds for defining behaviours as abusive appear to be lower for foster carers than for parents. Some studies suggest that maltreatment in foster care is often a question of poor standards of care rather than gross abuse or neglect, but in relation to milder incidents the boundary between the two is often unclear.

Conclusions
The concern about the sensitive issue of allegations of abuse against foster carers is widely shared by government, fostering agencies and foster carers. Despite the importance of these issues, there is little awareness in the policy, practice and academic communities of the research evidence available and the protocols that can help to manage and improve practice. By the end of the workshop, participants will have a better understanding of the issues which could result in better ways of addressing poor standards of care whilst ensuring the safety of looked after children in foster care.
Workshop 15
Venue: PFC 2/013

A Realist Approach to Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) Prevention Programmes Working with BAMER Parents
Teresa Hughes¹, Mike Williams², Alex Sutton², Musa Eid³, Donald Findlater¹
¹The Lucy Faithfull Foundation, Birmingham, UK, ²NSPCC, London, UK, ³Praxis, London, UK

Objectives
Primary prevention approaches to CSA, targeted at parents, seek to improve parents’ knowledge about how sexual abuse occurs and what can be done to prevent it. Similar to approaches targeted at children and professionals, they suggest that gains in knowledge and improvements in attitude lead to behavioural change. This paper draws on an evaluation of a programme working with mothers to prevent CSA within the Somali community, to suggest a more elaborate theory - arguing that factors in a mother’s social environment will mediate and may nullify her ability to protect even if she possess knowledge and has good attitudes.

Method
The evaluation, drawing on realist enquiry, tested the experiences of mothers, against a hypothesised programme mechanism which identified three outcomes that need to be met if gains in mothers’ knowledge were to make a difference to reducing situational risks at home. First, mothers need to be able to comprehend and accept the veracity of the knowledge. Second, mothers need to use the knowledge to assess the situational risks posed to their own children, and how to reduce those risks. Finally, mothers need to be able to negotiate with significant others in the child’s life to reduce risk to the child.

Results
Our presentation describes how the programme was delivered in three parts. First, establishing a baseline about the situational risks posed to children. Second, developing an intervention based on the baseline information. Third, evaluating the effectiveness of the intervention. It then draws on the evaluation findings, which provide tentative support to the hypothesised programme mechanism.

Conclusions
Prevention programmes focussed on improving parents’ knowledge of CSA, should extend their intervention and help mothers to accurately assess the situational risks posed to their children and support them to effectively negotiate the lowering of those risks with significant others, including family, friends and children.
Parallel Session 4  
17:30 – 18:30

Action for Children Youth Performance  
Venue: Sir William Whita Hall

ARTiculation Buddies present  
‘Operation Deep Freeze’

Free Paper Session 22  
Chair: Helen Buckley  
Venue: PFC OG/007

F22.2
An Overview of Child Deaths in the Republic of Ireland  
Helen Buckley¹, Paul Harrison², Bill Lockhart³
¹Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, ²Health Service Executive, Dublin, Ireland, ³Lockhart Psychological Consulting Limited, Belfast, UK

Objectives
This paper provides an overview of the first cohort of reports completed by the National Review Panel (NRP) in the Republic of Ireland (RoI). The NRP was established following the publication of the Ryan Report to review serious incidents including the deaths of children in care. It operates under guidance issued by the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) and began its work in mid 2010. Its establishment represents the first systematic approach to serious case reviews by social services in the RoI.

Method
The remit of the NRP is wide and includes all cases known to the child protection services where children died by natural causes, accidents or otherwise, whether or not parental or professional wrongdoing was a factor. The presentation will provide an analysis of the demographic characteristics and circumstances of children whose deaths were notified to the panel in the first two years of its existence and compare them with international data.

Results
On analysis, the data provides an interesting comparison with other jurisdictions, as none of the deaths was the result of parental child abuse. The age profile of the children concerned was also remarkable, as over half of the children who died were over fifteen, the majority dying of drug overdoses, suicide or road traffic accidents. This finding contrasts with the international norm whereby most of the deaths of children involved with the child protection system occur in infants under two years old.

Conclusions
While the NRP is still at an early stage in its work, the overview to date suggests that those in the highest risk category are young people in their teenage years, and that risk taking behaviours are the greatest source of danger. There are strong implications for the training of social work and social care staff and targeting of services to this vulnerable group.

F22.3
Poor Communication, Precursor Injuries and Violence; Lessons from Serious Case Reviews.  
John Heckmatt  
Peace Children’s Centre, Watford, UK

Objectives
Serious case reviews are performed whenever a child dies or is seriously injured as a result of child abuse or neglect.

Method
This is an analysis of 42 serious case reviews from one county where the author was involved in the compilation of several of them.

Results
52% of children were under 1-year-old. Reviews revealed a high rate of interpersonal violence in 76% of families with a poorly ascertained forensic history in 35%; mental health problems in 45% and drug or alcohol problem in 33% either poorly assessed or non-compliant. 45% of index children had precursor injuries, mostly facial bruising, which were poorly recorded and reported. Poor communication between professionals was common and 1/4 of instances involved the pre-birth period.
Conclusions
Whenever a welfare concern arises professionals are inclined to work with a subset of information because they believe themselves to be dealing with a “child in need” rather than a child in need of protection. Agencies need to develop more robust techniques of gathering and evaluating background information. Health professionals should carefully document and report facial bruising in babies and young children. They must communicate welfare concerns more effectively, particularly around the pre-birth period.

F22.4

GPs’ Perspectives on Children and Families who Prompt Concerns About (Possible) Maltreatment in General Practice

Jenny Woodman1, Marian Brandon2, Danya Glaser1,3, Janice Allister4, Ruth Gilbert1
1MRC Centre of Epidemiology for Child Health, UCL-Institute of Child Health, London, UK, 2School of Social Work and Psychology, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK, 3Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, UK, 4Royal College of General Practitioners, London, UK

Objectives
Introduction: English policy documents state that General Practitioners (GPs) have an important role to play with families of children who are maltreated or at risk of maltreatment. To-date, there has been little UK based research seeking to understand GP views and experiences of identifying and managing these families.

Aim: To explore GPs' views and experiences of children and families who have prompted concerns about (possible) child maltreatment.

Method
The researcher interviewed 11 GPs from four ‘expert’ GP practices in England (at least one GP with specialist interest in child safeguarding). Participants spoke about specific cases of ‘children, families or young people who had prompted concerns about abuse or neglect’. Analysis is on-going. Interview transcripts are being analysed systematically using a thematic approach. This work is being undertaken as part of a PhD.

Results
Participants discussed a total of 42 children from 32 families. Most commonly, participants focussed on concerns about possible physical and medical neglect. These concerns were indicated by descriptions of children as: “smelly”, “dirty” or “unkempt”; at risk of dehydration/malnutrition; inadequately clothed or supervised; lacking medical care for known health conditions; and parents with “low parenting capacity”. Most (but not all) participants labelled these concerns ‘neglect’. Emerging themes include: identification of “low level concerns” about neglect in families where “it wouldn’t take much just to push them over the edge”; and perceptions of “low level” cases as especially “complicated”.

Conclusions
Initial analyses reveal a focus on cases of possible or probable neglect. This may reflect a high burden of neglect among children presenting to General Practice and/or GP views that they have a particularly important role to play for neglected children and/or a tendency to select “tricky” cases for the interview. This will be explored in further analyses. As this is a small number of participants from ‘expert’ practices, we do not know how far these emerging themes can be generalised.

Free Paper Session 23
Chair: Reg Pengelly
Venue: PFC OG/024

F23.1

Caring for the Children of Imprisoned Mothers: Understanding the Role of Fathers

Catherine Flynn
Monash University, Victoria, Australia

Objectives
Women are the most rapidly growing group of prisoners in Western jurisdictions, with the majority of them mothers. Research conducted over the past 40 years has concentrated on describing, but not evaluating, the circumstances, including the care arrangements, of their dependent children. Whilst fathers have consistently played a small but significant role in this care, they are largely absent from discourse. The aim of this paper is to describe and evaluate the care provided by fathers in these circumstances.

Method
This doctoral study was conducted in Victoria, Australia and sought to explore the impact
of maternal incarceration on adolescents. Data were gathered via in-depth interviews with 15 mothers, 14 young people and three professionals. This paper focuses specifically on findings about the role of fathers in providing care to children while their mothers are in prison.

**Results**

Findings indicate that although fathers were the largest group providing care for these young people, participants were mostly unsatisfied with these arrangements. Young people identified relationship difficulties between themselves and their carers as well as between their parents as creating difficulties for them; whilst mothers questioned the quality of care provided along with the capacity of fathers to prioritise the young person’s needs. This paper also considers the implications of father-provided care for children’s well-being.

**Conclusions**

Knowledge about the role of father-provided care to children of imprisoned mothers is lacking. The extent of such care and its difficulties, whilst evident in this study, requires further examination to understand to what degree this is more broadly typical. Understanding is required about the circumstances in which fathers provide care, the quality of this care, the support needs of fathers, as well as the longer term impact. These concerns fit with those being explored more broadly in current child and family welfare practice, where both understanding and improving the involvement of fathers in children’s lives is being grappled with.

F23.2

Forgotten Parents and Overlooked Children: Working with Incarcerated Parents and Their Children

Caroline Burry¹, Margarete Parrish²

¹University of Maryland School of Social Work, Baltimore, Maryland, USA ²University of Gloucestershire, Cheltenham, UK

**Objectives**

At the conclusion of this paper, session participants will:

- Understand barriers to engaging incarcerated parents, including staff reluctance to work with this population; and
- Know strategies to support staff in responding to the needs of this increasing population, including those for supporting the needs of parents and children who are members of ethnic minorities.

**Method**

This paper provides substantive evidence-informed content for practitioners and managers across disciplines about the needs of the growing population of incarcerated parents and their children, risk factors for these children, challenges in engaging incarcerated parents, and skills and strategies for supporting staff in responding to the needs of this population. Special attention will be given to the disproportionate numbers of families from ethnic minorities in this population.

**Results**

The paper provides evidence-based strategies for engaging and supporting incarcerated parents. In addition, session participants will receive bibliographies and information about other resources.

**Conclusions**

Well over two million children in the US and UK have incarcerated parents; many of these children have histories of maltreatment and most are at risk for maltreatment. The concerns of children who have incarcerated parents are often overlooked; at the same time, their parents may be hard to engage due primarily to systemic barriers. Therefore, this paper provides multi-disciplinary strategies for supporting staff in responding to the needs of this increasing population.

F23.3

Responding to the Care Needs of the Children of Imprisoned Parents: Learning from Practice

Catherine Flynn, Anna Eriksson, Paula Fernandez

Monash University, Victoria, Australia
Objectives
The children of prisoners are recognised to be a growing, yet largely invisible group who do not feature as a priority for government policy and statutory welfare bodies. It is almost expected and accepted that the care of these children will be met in ad hoc and informal ways. The aim of this study is to investigate how the care needs of children can be best met when a primary carer is incarcerated and to propose a best practice care planning framework.

Method
This multi-method study will gather secondary data from prisons in Victoria and New South Wales, Australia, along with qualitative data from 100 prisoners and their families about how the care of their children was managed during the arrest, sentencing and imprisonment phases. The study will also seek the observations of key professionals who come in contact with the children of prisoners, including child protection staff, prison officers, welfare workers and legal representatives. This paper will present data gathered from these key professionals.

Results
This paper will describe innovative projects aimed at responding appropriately to children whose parents come into contact with the criminal justice system, such as child sensitive arrest procedures etc., as well as presenting initial findings from this Australian-first research. Findings will focus on professionals’ experiences of responding to the children of prisoners - formal and informal processes - to gain an accurate picture of how ‘visible’ children are in workers’ responses to their parents. Attention will be drawn to issues of gender, culture and the rural/urban divide, as well as to recommendations for best practice and collaborations.

Conclusions
The study addresses an important international problem on which there is limited available research. Knowledge in terms of best practice is limited, if not actually non-existent, in addressing the care planning needs of offenders’ children, and there is no substantial qualitative or quantitative research to support policy recommendations. This study will meet these needs and contribute definitive knowledge on stakeholder views on the best practice, a better understanding of the costs to agencies of dealing with children where their parents are incarcerated and the development of a strategic framework for policy and practice.

Free Paper Session 24
Chair: Cathy Humphreys
Venue: PFC 2/011

F24.1
Developing Clinical Decision Making and Awareness of Inter-Professional Working in Child Protection Amongst Health and Social Care Pre-Registration Students
Lesley Daniels
University of Leeds, Leeds, UK

Objectives
The objectives of the Child Protection Project (CPP) are that following participation in the project activities, students will have skills of:

- Observation when witnessing a complex social interaction
- Identifying fact from supposition
- Working with other professional groups and understanding their professional priorities
- Professional report writing and presentation
- Professional decision making and negotiation with others.

Method
The CPP is an initiative in the School of Healthcare to increase interprofessional learning within the pre-registration curricula. It has been delivered to second year students of all branches of nursing, midwifery and social work and is being written into newly validated programmes. The focus uses a complex 55 minute play called ‘Bad Mummy’ on DVD followed by inter-professional group work and on line resources. The play was written and performed by the Theatre in Education Company and captured on DVD with the help of a grant from the White Rose CETL fund.
Results
The CPP was positively evaluated by students. The report writing for the second inter-professional session was problematic for some but a more structured approach using headings from the CAF form was successfully used on second delivery. The DVD was considered to be stimulating and students wanted more of this form of learning.

Conclusions
The CPP has become embedded in programmes. Real value is seen by students in mixing with other professional groups especially nursing and midwifery with social work students. Reflection by facilitators indicates that differences in interpretation already exist by year 2 of programmes which could have implications for future working practices. The DVD has the potential to be used with a wide range of professionals involved in child protection.

F24.2
From Shared Learning to Inter-Professional Education (IPE): Perspectives from Early Childhood and Social Work Students
Bronagh E. McKee¹, John Devaney²
¹Stranmillis University College, A College of Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK, ²Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
This study was the first to explore the development of a shared learning experience between Early Childhood and Social Work students in Northern Ireland. The aim was to provide a practical and interactive programme of education on professional collaboration with a focus on shared understanding of need, decision making in terms of assessment and practical child protection responses.

Method
Since 2007, students’ views of participating in a 2-week shared study experience were examined using a post-engagement learning and teaching evaluation. This involved Early Childhood students (N=122) and Social Work students (N=95). Underpinned by a child development perspective and using a case scenario approach, content of the experience rests on a conceptual framework including joint assessment of need, shared decision making, intervention and outcome. Central to the experience was a child protection case conference role-played by participants.

Results
The study identified approaches to moving from shared learning to developing inter-professional curricula and pedagogy for professional collaboration in practice. This paper identifies some of the practical and innovative responses from students highlighting their satisfaction with the experience and their success in developing communication between professionals as an essential foundation for future child protection and early intervention practice.

Conclusions
Higher Education and training providers should be encouraged to explore the child protection training needs of different professional groups and to consider a shared learning or IPE methodology to contribute to improving future professional collaboration in a proactive way.

F24.3
The Children and Parents at Hospital (CAP@H) Study: Improving Health and Well-being for Vulnerable Children and their Families in an Acute Paediatric Health Setting
Cathy Humphreys¹, Nicole Tokatlian¹ ², Brigid Jordan¹ ² ¹University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, ²Royal Children’s Hospital, Victoria, Australia

Objectives
The aim of this study is to explore the outcomes of an intensive, comprehensive assessment and professional case conference for children and families presenting in a hospital paediatric setting who have been assessed to have experienced cumulative stress and trauma.

Further, we aim to understand how different professionals working in a medical context understand the concept of cumulative stress and trauma and cumulative harm.
Method

This pilot exploratory study uses a sequential comparison longitudinal group design with three phases of data collection:

- Phase 1 Usual Care Group
- Phase 2 Staff focus groups and the refinement of the model of Enhanced Care
- Phase 3 Delivery of Enhanced Care.

Both quantitative and qualitative data have been collected from parents of children admitted to the Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne (RCH) and from multi-disciplinary staff members.

Results

Findings from Phase One and Two will be presented along with preliminary results from Phase Three.

Conclusions

This research focuses on the outcomes of an earlier, more intensive interdisciplinary intervention on a particularly vulnerable group of children whose health and well-being may be at risk. Furthermore, the research seeks to shed light on both the nature of professional perceptions and decision making in this contested area and on the development of more effective earlier intervention.

Workshop 16
Venue: PFC 2/026

Child Protection Decision Making in Neglect and Emotional Abuse: Evidence Based Approaches to Assessment, Analysis, Planning Interventions and Measuring Outcomes

Arnon Bentovim, Liza Bingley Miller, Doreen Parker, Stephen Pizzey, Simon Tapp

Child and Family Training, York, UK

Objectives

This workshop will share experience of the extensive UK programme of training in:

- The assessment of families in complex child care cases where there are major concerns about child protection using the Family Assessment (Bentovim and Bingley Miller),
- The Safeguarding Assessment and Analysis Framework (SAAF) (Bentovim et al) which brings together evidence-based information on risk factors for re-abuse, and factors which indicate capacity to provide adequate future care.

Method

The HOME Inventory assesses parenting and a child’s experience of the care and the home environment provided by their parents/carer. Questionnaires and Scales provide an economic and effective way of gathering information about emotional and behavioural difficulties in both children and adults and home conditions.

The Family Assessment is a systemic, evidence-based approach for observing, describing and assessing family life, relationships, parenting and the impact of family history. It is particularly useful in cases where long standing neglect and emotional abuse occur together.

This workshop will introduce the principles of these instruments and the SAAF using DVD and case material.

Results

The SAAF uses information gathered in the assessment to develop:

1. A Profile of Harm and Risk of Re-abuse or Likelihood of Future Harm by considering the severity of:
   - Abusive action(s), the harm sustained and the impact on the child’s development;
   - Parenting difficulties;
   - Difficulties in individual and family functioning;
   - Level of parenting, protection and therapeutic work required for the child

2. An analysis of the prospects for successful intervention by considering:
   - Child-centredness of parents regarding harm, impact on the child and severity of parenting difficulties
Conclusions

These approaches help develop practitioner skills in interviewing, observing, recording and making a systematic analysis.

Recent research (Brandon et al 2008, Farmer et al 2009) has demonstrated the difficulties professionals encounter in making decisions in longstanding neglect/emotional abuse cases. Analysis of the factors and processes that take account of the past, present and future assists in determining the prospects for successful intervention leading to either:

- Construction of a plan of intervention the success of which can be measured; or
- Robust evidence-based decision to seek alternative care for the child(ren) that practitioners can feel confident in presenting to the Courts.

Workshop 17
Venue: PFC 2/013

Can We Teach These Kids to Dance? A Developmental Treatment Approach for Treating Youth with Sexual Behaviour Problems.

Kevin Creeden
Whitney Academy, East Freetown, MA, USA

Objectives
In this workshop delegates have the opportunity to learn about applying research on the neurological impact of early trauma and attachment experiences to the treatment of sexual behaviour problems. The workshop will present a developmental model for treating problematic sexual behaviour and explore how this approach impacts on treatment planning and risk assessment.

Method
Research has shown a connection between early trauma experiences, attachment difficulties and disrupted neurological development in children (Perry, 2001; DeBellis, 2001). The effect of these early developmental experiences can have a significant impact on specific brain functions such as affect regulation, language processing, and executive functioning (Teicher, et al, 2002; Leskin and White, 2007). As we have examined the dynamics involved in problematic or abusive sexual behaviour and developed interventions to treat these problems, we have often failed to appreciate the real obstacles these developmental difficulties can create for clients (Creeden, 2005).

Results

The focus of this workshop will be to examine how treatment might work to get our clients back on a positive developmental trajectory while also diminishing their risk to engage in abusive and aggressive behaviour.

Conclusions
This workshop will present an overview of the neurological impact of early trauma and attachment experiences. We will then discuss ways in which this information can be used to: inform a broader developmental perspective for the treatment of sexual behaviour problems; improve assessment protocols; and enhance treatment planning.

Workshop 18
Venue: PFC 2/018

Is this Normal? Using the Traffic Lights Framework as a Guide to Understand and Respond to Sexual Behaviour in Children and Young People

Judy Graham, Holly Brennan
Family Planning Queensland, Queensland, Australia

Objectives

- For parents, carers and professionals to have access to evidence based models to understand and respond to sexual behaviours in children and young people.
- Using a framework for identifying healthy sexual development as well as concerning, problematic or harmful sexual behaviours helps support healthy sexuality and to protect children and young people from harm or abuse.
Method

Family Planning Queensland developed the Traffic Lights as a conceptual framework to promote healthy sexuality. All too often sexual behaviours of children and young people elicit inadequate responses. Both the over-reporting of normative behaviour and the discounting of problematic behaviours fail to meet the real needs of children and young people. The framework uses three categories to indicate what constitutes normal and healthy developmental behaviours (green), concerning or risk behaviours (orange) and problematic or harmful behaviours (red). The Traffic Lights framework supports informed decision making in the interpretation of children’s sexual behaviours.

Results

The Traffic Lights framework enables a paradigm shift in responding to sexual behaviours in children and young people. Although the starting point for seeking information and support may be concerns about problem behaviour, the framework requires an engagement with what constitutes healthy sexual development. It is used across health, education, community and child protection services as a tool for interpreting sexual behaviours. This presentation will provide an overview of the Traffic Lights framework and a practical approach to supporting parents, carers and professionals to identify, understand and respond to children and young people’s sexual behaviours.

Conclusions

Children’s sexuality and sexual behaviours are topics which are too easily avoided or discussed in value laden ways. This is especially so for children and young people who have harmful or abusive behaviours. The Traffic Lights framework enables grounded discussion about child and adolescent sexual development and sexual behaviours. The Traffic Lights is a call to action.

Workshop 19

Venue: PFC 2/025

Family Involvement in Reviews: Learning for Policy and Practice

Kate Morris¹, Marian Brandon², Paul Tudor³

¹University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK,
²University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK,
³Independent SCR Chair, & Safeguarding Advisor, UK

Objectives

This workshop will draw on a unique research project funded by BASPCAN that examined the involvement of families in UK reviews where a child had died or suffered serious injury as a result of abuse or neglect.

Method

The study brought together the experiences of professionals and family members and sought to arrive at messages for developing policy and practice in this challenging and complex area.

Results

Using the findings from the study the workshop will consider the purposes of participation, the challenges facing professionals and families, how the process of participation can be developed and how the resulting learning can be extended and supported.

Workshop 20

Venue: PFC 3/011

Using the UNCRC to Develop More Child Centred Social Work Practice: Opportunities and Challenges

Karen Winter

Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives

In the UK the Munro Review of Child Protection (2010, 2011, 2011a) has highlighted that, among the failings in safeguarding children, is the lack of meaningful relationships with social workers. Recommendations for a more child centred system anchored on two themes have been made - the child’s journey and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). This paper illustrates by way of practical examples how the UNCRC, together with the detailed guidance contained in the UN General
Comments No. 5, 7 and No.12, provides the best framework for developing effective relationships with and safeguarding young children.

Method
This paper begins by applying the four core principles of the UNCRC (the right to non discrimination; the best interests principle; the right to life, survival and development; and the right to express a view and to have this taken seriously) to the findings of previous Inquiries and serious case reviews critically analyzing them in terms of breaches of children’s rights. From this the development of a tangible and accessible child rights based framework for practitioners is outlined and discussed.

Results
The results show that social work practice, as outlined in Inquiries and serious case reviews, is characterized by several serious breaches of children’s rights, that if considered from the perspective of the child, reflect practice that is far from child-centred. The results also show, through practical examples, the opportunities presented by the explicit use of a child rights framework to inform, shape and develop all aspects of social work practice.

Conclusions
The development of more child centred social work practice is a priority issue in the U.K following the recommendations of the Munro Review of Child Protection. This paper illustrates how the principles of the UNCRC can be explicitly embedded in the development of child centred social work practice and how they can form the basis to social work processes (investigation; assessment; planning; decision making and review) and to the design, development and evaluation of services for children and families at risk.

Workshop 21
Venue: PFC 3/017
Child Protection Systems Across the United Kingdom: A Comparative Analysis
Anne Stafford¹, Nigel Parton², Sharon Vincent³, Connie Smith⁴
¹University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK, ²University of Huddersfield, Huddersfield, UK, ³University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK, ⁴University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

Objectives
To understand developments in child protection systems and processes in each part of the UK in the context of devolution and shifting social and political landscapes.

Method
The Centre for Learning in Child Protection provides detailed analysis of and commentary on developments in child protection policy and processes in each part of the UK. From relatively scant information about similarities and differences in child protection in different parts of the UK, a substantial body of work has now been built up. We use a qualitative case study approach which enables the researcher to immerse themselves in each case/country allowing a country specific ‘story’ to be told - a methodology more usually associated with inter-country comparative analysis rather than intra-country which is the case here.

Results
Our findings suggest that understanding developments in child protection policy across the UK requires insight into devolution; and that policy change is a political process, designed in part to demonstrate difference and national identity. While each part of the UK has its own separate vision for what it wants to achieve for children, and while there are differences between England and the devolved parts of the UK in terms of the mechanisms and structures for child protection, there are also many parallels, and each part of the UK approaches child protection in broadly similar ways.

Conclusions
England as the largest UK player, with the bulk of the policy making capacity, often sets the child protection agenda and has often been the originator of new child protection developments. These are then often taken up at a later date, modified and adopted in the
other parts of the UK. To date much of the ‘policy borrowing’ has occurred unilaterally between England and the other 3 parts of the UK. As devolution unfolds and policy capacity in the devolved parts of the UK increases, wider borrowing between countries could be encouraged.

Workshop 22
Venue: PFC 2/017

CARE: A Comprehensive Model for Implementing and Evaluating a Research-Based Programme Model in Residential Care
Michael Nunno¹, Martha Holden¹, John Gibson¹, William Coman², James Anglin³, Judith Brunt²
¹Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, USA, ²The Northern Health and Social Care Trust, County Antrim, Northern Ireland, UK, ³University of Victoria, Victoria, Canada

Objectives
To address the implementation of the CARE programme model for residential and group care. The CARE model incorporates and structures well-established findings from the social sciences literature into six basic practice principles. These principles are developmentally focused, family involved, relationship-based, trauma informed, and ecologically oriented. They inform and guide the interactional dynamics of the organisation to meet the best interests of children.

Method
CARE implementation strategy involves training that addresses all levels of the agency staff’s knowledge, attitudes, and skills, and provides guidance about how to apply CARE principles in daily practice. Organisational technical assistance helps agency leadership and supervisors build commitment to the CARE principles, develop a vision to establish congruence to the CARE principles throughout the organisation, and facilitating, reinforcing and sustaining that vision. Through a process of self-reflection agencies establish structures and processes for improving collaboration, resolving conflicts fairly, identifying barriers to integrating and sustaining CARE principles, planning strategies for resolving those barriers, and facilitating practices to encourage data utilization.

Results
Through a single case study of an agency in Northern Ireland, agency staff and the CARE implementation team members will discuss the results of both qualitative and quantitative organisational assessments, training in the CARE principles, assessments of current practice, and organisational changes necessary to implement the CARE programme model.

Conclusions
This case study is one agency’s transformational change using the CARE practice model. The implementation team and agency staff will explain how all agency personnel are vital in transforming an organisational culture to ensure the best interests of children. Both empirical and qualitative results will indicate and illustrate how that transformation relates to improved outcomes for the children.

Workshop 23
Venue: PFC 3/006a

Effective Therapeutic Approaches Within A Specialist Residential Setting In Belfast
Carmel Ferguson, Liam Dumigan, Liam Craig, Pam Nugent, Mark Kimmins, Clark Davidson, Roger Bailey, John Judge
Glenmona Resource Centre, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
The workshop will encourage discussion in relation to effective intervention in a residential environment. It is an opportunity for Glenmona’s experienced workers to demonstrate their skills and knowledge when working with young people who often present challenging behaviours and who have been assessed as high risk. The staff team welcome the chance to discuss their practice and to share experiences with those attending the workshop. Theories incorporated in the workshop will include Trauma Sensitive Approach, Child-Centred Approach, Enhancing Resilience, Restorative Practices, Therapeutic Crisis Intervention and Reflective Practice (within the Team).
Method
The facilitators will present specific case reviews with in depth analysis of prominent theories used on a daily basis (predominantly Restorative Practices, Therapeutic Crisis Intervention and Reflective Practices). The workshop will include discussion, exercises, role-play and questions. Input will be multi-disciplinary in nature and will include the departments of social work, education and psychology. The focus will lie heavily on the application of practice and effective outcomes. Whilst Glenmona is definitely a challenging working environment, the workshop hopes to illustrate that staff are rewarded by the many positive outcomes achieved for some of the most vulnerable and traumatised young people.

Results
It is hoped that participants will develop a greater understanding of the knowledge and skills necessary to intervene in an effective and child centred approach. The facilitators, through analysis, evaluation and reflection, look forward to sharing the process of applying theory to practice and discussing outcomes that may be achieved. Notwithstanding, they take full cognizance of the many and varied challenges that social workers face on an ongoing basis and they hope to share their skills of resilience and reflection.

Conclusions
Theory has been applied in practice and a range of interventions examined including relationship work, understanding and responding to the traumatic experiences of the young people, application of Therapeutic Crisis Intervention (TCI), Restorative Practices and recognition of the importance of supporting staffing. Glenmona staff team will share statistics and data that indicates a reduction in Police intervention, a reduction of young people being referred to the Juvenile Justice Centre and a reduction of referrals to secure accommodation. Similarly they will share the findings which indicate high morale of staff and a sense of real support throughout their roles.

Workshop 24
Venue: PFC 3/005

Sexual Bullying in School and the Community
Laura Butterworth
The nia project, London, UK

Objectives
Sexual bullying encompasses a spectrum of verbal physical and emotional behaviours and includes name calling, making threats, internet/mobile phone based sexual bullying, sexual assault and rape. Our workshop objective is for professionals to understand the full spectrum of behaviours and equip them with the tools and knowledge to challenge it in their day-to-day work.

Method
We offer targeted sessions for young people affected by sexual bullying or displaying sexually harmful behaviour, as well as a package of up to 6 generic awareness raising sessions for young people in school or in the community. During this workshop we will run a selection of our activities to give professionals a flavour of our work. We will also share our learning on what has worked and what has not along with how we have overcome challenges and barriers.

Results
Participants will leave the workshop with skills and knowledge to support them to raise awareness and challenge sexual bullying. As the facilitators we will role model how to run specific activities designed to support young people to:

- Gain a clear understanding of what sexual bullying is and how it affects others.
- Increase ability to talk about safety, respect and consent in relationships.
- Learn to challenge attitudes which normalise or condone sexual bullying.
- Understand where they can go to seek help if they are worried about their own or others’ bullying/violent behaviour.
Conclusions
The work we have done with young people was developed in consultation with and has been positively evaluated by young people. This workshop will give us an opportunity to share our experience and best practice model. In delivering the session we will also role model how to keep sessions fun and interactive as well as create a safe environment for young people to explore a very sensitive and emotional topic.

Workshop 25
Lanyon G74

An Audit of GP Practices in Cornwall & Isles of Scilly on Safeguarding Children
Danny Lang1, Janice Allister1
1Cornwall & IOS PCT, Cornwall, UK, 2Royal College of General Practitioners, London, UK

Objectives
To ascertain the current position and progress in child protection practice across the GP practices of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly following the introduction of child protection training based on the Toolkit for Safeguarding Children and Young People developed by the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) and the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC).

To raise awareness of child protection further through the audit process

To define a practice lead for safeguarding children in all practices

Method
The audit tool of the 2009 version of the RCGP/NSPCC Toolkit (Appendix 9) was sent electronically to all practices with a covering letter and links to other key documents. This included links to the RCGP/NSPCC Toolkit. The audit sections were: practice policy and procedures, staff recruitment and training, patient record systems and information for patients

Responses were recorded as Red, Amber and Green. A follow up letter was sent two months later.

Results
56% of practices responded and have a practice lead

Practice policy and procedures: 100% of practices have policy and procedures, 96% have meetings re. safeguarding and domestic violence, 79% follow up DNAs.

Staff recruitment and training: 93% ensure suitability of staff, 82% ensure CRB checks, 82% ensure correct staff training

Patient record systems: 82.7% ensure child protection plans are entered in records, 38% of child in need plans are entered, 72% of domestic abuse disclosures are entered in children’s notes,

52% of practices provide written information on domestic abuse when suspected

Conclusions
The results indicate progress has been made. The Cornwall & Isles of Scilly PCT Clinical Governance Board welcomed the findings but raised the issue of non-responders. The definition of safeguarding leads in 56% of the practices proves valuable for distribution of key information from the named safeguarding staff. The safeguarding leads are encouraged to attend further training courses.

Frontline feedback from the audit has been used to help with the current updating of the RCGP/NSPCC Toolkit.

Non-responders are currently being contacted and these responses should be available by the time of the Congress.
Plenary Session D  
09:00 – 10:00  
Venue: Sir William Whitla Hall  
Chair: John Devaney, Chair Elect  
BASPCAN

Patricia Lewsley-Mooney  
Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People

Patricia Lewsley-Mooney took up post as Commissioner for Children and Young People on 8th January, 2007. A former MLA and district councillor, Mrs Lewsley-Mooney had a long track record working for children and young people before becoming Commissioner. She chaired the All-Party Assembly Group on Children and Young People and brought and led efforts through the Assembly to put Area Child Protection Committees on a statutory basis. A community advice worker prior to becoming involved in politics, the Commissioner was a co-founder of Shopmobility in Belfast and introduced the post of the first Disability/Equal Opportunity Officer in local Government. Mrs Lewsley-Mooney is a parent of five children and four grandchildren. Patricia Lewsley-Mooney was the Chairperson for the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC) 2010-2011. The European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC) links independent offices which have been established in European countries to promote children’s fundamental rights. Cooperation among these offices is intended to facilitate the sharing of strategies and collective approaches to promoting children’s rights.

Founders’ Lecture:

Why Have we Made Neglect So Complicated? Taking a Fresh Look at Noticing and Helping the Neglected Child  
Brigid Daniel  
University of Stirling

Brigid Daniel trained as a Social Worker and worked as a local authority social worker, specialising in children and families. As Professor of Social Work at the University of Stirling, She is Head of the Social Work Section which runs qualifying courses in Social Work and post-qualifying and CPD courses.

She was a member of the multi-disciplinary team that carried out a ministerial audit and review of child protection in Scotland - which reported in 2002 in "It’s everyone’s job to make sure I’m alright" and she continues to contribute to policy analysis and development in child welfare and protection. She was a founding member and chair of the advisory group of the Scottish Child Care and Protection Network (SCCPN) which works collaboratively to coordinate child care and protection dissemination, evaluation and research in Scotland to ensure that those working with vulnerable children have access to best practice. She is a member of the steering group for the Multi-Agency Resource Service (MARS), a resource to share information and advice for those who work in child protection in Scotland.

Neglect is, paradoxically, quite simple, but in many ways very complex. The simple and stark reality for children whose needs are not being met is that life is pretty miserable. The experience of neglect affects physical, cognitive and emotional development; friendships, behaviour and opportunities. For some children the neglect is so profound that they starve to death or die because of accidents. And yet neglect appears to pose real challenges for practitioners, researchers, theoreticians and national and local policymakers. All too often children have to endure chronic lack of physical and emotional care over long periods of time before they receive help. And all too often that help is too little, too late.

Protective systems, like those in the UK, that have developed around a forensic core, are notoriously clumsy when it comes to dealing with sustained problems rather than one-off events. ‘Neglect’ as defined by the official system has become overly complicated and process-bound. A distance has developed between common-sense empathy with the unhappiness of hungry, tired, un-kempt and distressed children and an overly bureaucratic and anxiety-ridden system for reaching out to help them.
The straightforward aim of providing help to neglected children has become obscured within the complexities of our formal helping systems. Legislation, policy and guidance have developed with good intentions, but have shaped a particularly unwieldy practice framework for neglect. Instead, it may be helpful to return to some very simple concepts that spring from the child’s perspective. From the child’s point of view this can be worded as three basic questions:

1. What do I need to grow and develop?
2. What do I need people to think about?
3. What do I need people to do?
Interactive Poster Session, 10:00 - 10:45

Venue: Sir William Whitla Hall

Posters will be on display in the Sir William Whitla Hall throughout Congress, but in this session the poster presenters will be available to discuss and comment on their poster with delegates.

Poster 1

An Examination of Child Abuse Reporting in Ireland and the Socio-Legal Implications of Introducing a Mandatory Reporting System

Roni Buckley
Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Objectives
The purpose of the research is to establish the attitudes of frontline staff and key stakeholders to the introduction of a mandatory reporting system under the proposed legislation to make Children First statutory and the Criminal Justice (Withholding Information on Crimes against Children) Bill. It also seeks to identify the impact mandatory reporting will have for professionals and their services.

Method
This doctoral study is employing a grounded theory approach to its qualitative interviews which include both focus group and individual interviews. The participant population has been purposively selected from a range of areas within both the voluntary and statutory sectors. They include professions from: health, education, pre-school services and leisure. Within these divisions participants have been categorised as one of the following:

- Frontline
- Operational
- Policy.

Participants are sourced from both rural and urban settings as well as those operating within regions that promote integration of children’s services and those that do not.

Results
As the doctoral research is in its primary stages (at time of submission) no conclusive findings have yet been gathered. International research has shown the measure has resulted in significant increases in ‘repeat reportings’ and ‘exposure to domestic violence’ in particular. It is expected that similar findings will emerge from this study as well as findings around professional’s ability to identify abuse, impediments to reporting as well as discussions of how the detection and prosecution of failures to report can be provided for.

Conclusions
Since the publication of the Cloyne report government reaction to child abuse reporting has been rapid and extensive. As we are on course for the introduction of a mandatory reporting system it is important to consider the implications and repercussion of such a scheme for those who will be implementing it at a ground and operational level.

Poster 2

The Importance of Relationships in Children’s Residential Care: An Ethnographic Study

Melanie Snoddon
Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
The well-being of children in care presents a challenge to child welfare systems internationally and the residential child care sector is one which has undergone many changes in recent years, with children’s homes changing in size, organisation and care practice. Current Government policy promotes residential care as a potential option for some young people, with an emphasis on units with smaller numbers of residents. However, little is known from research about how the number of residents influences the experience of young people, and whether this has the potential to influence the outcomes experienced by young people.
Method

This poster presentation will present the theoretical model underpinning an ethnographic study of a children’s residential unit. The model will explore how the range of inputs (for example, number of residents, numbers and qualifications of staff, physical layout of unit) influence the experiences of the young people. The method will involve participant observation of the daily life within a children’s residential home, and interviews with both young people and staff.

Poster 3

Making Sense of the Child’s Lived Experience in Cases of Neglect
Helen Richardson Foster
University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK

Objectives
The poster presentation will provide early findings from a study which aims to gain an understanding of the promoters and inhibitors to child-focused decision making in cases of child neglect.

The research aims to analyse information shared at child protection conferences where there are concerns a child is suffering, or likely to suffer, serious harm as a result of experiencing neglect. Child protection conferences are a critical part of decision making in the child protection process, yet there is limited research on their efficacy and no studies have specifically focused on conferences in cases of suspected neglect.

Method
This doctoral research is an ESRC CASE studentship in collaboration with two local safeguarding children boards. The qualitative research methodology consists of audio recording of child protection conferences and documentary analysis of reports created for this conference. At a later stage of the study, focus groups with conference chairs and child protection managers will be undertaken.

Results
Preliminary findings from the first two stages of the research will be outlined in relation to the information presented at conference meetings regarding children’s needs, parenting capacity, the parenting context and children’s lived experience of neglect.

Analysis will explore how information:
- is shared at the conferences and by whom;
- is explored in relation to the developmental needs of the child;
- has been obtained and presented about the child’s experiences, wishes and feelings, including to what extent the child is given a voice at the meeting;
- is used to inform the content of the child protection plan.

Conclusions
The poster will present early findings on the research which aims to provide an in-depth account of the way in which practitioners maintain or lose the focus on the child when making decisions about their welfare.

Poster 4

Child Protection in Haringey: A Prospective Observational Study and Audit of Child Protection Procedures in Two London Hospitals
Laura Haynes1, Gayle Hann2, Justin Daniels3, Caroline Fertleman2
1UCL Institute of Child Health, London, UK, 2Whittington Hospital, London, UK, 3North Middlesex University Hospital, London, UK

Objectives
The purpose of this observational study was to compare the child protection referral pathways for Haringey children at two London district general hospitals.

This study has three aims: firstly, to investigate whether the hospital with co-located social workers had more efficient child protection referral pathways; secondly, to gain descriptive information regarding the reasons behind the referrals, and how these cases were subsequently handled by the medical and social work teams; and thirdly, to investigate possible causative factors that affect the numbers of referrals in different regions.

Method
A period of 28 days of observation was spent at each of the two hospitals during January, February and March 2011. During this time, every referral made by the medical team was identified, and followed up until its conclusion. Specific information was taken from the referral form using a proforma. The times
of presentation, referral to social services, admission (if applicable) and discharge were all recorded. Information regarding the management of the cases by social workers was obtained by attending weekly MDT meetings.

Results
10 referrals were made at the Whittington Hospital and 30 at the North Middlesex Hospital. The hospital with co-located social workers (The Whittington Hospital) had a shorter average inpatient stay, fewer inpatients with delayed discharge, and shorter average delay time than the hospital without co-located social workers (the North Middlesex Hospital). However these differences were not statistically significant.

Conclusions
Although there were differences between the two hospitals, these may not have met statistically significant thresholds due to low numbers of cases seen; a larger study may be able to address this. Areas that were less financially affluent had significantly higher numbers of child protection referrals; and physical assaults on children on the street was identified as a significant and yet un-tackled issue in child protection.

Poster 5

Tickling the Trout: Investigating Fathers’ Engagement with the Child Protection Process

Daryl Dugdale

1Bristol University, Bristol, UK, 2University of West of England, Bristol, UK

Objectives
There is a dearth of research on fathers’ involvement with Children’s Services. The research that does exist acknowledges their invisibility and the challenges practitioners encounter engaging them (O’Hagan 1997; Ryan 2000; Scourfield 2003, 2006; Featherstone 2003, 2006; Ashley et al., 2006; Roskill, et al., 2008). Efforts to improve the safeguarding of children must address the role and influence of fathers and must take account of how the child protection process impacts on all concerned. I am proposing to present doctoral work in progress that focuses on the experiences and meanings given by fathers’ in determining whether they engage or not with the child protection process.

Method
This doctoral work draws on a phenomenological theoretical position and uses a qualitative case study approach (Yin 2009). It investigates four case studies of fathers’ reflections on the role of fathering and their experiences of the case conference and child protection process. The design has a specific focus on semi-structured interviews but is both longitudinal and has a mixed methods approach.

Results
At this stage the results of the research are tentative. I will consider the emerging themes from the research and the implications for practice. I will offer comments on the findings using the narratives of the fathers.

Conclusions
The conclusions of the research will address the meanings the fathers have given to their experiences of engaging with the child protection process. I would propose this would include references to the relevance of gender and in particular the theoretical concepts of masculinity. It will acknowledge the failure of practitioners to fully address a range of issues and provide suggestions for increasing the potential engagement of fathers where risk may well be manifested.

Poster 6

Storytelling and Witty Words Knowledge as a Tool for Entrepreneurial Spirit Promotion Among Yoruba Children

Bolanle Simeon-Fayomi, Abimbola Fayomi

1Department of Continuing Education Faculty of Education, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State, Nigeria, 2Centre for Industrial Research and Development, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State, Nigeria

Objectives
The safety of children in the Yoruba culture is accomplished in a multifaceted way. One aspect is to empower them from the early stage of their life by involving them in enterprise ventures. However, this can present a risk of physical and sexual abuse.
The development of intellectual capacity in relation to the psychological needs of the child is paramount in Yoruba tradition. The society empowers their children intellectually through language usage, in particular the age long tradition of the "tales by moonlight", which remain a positive means of transferring knowledge, morals, values and norms from generation to generation.

Method

The ‘Alo apagbe’ (stories with songs) and ‘alo apamo’ (witty words with meaning) are part of traditional folklore among the Yoruba. The inculcating of the entrepreneurial spirit is essential in the community’s preparation for the child’s transition to young adulthood. The use of the storytelling device not only contributes towards their socio-economic empowerment, it also increases their knowledge of safety, self-esteem, communication and improves their personal entrepreneurial characteristics.

This study collected three stories and eight witty words and related them to the values indicated above. They were interpreted and analysed in terms of three personal entrepreneurial characteristics.

Results

The results revealed that the act of storytelling and the use of witty words can be very effective in the teaching of entrepreneurship, promotion of safety and distinct moral values in elementary and junior high schools if utilised well.

Conclusions

The study concluded that the age long tradition of storytelling and use of witty words should be encouraged in schools in Nigeria.

Beauty and the Beast: Indigenous Enterprises Practices Versus Female Adolescents Exposure to Sexual Abuse in a Nigerian Community

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Objectives

This study looked into the practices of the indigenous enterprise system in the Southwestern Nigeria with a view to highlighting the disadvantages of those practices and the advantages for young women involved. The system has provided for young people who have little or no access to funds. The simplicity and effectiveness of this system has been documented in the fight against abject poverty in developing nations like Nigeria. This practice includes: indigenous micro-credit facilities; marketing strategies, such as hawking, door to door services, coaxing and haggling; and advertising consists of shouting wares or names with colourful adjectives.

Method

The study surveyed 30 young women between the ages of 16-22 years engaged in various enterprises in the Ipetumodu Community and analysed the results by the use of simple frequency and percentages.

Results

The study found that young women are constantly exposed to sexual insinuations, improper touches, rape and sometimes forced marriage. Despite this, their economic empowerment is enhanced through their involvement in these entrepreneurial activities. A significant relationship was found to exist between participation in entrepreneurial activities and their attitude towards male dominance and towards male advances and conceding on their part. Moreover, a positive relationship was found to exist between frequency of hawking and income size.

Conclusions

In conclusion, choosing between the 'beast' and the 'beauty' is rather difficult here. The study concluded that the community and market leaders should utilise the powers available to them and the established system of community meetings should be able to stem the occurrence of abusive behaviours that currently exist in the indigenous enterprise system.
Poster 8

Safeguarding Children in Primary Care: General Practitioner and Health Visitor Understanding and Role
Nicoli Morrison
Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
To explore understanding of the term ‘safeguarding’ and professional safeguarding roles within and between General Practitioners and Health Visitors. The research is important because very little is actually known about what primary care health professionals understand about safeguarding children.

Method
This ongoing doctoral research was conducted in one Health and Social Care Trust area within Northern Ireland. Mixed methods (focus groups and survey) were used to explore understanding within and between two professional groups. General Practitioners and Health Visitors were selected because of their particular roles within the primary care health team.

Results
Preliminary findings for each profession will be reported.

Conclusions
According to the media and government-commissioned reports, safeguarding children is problematic for professionals. As an evolving concept with varying connotations this is not surprising. To narrow the gap between expectation and reality and to improve outcomes for children policy and practice, it is therefore considered important to explore how those with a duty to safeguard understand this evolving concept and their professional safeguarding role.

Poster 9

Safeguarding Children in Primary Care: A Public Health Perspective
Nicoli Morrison
Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
Using a public health framework, this poster will explore the implications of health professionals' understanding of 'safeguarding' and their safeguarding role.

Method
This ongoing doctoral research was conducted in one Health and Social Care Trust area within Northern Ireland. Mixed methods (focus groups and survey) were used to explore understanding within and between two professional groups of their safeguarding roles and responsibilities. General Practitioners and Health Visitors were selected because of their particular roles within the primary care health team.

Results
Preliminary research findings will be reported and explored in relation to how a public health framework may assist in supporting primary care health professionals to envisage their safeguarding role.

Conclusions
Globally, public health approaches are gaining interest as a way to prevent and address complex problems. To accurately appraise the utility of a public health approach to safeguarding children in Northern Ireland it is important to know how the professionals expected to safeguard understand the term and their role. This doctoral study offers insight into two professions considered well-placed to safeguard children.

Poster 10

Safeguarding Under 2's: Family Nurse Partnership in Northern Ireland
Deirdre Webb
Public Health Agency, Belfast, UK

Objectives
Summarises the key findings from the first year of Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) in Northern Ireland

- Outline the outcomes for children and families involved in the programme
- Assess the programme fidelity
- Explore the barrier and levers to implementation
- Assess the acceptability and perceived value of the programme for service users
Method
FNP is a licensed programme, based on over 30 years of development and research in the USA. There are 50 sites in England and two sites in Scotland. In November 2010, the first team was established in Northern Ireland. Family Nurses visit teenage mothers and fathers from the 28th week of Pregnancy until the child is 2 years old. A formative evaluation of the programme is underway.

Results
Results of Family Nurse Partnership are as follows:

- Improvements in pregnancy outcomes
- Improvements in child development
- Improvements in the economic self-sufficiency of the family by helping the parents develop a vision for their own future plans, future pregnancies and to continue their education and find work.

Conclusions
Family Nurse Partnership appears to be working in the Northern Ireland context. Results show a high number of clients offered the programme voluntarily enrolled. There are positive results in breastfeeding, smoking, birth weights, and hospital admissions. There are improvements in mother’s mental health and infant’s health. The programme is highly valued by clients.

Poster 11
Adolescents with Intellectual Disabilities with Sexualized Behaviour – Sexual Exploration or Exploitation?
Virginia Cruz
Metropolitan State College, Denver, Colorado, USA

Objectives
Adolescents with intellectual disabilities are often confused by their own emerging sexuality because of the lack of appropriate sex education by schools or families. If adolescents with intellectual disabilities demonstrate sexualized behaviours in inappropriate ways and places, they may come to the attention of professionals. Assessment must determine if this was exploration gone wrong or an exploitative pattern of behaviour. The situation is complicated if the adolescent has a history of sexual victimization. In the US, teens may be caught between Youth Corrections and Child Protection. This session will present guidelines for determining the seriousness of the behaviour and appropriate system responses.

Method
A two day training curriculum was developed using exploratory methods including review of the literature and focus groups with professionals from three major service sectors: child welfare, youth corrections and intellectual disabilities. The themes generated led to a wider survey of professionals which determined the training content.

Results
A pre and post-test indicated that trainees gained competence in determining if the teen’s behaviour was exploitative or exploration gone wrong and developing a treatment plan to meet the teen’s needs while keeping the community safe using the least restrictive approach.

Conclusions
Workers must determine if sexualized behaviour was exploratory or exploitative and respond with the appropriate interventions. This allows workers to keep many adolescents with intellectual disabilities with sexualized behaviours in their communities through the use of multidisciplinary teams, informed supervisors in natural settings and carefully crafted safety plans. In many cases, keeping such adolescents out of the youth corrections system is possible and reduces the likelihood that the adolescent with intellectual disabilities will be exploited by other non-disabled adjudicated youth.

Poster 12
Domestic Abuse and Impact on Child Development
Zeinab Abdelrahim, Helen Comesky, James Hughes
Community Paediatrics, Southern Health & Social Care Trust, Northern Ireland, UK
**Objectives**

Domestic abuse is a public health issue. It is one of the most pervasive human rights challenges of our times. It occurs across society regardless of age, race, gender, sexuality, wealth or geography. The effects on victims can be devastating. Children are very much the silent victims of domestic abuse. They can be involved directly and indirectly. Often their voices are not heard and their needs ignored. Domestic Abuse accounts for approximately 1/5 of all recorded violent crimes in Northern Ireland.

**Method**

A search of the electronic library Midline for original research & review articles relating to the above title using combinations of the terms: domestic violence, domestic abuse, child maltreatment. Reference list of identified articles & some statistic data from Police Service of Northern Ireland were used. Information was collected from these sources and it is summarised within the presentation.

**Results**

There is growing evidence that there are harmful consequences for children and young people living in violent homes. Children are at risk of personal injury and death. Exposure presents a wide range of psychological and physical symptoms that can be long term duration. Children are at risk for becoming aggressors themselves in their future relationships. Individuals, especially infants and toddlers, who are exposed to the stress response over extended periods of time, can suffer distinct changes in the brain.

**Conclusions**

Tackling domestic violence is a priority in UK government crime control policies, and in policies on child protection and children’s welfare. This presentation addresses the physical and psychological effects of viewing violence on the brain of the developing child, some statistics, protective factors, prevention and management.

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**Poster 13**

**Does Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy (CBT) Work as a Treatment for Young People Aged 10-18 Who Sexually Offend?: A Cochrane Systematic Review of the Evidence**

Helga Sneddon¹,², Mike Ferriter², Avery Bowser¹, ¹Centre for Effective Services, Belfast, UK, ²Centre for Effective Services, Belfast, UK, ²Centre for Effective Services, Belfast, UK

**Objectives**

To evaluate the effects of cognitive-behavioural therapy on young people who exhibit sexually harmful behaviour. Given the prevalence, as well as the often devastating effects on victims, we need to develop effective, cost-beneficial methods of reducing future risk. Although juvenile sex offenders consume much of the resources of the criminal justice, educational and mental health systems, few empirically supported interventions exist to treat these youths. This systematic review focuses on the effectiveness of cognitive-behavioural techniques. These are also the basis of adult sex offender treatment in prison settings and community programmes in England, Canada, New Zealand and the USA.

**Method**

All relevant randomised controlled trials using parallel groups, with or without blinding will be systematically reviewed. Studies will be eligible if they examine young people aged between 10-18 years who have received cognitive behavioural therapy in institutional (psychiatric or prison facilities) or community settings for sexual offences or sexually harmful behaviour. A variety of databases will be searched and no language or date restrictions will be applied. Key authors will also be approached to source relevant unpublished findings.
Results
Results on treatment effectiveness will be presented according to a range of outcome measures including recidivism (for both sexual and non-sexual offences), mental health, psychological wellbeing, social functioning, direct and indirect costs.

Conclusions
This review provides policy makers and practitioners with a synthesis of good quality evidence about the effectiveness of cognitive-behavioural interventions with this vulnerable group. The significance of these findings for policy and practice will be outlined. Since treatment aims to reduce recidivism, the importance of examining the efficacy of treatment programmes is an integral part of Child Protection responses as well as having implications for juvenile justice.

Poster 14
Early Child Protection Intervention with Pregnant Women: An Innovative Response Where Parenting is Compromised by Drug and Alcohol Use?
Margaret Bruce, Ann Hodson
Dundee University, Dundee, UK

Objectives
This poster forms part of an ongoing wider project into early intervention with families where parenting is compromised as a result of substance use. Focussing on one area of Scotland the research aims to elucidate staff views on what is innovative in their approach to intervention with families during the pre-birth stage of child protection practice. In addition, the poster also outlines a novel approach to evaluation methodology.

Method
This poster presents data regarding a multi-agency pre-birth assessment and intervention team. We engaged with the team to enable them to develop visual material to promote their innovative service and, in the process, helped explore their understandings of what that implied. This informed research findings relevant to practitioners’ views of how their team engaged parents and protected unborn children where the future of keeping mother and child together was uncertain.

Results
Preliminary findings suggest that co-location is regarded by the staff as an effective method of ensuring early intervention. Adopting a multi-agency approach with staff from different service areas has promoted open lines of communication between adult focussed and child focussed services. Full results on the evaluation and the methodology will be outlined in the poster.

Conclusions
A review of literature and findings from Hodson (2011) show pre-birth intervention and assessment is an under-researched area of practice. Interventions have relied more on practice wisdom than robust evidence. Despite this, service provision must respond to ever increasing demands placed upon them. Initial findings give support to the claims for innovation. The evidence for effectiveness, however, is ongoing. Although limited to one agency, the researchers are confident that the method of service evaluation developed can be an effective tool for exploring staff perceptions as well as producing materials that have value in their own right.

Poster 15
Personal and Professional Characteristics of the Teacher for Prevention of Violence at School
Elena Volkova, Vladimir Volkov
Nizhny Novgorod Resource Center “Childhood without violence and cruelty”, Nizhny Novgorod, Russia

Objectives
School abuse exists in three main forms: tough, even cruel forms of teacher-pupil communication; abuse relations between children of the same or different ages; and, finally, requirements of the modern educational programme which do not meet age-specific capabilities of the child. Personal characteristics and professional competence of modern teachers are factors relevant to all types of abuse. The objective of the research is to study personal and professional characteristics of the teachers involved in school abuse and their ability to withstand it.
Method
Analysis of experimental data concerning personal and professional characteristics of secondary school teachers. The data were collected by means of diagnostic complex (questionnaires, tests, observation of behavior) in 1992-2009. The research sample numbers 264 teachers in non-private schools.

Results
Particularities of teachers' self-awareness in terms of complicacy, consistency and integrity of self-concept restrict their non-abusive relations: negative permissive or negative authoritarian style is typical for 83%. Educators share significant mismatch of cognitive and behavioural components of self-consciousness. Analysis of the teachers' behavior in class showed that features of self-consciousness are directly linked to psychological abuse (direct threats and negative attitude). Assessment of communicative potential showed that teachers are too emphatic, but have low level of self-control. This situation provokes emotional breakdowns and leads to burnout.

Conclusions
The trend towards integration, reducing interpersonal distance is significantly lower than a population normal rate, while sensitivity to the rejection is higher, all together it determines high internal anxiety and negativism of the teacher. Personal and professional characteristics of the teacher do not meet the objectives of a non-abusive environment. Instead of blocking abuse manifestations, they generate aggressive actions and violence themselves. Possible ways of correction should be connected with changing of basic value orientations, development of acceptance skills and skills in non-abusive interaction.

Poster 16
The First Russian Workbook on Child Abuse for Professional Training in Russian Universities
Elena Volkova, Vladimir Volkov
Nizhny Novgorod Resource Center “Childhood without violence and cruelty”, Nizhny Novgorod, Russia

Objectives
Child abuse and maltreatment is a very complex problem in modern Russia, which demands an effective multidisciplinary system approach based on professional interaction between different agencies: educational, medical, social, law enforcement and legal institutions. Federal educational standards for the training of psychologists, teachers, pediatricians, lawyers in Russia do not support subjects and workbooks on child abuse or prevention of violence. Some universities offer certain subjects which were added to local standards for professional training. As a rule, these subjects reflect one or a couple of the key issues; they are not based on multidisciplinary approach or interactive training.

Method
The poster will present results from the comparative analysis of the curricula, programmes and textbooks on elementary levels of knowledge in child abuse; development of the concept for curricula and textbook; testing and assessment and textbook publication.

Results
A textbook is composed of eight chapters: historical aspects of child abuse problem; Definition of the main terms and types of violence; Children in need; System of child protection from abuse; Diagnostics of child abuse; Multidisciplinary approach in helping children (technologies, methods and practice); Home violence and abuse at school; Prevention and rehabilitation programmes. These chapters are relevant to parts of the curriculum. The curriculum is designed for elementary training of professionals working with children (bachelor level). The course takes 54 academic hours. The educational methods are lectures, seminars, group discussions, case study, practical lessons and training elements.

Conclusions
Testing of the curriculum in state and private universities showed its practicability and efficiency. The textbook provides the necessary support for the curriculum.
Poster 17

Does Webster-Stratton Incredible Years Basic Programme work in Portuguese Residential Child Care? First Preliminary Results
Isabel Silva, Maria Filomena Gaspar
Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Coimbra University, Coimbra, Portugal

Objectives
This poster will present findings from the first research project to be conducted in Portugal to evaluate the Incredible Years Basic Training Programme (IYP) in residential settings. Believing that staff carers have a key opportunity to provide powerful positive and reparative experiences to looked after children in their day-to-day care, we developed this evidence-based structured intervention, which is being delivered to residential care staff.

In this poster we will present preliminary data concerning: a) staff’s confidence and satisfaction with the programme; b) comparison of the pre-post intervention in core symptoms of Conduct Problems and overall difficulties of children, reported by staff.

Method
A longitudinal study is underway with carers, who work with children aged 3-8 years old in residential settings.

The IYP was delivered by two facilitators, through 13 weekly sessions in which issues such as play, praise, effective limit setting and handling misbehaviour were addressed. Assessment measures (questionnaires; direct observation) of children’s behaviour and of staff parental skills were taken before and after the intervention, and will be repeated at 12 months. Residential carers also completed weekly IYP evaluations and an overall satisfaction questionnaire at the end of the IYP intervention.

Results
Preliminary findings suggest improvement on children’s behaviour outcomes, in the short term after the intervention. High levels of staff confidence and satisfaction with the IY Programme were observed. However, the results must be carefully interpreted, taking into account the small sample size and the study’s exploratory nature.

Conclusions
These preliminary findings provide initial support for the use of a proven evidence-based programme in Portuguese residential child care settings to help staff with no pre-service specific training to better engage with looked after children and to improve placement quality.

Poster 18

The Parenting Wisely-Urban Teens (PWUT): A Parental Training Programme for Parents of Portuguese Adolescents at Psychosocial Risk
Marisa Barata, Maria Filomena Gaspar
Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences of Coimbra University, Coimbra, Portugal

Objectives
There is an identified need for evidence-based parent education programmes for families with adolescents at risk in Portugal. This study will be conducted with parents of adolescents in risk situations and aims to test the efficacy of PW-UT in the improvement of parental skills and of the quality of parent-adolescent communication, and in the reduction of adolescent behaviour problems. The study will also test three different application formats of PW-UT (in group, self-administered and administrated to each parent individually by the facilitator), to determine the most effective.

Method
120 parents (one per family) of adolescents at psychosocial risk (age range: 12-18 years) will be randomly assigned to 4 conditions (3 corresponding to the formats of application of PW-UT mentioned in Objectives and a non intervention condition). PW-UT will be applied (in the non self-administered format) by two facilitators, through 12 weekly sessions. Assessment measures of adolescents’ behaviour and parental skills will be taken before the beginning of the intervention,
and at 6 and 12 months after it, through questionnaires and direct observation. Parents will also complete weekly PW-UT evaluation sheets and an overall satisfaction questionnaire at the end.

Results
Data collected will be analysed at different levels. In the intervention sample we expect that (1) parents will show improvement of parental skills (2) the quality of parent-adolescents interaction and communication will improve (3) adolescents will show a reduction of behaviour problems. Regarding our hypotheses, we expect that the intervention will be more effective than non-intervention in outcomes measures; and that these results will be maintained at 6 and 12 months follow-up. We also expect a differential impact of the three intervention formats in which the programme will be delivered.

Conclusions
Given the limited response of institutions, the inadequate answer of traditional interventions implemented by trained clinicians to the demands and others barriers (lack of access to valid programmes and barriers to the participation of parents), alternative interventions to families and professionals are needed. This study intends to demonstrate the efficacy of the Parenting Wisely-Urban Teens programme in the Portuguese social-cultural context with parents of adolescents at psychosocial risk. The aim is to promote a cost effective and evidence-based practice in the prevention and treatment of negative behavioural outcomes and in the enhancement of mental health.

Poster 19

A Strategic Approach to Training for Safeguarding and Protecting Children and Young People Within a District General Hospital (DGH)

Lynn Brooks1,2

1University of Greenwich, London, UK, 2Darent Valley Hospital, Dartford, UK

Objectives
• To ensure that safeguarding children training is available, accessible and deliverable to all Trust staff within a DGH.

Method
The project was undertaken using Lewin’s (1951) theory of change as a conceptual framework, to examine the evidence base in literature to critically analyse the process undertaken in identifying the need for change in relation to how safeguarding children training was rationalised and the strategy for delivery developed within an acute DGH setting.

Results
Initial analysis indicates that this project was a success. However the training needs analysis and subsequent training strategy is still a work in progress, and ongoing development and change is required. This is an essential ongoing challenge if there is to be confidence that the training strategy for the delivery of safeguarding children training will be effective in ensuring that children and young people are safeguarded from harm.

Conclusions
The overall aims of the project were achieved, and will become tangible once the training strategy is implemented and evaluated. There are areas for further development in order to continue the process of changing and improving the delivery of safeguarding children training, to ensure that all Trust staff receive safeguarding children training which is relevant and appropriate to their role within the organisation.
POSTER 20
Developing a Database of Irish Child Protection Literature
Helen Buckley, Carmel Corrigan, Liz Kerrins

Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
Independent Researcher, Dublin, Ireland
Children’s Research Centre, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Objectives
The perception amongst Irish child welfare staff that there was an inadequate supply of Irish material and a tendency to rely on imported research prompted the commissioning of a database of literature on child protection and welfare. The principal objectives of the project were:

- to develop a database of Irish child protection literature which had been produced between 1990 and 2009.
- to identify the main funding sources for research on this topic;
- to formulate appropriate conclusions about the main gaps in research literature on child protection.

Method
The identification of Irish child protection literature was achieved by searching academic databases. Material that was already known and held by the research team was collated, and formal contact was made by telephone and email with key stakeholders inviting them to suggest relevant research. Finally, bibliographies and reference lists of relevant publications were scanned to identify research that met the inclusion criteria.

Results
A number of challenges arose in the course of the audit; not all research was accessible, some had not been published, some was not online. The audit revealed a need for a more organised and centralised system for coordinating Irish child protection research. Overall, the findings showed that most research is conducted in the academic sector rather than commissioned, and that child neglect is very underrepresented as a topic.

Poster 21
Sexual Exploitation of Looked After Children-Learning from Experience and Safeguarding
Lin Graham-Ray

CLCH, London, UK

Objectives
Contemporary literature demonstrates that child and youth sexual exploitation is an area of much concern in the UK, with looked after children being identified as particularly susceptible to becoming involved in sexual exploitation. Predisposing factors include neglect, abuse, social exclusion and poverty. Additional risk factors are identified for unaccompanied asylum seeking minors, with child trafficking as a major concern.

Method
The research underpinning this presentation, is an in-depth examination of the experiences of a small group of social workers, in relation to cases they have worked with where there are or have been concerns, suspicions, allegations or factual evidence of sexual exploitation. This is a qualitative study conducted through semi structured interviews.

Results
I have analysed the emotional impact of such work on the worker, and how this manifests, drawing on both my own findings as the researcher, and previous research findings. Theory is taken from key psychoanalytical concepts as a way to explain the material and draw conclusions. The analysis highlights common themes that were articulated by all respondents, key findings and a reflection of what it was like to be the researcher, researching an emotional and sensitive subject.
Conclusions
This research concludes by highlighting the experiences of the workers in relation to the huge emotional impact they experienced, identifying areas for further research and gaps within the current literature. In addition, a pathway for recognising risk factors and managing risk within the safeguarding network will be presented. Drawing on experience and highlighting working together practices to safeguard and promote the well-being of this group and reduce risk taking behaviour.

Poster 22
Can Collaborative Inter-Agency Learning Support the Development of Inter-Agency Working Relationships Between Practitioners?
Alison Cutler
Hertfordshire County Council, Hertford, UK

Objectives
This research considered if collaborative inter-agency learning could support the development of inter-agency working relationships between practitioners. The research in this field is limited and therefore this study makes a valuable contribution by offering an in-depth analysis of one aspect of inter-agency learning and development activity in one county. The research challenges current learning and development practices by offering new suggestions and frameworks to improve the effectiveness of inter-agency learning and development.

Method
The study follows a model of reflective practitioner research within a constructivist paradigm. The methods used were a two stage study of inter-agency training sessions including interviews, observations, written evaluations, questionnaires and recording conversations. This was also supplemented by information gained from a review of the literature and more recent published research.

Results
Inter-agency learning was valued by delegates who stated that it had helped them create and build relationships with other professionals from different agencies.

Learning how to work together by ‘doing’ and sharing practice was considered by course participants to be the most effective part of the training.

Differences in professional identity can be celebrated and respected as part of the learning, as long as the learning environment is supportive of appropriate challenge to different working practices. Professional identity remained important for all participants in the research.

Conclusions
This research found that inter-agency, collaborative learning can support practitioners in building relationships and dialogue with practitioners from other agencies. This can be achieved by utilising a framework of skills, behaviours and knowledge to design, develop and evaluate a learning intervention and support the creation of a learning environment and community in which trainers or facilitators of learning and learning programme participants play a role.

Poster 23
The Children’s Perspective: Findings from Phase Three of the Northern Ireland Care Pathways and Outcomes Study
Dominic McSherry, Montserrat Fargas Malet, Kerrylee Weatherall, Greg Kelly
Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
The Northern Ireland ‘Care Pathways and Outcomes Study’ is a longitudinal study that, for the last 10 years, has been tracking the placements, and examining a range of coping indicators, for a population of children (n=374) who were in care under the age of five in Northern Ireland on the 31st March 2000. The main objective of the study is to inform policy and practice on how best to meet the long-term needs of young children in care.

Method
Interviews were conducted with a sub-sample (n=77) of the study population (between 9 and 14 years old), and comparative data was gathered using: Inventory of Parent and Peer Attachment; Piers-Harris Children’s Self-Concept Scale; British Picture Vocabulary
Scale - BPVA; Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire; and Parenting Stress Index. The children were in five different placement types: adopted (n=18); long-term non-relative foster care (n=19); long-term relative foster care (n=13); on Residence Order (n=15); and returned to birth parent/s (n=12).

Results
Results indicate higher levels of emotional and behavioural difficulties and parental stress, among children in non-relative foster care and with birth parents, compared with adoption and relative foster care. The adopted children also scored highest on the BPVA, which measures scholastic aptitude. However, from the young people’s own perspective, on issues such as attachment and self-concept, there were no significant differences between the groups.

Conclusions
The findings highlight the importance of speaking directly to the children and young people themselves, as there was a divergence between their perspective on their own lives, and how their parents/carers felt they were coping. From the children/young people’s own perspectives, findings suggested that all five placement types were familial environments that, in the majority of cases, nurture positive outcomes for children who enter care at a young age. These findings challenge the notion of adoption as the ‘gold standard’ in long-term placements options.

Poster 24

Reversible Obesity – A Sign of Neglect?
Lucinda Winckworth, Michael Coren
Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, London, UK

Objectives
Aims
The incidence of childhood obesity has risen dramatically over the last two decades. Severe obesity can be life-threatening with early intervention important for optimal results. Although current conventional therapies can result in weight loss, they require substantial effort with high levels of family engagement.

Some argue childhood obesity is a form of neglect. If families fail to engage with services, substitute parenting could be a treatment option in extreme cases.

Method
Two descriptive case reports of severely obese children with ineffective conventional attempts at weight reduction. Both were followed up after being removed from their home environments.

Results
Case report 1
Obesity was detected at 13 months of age (Body Mass Index [BMI] 27.1 kg/m2). Weight gain continued despite apparent parental co-operation with dietetic and exercise plans. BMI 31.4 kg/m2 at 24 months and multidisciplinary input intensified. BMI continued to rise, peaking at 34.9 kg/m2. Once removed from the home environment for reasons other than obesity, immediate weight loss occurred. Within 6 months his weight was less than 2.5 years previously. Weight loss was sustained over the following 18 months, with final BMI 20.6 kg/m2.

Case report 2
The child aged 36 months presented with obstructive upper airway symptoms (BMI 26.3 kg/m2). Weight gain continued when in mother’s care, despite multidisciplinary input, with peak BMI 28.3 kg/m2. After entering foster placement rapid weight loss occurred with alleviation of chronic airway obstruction symptoms. Weight loss continued over the next 12 months, down to BMI 19.8 kg/m2.

Conclusions
Obesity affects physical, emotional and social development. Behaviour and lifestyle choices are more effectively modified in younger age groups but high levels of parental co-operation and insight are essential. As seen above, rapid and sustained weight loss can occur when children are removed from unsuitable home environments. Although such cases support the use of substitute parenting to treat extreme situations, the psychological trauma of disrupting the familial environment must be carefully assessed. Specific criteria should be considered before removing a child, including the likelihood of a successful intervention, but each case would need to be highly individualised.
Poster 25
What Helps Children Tell? Factors Influencing Children's Experiences of Informal Disclosure
Maebh Culhane, Rosaleen McElvaney
Dublin Institute of Technology, Dublin, Ireland

Objectives
To investigate the factors that influence informal disclosure in a sample of children who had experienced child sexual abuse, building on a previous qualitative study that identified a key number of variables that could be seen to both facilitate and hinder informal disclosure.

Method
A recent study in the U.S. (Schaffer, Leventhal & Asnes, 2011) examined children's assessment files to elicit data gathered during the forensic interview process that described factors influencing informal disclosures. The present study examined 35 Irish children's files where children were deemed to have given a credible account of sexual abuse to professional interviewers.

Results
The study confirmed the feasibility of using children's assessment files as a source of data regarding informal disclosures, given the pertinence of this information to decisions regarding credibility. Six main themes emerged as influencing the process for these children: fear and concern for self and others, being asked, feeling distressed, peer influence, being believed, and shame/self-blame.

Conclusions
The study establishes a basis for a large scale study of over 500 children's files to contribute to the knowledge base on children's experiences of non-disclosure and the disclosure process. Implications for prevention and intervention with respect to what helps children tell when they have been sexually abused are highlighted.

Poster 26
Using an Actuarial Risk Assessment Tool to Identify Pre-Incident Risks in Serious Case Review Child Protection Cases
Heather Wood
Bournemouth University, Bournemouth, UK

Objectives
Risk and uncertainty are integral to child protection decisions when children remain at home following maltreatment. In North America large child protection outcome databases have enabled the development of actuarial risk assessment tools, using the most significant factors linked with adverse outcomes. Whilst not perfect predictors, such methods categorise cases into low or high risk groups better than unaided professional judgements or consensus based assessments. Such methods enable more accurate risk assessment than other approaches, including unaided professional judgement. This study forms the first step towards formal testing of such tools in UK child protection cases.

Method
This study uses a validated US risk assessment - the Family Risk Assessment for Abuse And Neglect (FRAAN) to assess risks known to agencies in 58 UK Serious Case Review (SCR) reports before major abusive incidents.

Further analysis of risk factors was extended to compare the study SCR data with two large recently published SCR studies and one study of UK child homicide perpetrators.

Results
FRAAN assessment scores correctly identified SCR cases as High Risk (Sensitivity = 88%). Specificity could not be measured in this uniformly high risk cohort.

Scores in fatal and non-fatal outcomes were strongly positively correlated. FRAAN risk scores could not predict fatal outcomes within a high risk cohort.

Prior UK study of child homicides and other reviews of SCRs found strong similarities between the cohorts. Key risk factors were parental mental illness, chaotic neglectful families and substance misuse. These factors appear to distinguish high risk families where there are further risks of fatal child abuse.

Conclusions
The use of actuarial risk assessment tools is likely to help child protection teams identify cases where extra support, or substitute care, is required to protect children at high risk of further intrafamilial maltreatment. The use of such tools in low and medium risk cases was not tested in this study due to lack of access to...
a mix of cases. This requires further research with archived case data.

Policy, practice and further research directions are recommended to extend the testing of the FRAAN risk assessment tool.

Poster 27
Withdrawn.

Poster 28

Africans Unite Against Child Abuse (AFRUCA): Working with African Communities to Safeguard African children
Teamirat Seyoum
AFRUCA, Manchester, UK

Objectives

• Raise the profile of African children in the UK, and create awareness of their needs in ways that promote a positive climate for change
• Ensure that children are aware of the risks of abuse, know their rights and have skills to protect themselves
• Promote positive parenting among African parents and others who care for children
• Increase the understanding of service providers and those with leadership roles in relation to African communities about the risk of abuse
• Influence the development of policy and regulatory action in ways that will safeguard African children
• Develop the leadership potential of young Africans.

Method

• Working in partnerships with all stakeholders to promote awareness of issues among African families, faith organisations and practitioners
• Running projects and schemes aimed at addressing the training needs of African parents
• Running projects and schemes aimed at addressing the needs of victims of trafficking
• Running projects and schemes aimed at increasing awareness and institutional capacity African faith organisations
• Organising and leading regional, national and international conferences on issues pertinent to safeguarding of African children
• Publishing and disseminating various safeguarding materials
• Working with young people to stop the vicious cycle of child abuse
• Exposing cultural smoke screens of those perpetrating child abuse in the name of culture/tradition
• Influencing legislations and changes in policy and practice.

Results

• Supporting African families: between 2006 and 2009 alone we managed to reach out 4,000 African families
• Working with young Africans: established a youth forum called “youth for Africa” The forum acted as a springboard to reach out and involve many young Africans
• Safeguarding victims of trafficking: Commissioned by the Home Office, AFRUCA undertaken a series of community consultations, organised a major international conference on ‘ Trafficking of African Children to the UK’, a series of awareness raising events, established a survivors forum and so far supported 200 victims of trafficking
• Played a leading role in addressing the branding of children as witches by influencing policy change, and provided expert advice and contact for the making of Channel 4’s Dispatches screening of ‘Britain’s Witch Children’
• Currently undertaking two projects on ‘working with faith organisations to safeguard African children project in Yorkshire and greater Manchester respectively covering over 42 faith organisations in total.
• Contributed to the continued improvement of skills of practitioners by providing them tailored and culturally oriented training when dealing with African families.
• Collaborated with a project in Ghana called ‘Youth Alive’ and recently launched a local NGO in Nigeria called AFRUCA Foundation
Conclusions

- The number of Africans coming and settling in the UK is increasing significantly.
- Most African families and faith leaders/ workers are unaware of the child protection and safeguarding issues in the UK.
- The safeguarding and protection needs of African children in the UK is not still fully addressed.
- Child abuse related to culture and tradition is a major concern for the wellbeing and safety of African children in the UK.
- Over the last 10 years, AFRUCA has managed to stimulate interest in the protection and safeguarding of African children in the UK.
- Child abuse related to witchcraft is also a major problem for African children which should be looked at the international level as well.

Method

The study was carried out in three phases:

1. A review of the evidence base underpinning each of the approaches.
2. Qualitative interview research in homes that have implemented therapeutic approaches through interviews with:
   a. Heads of Homes (n=18)
   b. Residential childcare staff (n=38)
   c. Children and young people (n=29)
3. Quantitative research across a sample of homes, including those that had not implemented approaches, using:
   a. A web survey of residential childcare staff (n = 126)
   b. Analysis of Monthly Monitoring Reports from trained and untrained homes (n=18)

Results

The study found that:

1. In the interviews and survey, staff reported that training in the therapeutic approaches had had a positive impact on their practice, in terms of their ability to understand and form positive relationships with young people.

2. Most young people were not aware that a therapeutic approach was being implemented in their home, but some reported an improved ‘atmosphere’ in the homes.

3. The monthly monitoring data suggested a reduction in the numbers of assaults on staff after, compared to before, training. However, given the relatively low number of incidents and variability in data collection, this result should be treated with caution.

Conclusions

Overall, it seemed that the introduction of therapeutic approaches had had a positive impact on residential childcare staff. It is important to note that the approaches do not enable residential childcare workers to be ‘therapists’, and relationships with clinical...
psychology and CAMHS are still essential. However, it was clear that workers' exposure to the training associated with each of the five models, enabled them to think more clearly and more strategically about the work they were tasked to do, and respond more appropriately to the challenges they faced on a day-to-day basis.
Parallel Session 5
10:45 – 12:30

Symposium 7
Young Suicide and Safeguarding
Convenor: Nicky Stanley
Venue: PFC OG/024

S7.1

An Initial Investigation of the Apparent Suicide Cluster in Bridgend in 2007-8
Jonathan Scourfield1, Philip Jones2, David Gunnell2, Stephen Platt1, Peter Huxley2, Keith Lloyd2, Ann Luce5, Michael Dennis2
1Cardiff University, Cardiff, UK, 2Swansea University, Swansea, UK, 3University of Bristol, Bristol, UK, 4University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK, 5University of Portsmouth, Portsmouth, UK

Objectives
In 2007-08 there was apparently a cluster of suicides among young people in the county borough of Bridgend, South Wales, which was widely reported by the international mass media. This presentation will delimit the boundaries of the cluster and the timings of the deaths in relation to media reporting, as well as considering the circumstances of the suicides, where these are known, and the impact of the media attention on local services.

Method
Office of National Statistics data on mortality in Wales were analysed using Risk Adjusted Nearest Neighbour Hierarchical Spatial Clustering (Zeng et al 2005; De Smith et al 2009) and the space-time scan statistic of Kulldorff et al (2005). Where possible, access was gained to routinely collected data on the suicide cases from local public services and interviews were conducted with key staff from local services.

Results
Results will be available by April 2012, though the research is not complete at the time of writing this abstract. The statistical analysis will indicate whether there was a cluster in time and space in Bridgend in 2007-8 and whether there was a connection between the timing of media reports and the incidence of suicide. Where available, routinely collected data from local public services should shed light on the circumstances of the suicides. Interviews with key staff from local services will assess the impact of the media attention on young people’s help-seeking.

Conclusions
The results will be discussed in relation to what is known from qualitative and quantitative research evidence about the social and cultural context of youth suicide in the UK. The implications for the safeguarding of children and young people will be considered.

S7.2

The Transmission of Suicidal Behaviour in Young People
Nicky Stanley1, Sharon Mallon1
1University of Central Lancashire, Preston, UK, 2Northern Ireland Association for Mental Health, Belfast, UK

Objectives
To use the findings of a national study of student suicide to illuminate the processes through which suicidal behaviour is transmitted between young people.

Method
The RaPSS study was a national qualitative multi-perspective study of student suicide in the UK undertaken between 2003 and 2006. 20 cases of student suicide occurring between 2000 and 2005 were identified through contact with higher education institutions (HEIs) and Coroners. Interviews were completed with a range of informants; this paper draws on those with students’ friends and parents.

Results
Evidence that the death was influenced by the suicide of another student was found in four cases. Qualitative data suggested that the suicide of a close friend contributed to feelings of distress and guilt which were difficult to articulate and resolve. A proximal suicide appeared to offer a model for resolving this intolerable pressure.

In searching for an explanation for their friend’s death, young people became highly engaged with their friend’s suicidal state of mind. This process of engagement caused them to confront the notion that suicide is an option and to question the prohibitions that surround the act.
Conclusions
Young people who experience a friend’s suicide may be particularly vulnerable to suicide themselves; proactive offers of support and counselling are required. These can be delivered in a range of settings where staff are trained and confident and represent an approach to safeguarding.

S7.3
A Review of Interventions to Support Young People in Care who have been Bereaved by Suicide and Exposed to Self Harm Behaviours
Brendan Bonner
Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
To examine the impact of interventions around suicidal and self harm behaviour in young people in the looked after care system, who have experienced bereavement as a result of suicide and potential suicide cluster/contagion. To consider issues such as surveillance, monitoring and direct interventions of support.

Method
A review was undertaken of services provided by the local Trust following a suspected suicide cluster and activation of a planned response to identify young people at risk and provide direct intervention and support.

Results
The findings indicated that by having in place a preparation plan for dealing with a suicide in the Looked After Children’s setting, a surveillance process to monitor issues such as self harm and suspected suicides, an ability to identify and respond to young people at risk a service can contain the risk of further loss of life due to suicide - it can save lives.

Conclusions
Service providers must ensure that all staff working in the Looked After Care system are trained on mental health awareness and suicide prevention. Residential settings should have contingency plans in place to address the loss of a life by suicide, build partnership with external organisations that can provide specialist care/support. The outcome of the lifestyle choices of young people who have been through the looked after care system and left can directly impact on those young people still in care. Addressing the issue of suicide prevention in the system is a major challenge in terms of the corporate parental responsibility.

S7.4
What do We Know About the Developmental Needs of Young People Who Feature in Serious Case Reviews in England Because of Suicide?
Marian Brandon
University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK

Objectives
To use the findings of a six year study of serious case reviews throughout England (2003-2009) to understand more about the profile and developmental needs of young people who have committed suicide.

Method
Quantitative analysis of minimal information about the total cohort of young suicides at the centre of serious case reviews in England over at least a six year period and qualitative analysis of a sub set of a small number of illustrative case studies.

Results
Apparent suicide accounts for around 16% of serious case reviews. The age of young suicides ranges from 8-18. The existence of prior maltreatment was not always clear and manifested itself in the child’s development and behaviour in a number of different ways. The young people’s cases divide between those with a long history of involvement with social care and many other agencies and those with little or only low level involvement from specialist agencies. Case studies of children of different ages reveal the different developmental patterns and the help or absence of help given.

Conclusions
A better understanding of the profile and the developmental needs of young suicides should encourage more responsive and earlier services for all young people who have experienced maltreatment. This includes both those at risk of suicide and those whose vulnerability is scarcely or not
at all recognised. The developmental impact of maltreatment should be taken into account not just by social care and specialist mental health services but by universal services - especially schools and health. A wider range of community level support systems and early help for maltreatment should be available and take account of how young people use help.

Symposium 8
The Way Ahead for Care Proceedings: Learning from the Family Drug and Alcohol Court.
Convenor: Judith Harwin, 
Discussant: Sophie Kershaw
Venue: PFC OG/007

S8.1

Drug and Alcohol Misusing Families: Getting Them Back on Track
Nick Crichton
Inner London Family Proceedings Court, London, UK

Objectives
The aim of the presentation is to consider the potential of the London pilot Family Drug and Alcohol Court (FDAC) in London to improving child and parent outcomes in care proceedings and to consider opportunities and challenges to its further development in different regions and countries.

This presentation will be shared with the FDAC Specialist Team.

Method
The Family Drug and Alcohol Court in Central London is a new approach to care proceedings in cases where parental substance misuse is a key element in the local authority decision to bring proceedings. It is the only problem-solving court of its kind in the United Kingdom.

Results
District Judge Nicholas Crichton will describe the Family Drug and Alcohol Court, its rationale and will explain the main features of problem-solving courts and their therapeutic role, outlining how they differ from ordinary courts.

Conclusions
All speakers will contribute to the discussion of the possibilities for a wider application of FDAC to different contexts and raise points for discussion.
S8.2

FDAC: New Interventions, New Timescales, New Applications
Mike Shaw¹, Sophie Kershaw¹
¹Tavistock Clinic, London, UK, ²Coram, London, UK

Objectives
To introduce the audience to four interventions pioneered at FDAC. To report on a pre-birth pilot and consider how the FDAC approach can be applied to frontline social work.

The FDAC intervention team help parents, social services and treatment agencies to agree an intervention plan that will be a ‘fair and deliverable test’ of whether the family can overcome their problems in an appropriate timeframe. The court then gives the plan authority and holds parties to their commitments.

Method
The child’s development sets the timeframe for the intervention. For example many to the FDAC cases so far have been newborns. The period when babies form an attachment to their carers is between 6 and 18 months. In order to give a child the best chance of forming a secure attachment we aim to have them permanently placed by 12 months. In practice this means making the decision about whether the child goes home when they are 9 months old.

Results
The ‘Munro Review of Child Protection’ (2011), urged social workers to think more critically and act more creatively. The speakers will highlight four novel interventions commonly used by FDAC: Parent Mentors, Social Behavioural Network Therapy, Video Interactive Guidance and Mentalization. They will describe efforts to extend the available time with a pilot of pre-birth interventions. Finally the speakers will explore wider applications of FDAC approach in frontline social work.

Conclusions
The conclusions will be linked to the presentation by District Judge Crichton and Professor Judith Harwin: “Drug and Alcohol Misusing Families: Getting them back on track”.

S8.3

New Approaches to Care Proceedings: Lessons from the Family Drug and Alcohol Court Evaluation (FDAC) Project
Judith Harwin¹, Mary Ryan²
¹Brunel University, London, UK, ²RTB Associates, London, UK

Objectives
This presentation will discuss the key findings from the evaluation of the Family Drug and Alcohol Court Evaluation Project. The study was funded by the Nuffield Foundation and Home Office.

Method
The presentation will discuss the reasons for the FDAC Evaluation Project, provide a brief overview of the methodology and outline key findings from the first stage evaluation. The characteristics of the families will be discussed, the outcomes for children and parents, views of parents and professionals, costs, the challenges and recommendations. The goals of the newly commissioned second stage evaluation will be outlined and reviewed in the light of wider policies to tackle parental substance misuse and improve child and parent well-being.

Results
Reasons for the results will be discussed and the study findings will be compared with evidence from the American national evaluation of similar courts.

Conclusions
The findings of the evaluation will help inform the discussion on future opportunities to develop an FDAC model, or a variant of it, in different contexts.
Symposium 9
‘From First to Last’: Meeting the Challenges in Conducting Child Death Reviews and Achieving the Most Useful Outcomes

**Convenor: Helen Buckley**

**Venue:** PFC 2/026

### S9.1

**Family Involvement in Child Death Reviews**

Kate Morris¹, Marian Brandon², Paul Tudor³

¹University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK, ²University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK, ³Independent, Safeguarding Advisor, UK

**Objectives**

The Serious Case Review guidance places an expectation on the review process to involve families, but provides very little detail about how practice should develop in this area. This study, funded by BASPCAN, explored the experiences of families and professionals when involving families in reviews of cases where a child has died as a result of injury or neglect.

**Method**

The research reviewed existing published guidance across the UK and interviewed families, safeguarding professionals, and report authors. Focus groups and consultation events were held to reflect on the emerging messages from the fieldwork and a report and guidance for practice were produced. The findings are situated in the broader messages coming from the bi-annual reviews of review reports.

**Results**

Good practice guidance is to be published by BASPCAN as part of the research report. Clear messages emerged for professionals, but also important insights about the experiences of families and their understandings of events surrounding the death or serious injury of the child.

**Conclusions**

Assumptions cannot be made about the principles of participation or the processes of participation in this complex and difficult area, and careful guidance and practice is required for participation to be supported and appropriate.

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### S9.2

**Finalising the Review Report**

Helen Buckley  

Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

**Objectives**

The process of conducting Child Death Reviews may be divided into a number of phases, one of the more time consuming and challenging of which is finalisation of the report. This paper will examine that process and highlight the different issues that emerge.

**Method**

The National Review Panel in the Republic of Ireland was established in 2010 and its development was informed by international literature and the experiences of other jurisdictions. The presentation will reflect on one year’s experience of this newly established process. It will consider the principal issues that have arisen in the finalisation of the reports that were produced. These include the official remit of the group, the criteria for review, the acquisition of records, the cooperation of staff and families, the achievement of consistency and the length of written reports.

**Results**

One of the main objectives of the Irish child death review process is to produce reports that are consistent enough to allow for overview, and sufficiently constructive to promote learning. However, the default position of reviews in many jurisdictions to date has been one which is predictably critical of practice at the frontline, particularly in relation to compliance with regulations. The achievement of a balance between criticism and constructive comment can be challenging for authors who must take a systemic perspective, ground their conclusions in the broad spectrum of available evidence and incorporate the views of all stakeholders.

**Conclusions**

A limited remit can render a review vulnerable to limited conclusions. Caution needs to be exercised in relation to external and internal pressures, including legal constraints, so that final review reports will be balanced and useful.
Child Death Review: Moving from Reviews to Action

Theresa Covington
1National Center for Review and Prevention of Child Deaths, Washington DC, USA, 2Michigan Public Health Institute, Okemos MI, USA

Objectives

Describe efforts in the United States to improve the skills of fatality review teams in translating review findings into systems improvements and prevention strategies.

Acquire skills in systematically using the findings from case review to develop actionable recommendations for evidence based prevention strategies and child welfare systems improvements.

Method

An assessment was conducted of 21 fatality review team reports and over 1,000 recommendations from state and local review teams in the US. The results were used to develop materials, training and technical assistance to CDR teams throughout the United States. Additionally through intensive case reviews in the states of Michigan and Nevada, a template was developed to better review and classify findings related to child welfare systems problems in child abuse deaths.

Results

Child fatality review teams have become adept at conducting case reviews, but are only now focusing intensively on translating their reviews into action. This session will provide the framework, tools and training used in the United States to strategically identify evidence based outcomes. Data from the National CDR Case Reporting System has found that in the 37 states reporting, CDR reviews led to prevention and system improvements in 38% of all deaths reviewed; and findings from one state have documented a significant reduction in fatalities associated with systems problems corrected as a result of reviews. Examples of outcomes will be presented.

Conclusions

When provided with appropriate training and tools, child death review teams can be effective in developing evidence based recommendations and the translation of these into actions that can prevent other deaths and improve child welfare systems.

Non-Accidental Child Deaths: Who has the Right to Know?

John Devaney1, 5, Colin Reid2, Kathryn Torney4, Hilton Dawson3, David Hayes1, 5
1BASPCAN Northern Ireland, Belfast, UK, 2NSPCC Northern Ireland, Belfast, UK, 3Northern Ireland Association of Social Workers, Belfast, UK, 4The Detail Investigative News, Belfast, UK, 5Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives

The death of any child for whatever reason is a personal tragedy for the family and a loss to the wider community. Where that death results from abuse or neglect, the sense of both grief mixed with outrage is more palpable. And yet while deaths from abuse and neglect are rare events, and represent only a small proportion of the number of children each year who suffer abuse or experience neglect, there can be intense media interest. This has been heightened by the decision in England to publish serious case reviews.

Method

The media play a vital role in reporting on child abuse and neglect, and the operation of the child protection system. Media coverage helps to raise awareness of the issue for victims and parents, and has an important role in prevention, highlighting new and emerging issues. Media coverage can also shape and influence government policy in response to these situations.

For the Journalist however, reporting of child abuse and in particular the reporting of serious case reviews and inquiries can present a challenge. There can also be unintended consequences for family members and professionals who may feel publicly vilified.
Results
This presentation will present key principles that should inform the reporting of non-accidental child deaths and the outcomes of reviews and inquiries in such cases.

The key principles and associated guidance on the media reporting of non-accidental child deaths was developed by BASPCAN (Northern Ireland), the Northern Ireland Association of Social Workers, the NSPCC (Northern Ireland) and representatives of media organisations.

Conclusions
It is hoped that the guidance can support the media to promote an informed and informative public debate about children’s issues and the challenges for professionals.

Free Paper Session 25
Chair: Julie Taylor
Venue: PFC 2/017

F25.1

Tackling Domestic Abuse - Prospects for Change
Kerry Malone, Dave Rogers
Probation Board Northern Ireland (PBNI), Belfast, UK

Objectives
To discuss the background and theory of the Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP), and its position in the context of Criminal Justice in Northern Ireland.

To examine the experience of participants, their partners and ex-partners, facilitators and external agencies involved in IDAP.

To discuss how lessons learned from working with offenders on this programme can be extended to protecting children from the effects of domestic abuse, particularly with respect to the multiagency approach

Method
An evaluation of IDAP was carried out using data from the first twelve months of the pilot in Northern Ireland (January 2010 to January 2011). The views of PBNI staff, offenders, partners and ex-partners, and Women’s Aid co-workers were gathered using questionnaires and a review of all documentation generated in the first year. Thematic analysis was then used to discern the salient issues.

Results
Key findings were:

- All facilitators feel that the majority of sessions they have delivered are useful
- All facilitators and area managers were satisfied with the content of the programme
- Ninety-five percent of offenders (35) are satisfied (very or quite satisfied) with the content of the programme.

Conclusions
Objective measures of programme success, such as improvements in psychometric scores and reduction in reoffending rates are in their infancy. However the subjective information gathered from this pilot evaluation is promising.
and suggests that facilitators and participants believe the programme can contribute to changing offending behaviour.

The multiagency model of intervention ensures victims of domestic abuse are central in all aspects of the work which contributes to increasing the safety of women and children.

With new insights from research, increasing the strengths and addressing deficiencies identified by evaluation we can steadily improve the prospects of eliminating future domestic abuse.

F25.2
Understanding How Treatment Readiness Within Domestic Violence Offenders is Mediated by Internal Psychological Characteristics and External Environmental Factors
Maurice Mahon
Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
To outline how practitioners can help domestic violence offenders increase their readiness for domestic violence treatment programmes (DVTP) by understanding how internal psychological and external factors impact upon treatment readiness.

Method
This presentation is based on a literature review being undertaken as part of a PhD Research Fellowship funded by the Public Health Agency (N.I.) through its Research & Development Office. The presentation considers the problem of attrition from DVTP, the association of attrition with the concept of ‘treatment readiness’ and the main factors identified as having a mediating influence on levels of treatment readiness.

Results
The treatment of domestically violent men through DVTP is part of the integrated strategy designed to tackle domestic violence. However, findings from DVTP consistently record significant attrition, representing an inefficient use of resources but more importantly causing increased risk of assault for the victims of domestic violence.

Research has established that treatment readiness is closely associated with the probability of DVTP completion. Domestic violence offenders share a range of psychological characteristics that mediate levels of treatment readiness, alongside mediating environmental factors. These psychological characteristics and environmental factors are amenable to change through interventions designed to increase treatment readiness amongst difficult to engage populations.

Conclusions
Given the significant prevalence of domestic violence within Northern Ireland, the limited resources available to facilitate DVTP and the problem of attrition; it is essential front-line practitioners are equipped with the requisite knowledge of interventions that have utility in increasing treatment readiness amongst domestic violence offenders, in preparation for DVTP.

F25.3
Parenting and Domestic Abuse: The Paradox of Post-Separation Mothering
Stephanie Holt
Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Objectives
In the context of families where domestic abuse has been perpetrated by the father against the mother, this paper explores the experience of mothering and being mothered in the post-separation period, from the perspective of mothers and children.

Method
Both quantitative and qualitative research methods were employed in this doctoral research involving the completion of 219 questionnaires by mothers in phase one, followed in phase two by qualitative individual and group interviews with mothers, children and young people, fathers and a range of professionals regarding the child’s experience of post-separation contact with their father in the context of a prior history of domestic abuse. Data relating to this paper represents a subset of the total data collected.
Results
The findings of this research highlight the role child contact plays in providing a vehicle for the ongoing abuse of women, creating the ties that bind them to the previously abusive intimate relationship they had sought to end. This research found that maternal support for the father-child relationship paradoxically placed participating mothers at risk of further abuse, compromising their own recovery and their capacity to help their children overcome the trauma of exposure to domestic abuse.

Conclusions
This paper concludes by highlighting the complexity of post-separation contact in the context of domestic abuse, with a particular emphasis on the impact of ongoing abuse in the post-separation period on mothering capacity and the resulting mother-child relationship.

F25.4
Children with Intellectual (Learning) Disabilities Involved in Domestic Violence: Developing a Picture-Based Clinical Resource
Isabel Clare1, Lydia Luke1, Jason Upton2
1University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK, 2Respond, London, UK

Objectives
Some children, such as those with intellectual (learning) disabilities, may have great difficulty in talking about their experiences and may benefit from support through pictorial methods. Focussing on the important area of domestic violence (DV), we aimed to develop a research-based flexible picture-based resource that could be used to a) facilitate clinical assessments and interventions, and b) evaluate the effectiveness of those interventions.

Method
There were four stages:

1. Twenty scenarios relating to children involved in DV were generated and sent for comment to relevant practitioners.

2. A focus group of children identified the style of line-drawing that would be most easily recognisable and acceptable.

3. Based on the findings of Stages 1 and 2, twelve draft line-drawings were prepared, piloted with relevant focus groups, and amended.

4. The utility and acceptability of the drawings was explored in a clinical setting.

Results
Stages 1 and 2 have been completed.

1. Thirteen practitioners with relevant experience evaluated the twenty scenarios involving children and DV. There was considerable agreement about the scenarios that were most frequently encountered, were of most relevance, and would be most helpfully supported by pictures.

2. Of the three styles of line-drawing shown to the focus group (three children with special educational needs), the most detailed and exaggerated one was both most easily recognised and strongly preferred.

Stage 3 of the project is now in progress.

Conclusions
There have been challenges in gaining: a) ethical approval; b) responses from practitioners to our survey; c) participation from schools; and d) parental responses relating to their children’s participation in a focus group. However, we have been very encouraged by the responses of both the children and the practitioners who have taken part. We remain confident that a picture-based resource will make a useful contribution to practitioners’ therapeutic work.

Free Paper Session 26
Chair: Danielle Turney
Venue: PFC 2/011

F26.1
Can We Identify the Emotionally Neglected / Abused Pre-School Child? A Systematic Review
Aideen Naughton1,2, Sabine Maguire2, Mala Mann2, Rebecca Lumb2, Vanessa Tempest2, Alison Kemp2
1Public Health Wales, Abergavenny, UK, 2Welsh Child Protection Systematic Review Group Cardiff University, Cardiff, UK
Objectives

Early neglect has significant consequences on a child’s emotional, psychological and social development. Professionals lack confidence in identifying the thresholds for action and our systematic review aims to define the evidence base for this.

Method

We searched 18 databases and four websites between 1950-2011, using 160 key words & phrases, supplemented by hand searches. Of 8271 abstracts, 660 full texts were scanned, and 163 articles reviewed by two independent reviewers (from a panel of paediatricians, paediatric psychologists and psychiatrists and social workers), using standardised critical appraisal methods. Included: age < 6 years, observed features in child or child-parent interaction, neglect or emotional abuse confirmed by explicit criteria. Excluded: longterm outcome data, mixed abuse / neglect where neglect could not be separated.

Results

43 studies, 29 case control, 14 cohort. Case control studies matched for socio-economic, educational, ethnic characteristics. Key child features included aggression (11 studies) exhibited as angry, disruptive behaviour, conduct problems, oppositional; Being withdrawn / passive (12 studies) reflected in negative self esteem, anxious / avoidant behaviour, passivity, less emotional knowledge, difficulties in interpreting emotional expressions in others; developmental delay (17 studies), particularly delayed comprehension / expressive language, cognitive function and overall DQ. Children also showed poorer peer interaction compared with controls (5 studies), less social interactions, less likely to relieve distress in other children, tending to play alone.

Conclusions

From early infancy there are clearly identifiable features found in neglected infants and toddlers which can be used to recognise children that need full evaluation, and early family interventions.

F26.2

Child Welfare Professionals Perspectives of Child Neglect

Christine Piper

University of Huddersfield, Huddersfield, UK

Objectives

To explore child welfare professionals’ perspectives and practices in relation to child neglect and to contribute to our understanding about how child welfare professionals construct cases as child neglect in contemporary England.

Method

This doctoral research was designed as a case study of a Local Authority in England, UK, and was carried using three methods of data collection in order to develop an in-depth understanding of perspectives and practices relating to child neglect. The methods used were a consecutive sample of 30 child protection case conferences minutes, semi-structured interviews with 15 child welfare professionals working in specialist safeguarding and child protection roles within their organisations and participant observation in social work offices processing referrals and carrying out initial and core assessments.

Results

The three data sets all demonstrated aspects of the child welfare professionals’ understanding of child neglect and their practice in relation to recognising and responding to child neglect. The data sets revealed child neglect involving children of different ages, for example unborn children, young children and young people (aged 16-18 years) and the different features of neglect which were used to construct these cases. The professional’s role within their organisation influenced their practice priorities and the children they came into contact with, which in turn influenced their responses.

Conclusions

Despite being the commonest child protection category within the study local authority and in England, child neglect is a difficult and complex area of child welfare professional practice. The data showed that professionals
were concerned about the magnitude of child neglect within the local authority and were involved in addressing child neglect at different levels of the ‘continuum of needs and response’.

F26.3

Constructions of Child Neglect Within Social Work Practice and Discourse
Beth Casey
Durham University, Durham, UK

Objectives
Dominant conceptions of neglect encompass the persistent failure to meet basic needs, repeated omissions in parenting and deleterious impact. Nonetheless, it is widely recognised that child neglect is difficult to define and there is a lack of agreement on standards of adequate care and thresholds. My analysis considers how professionals draw on different definitions and discourses of neglect, influencing what they look for and ways of responding. The paper explores professional recommendations, including the need for multidisciplinary training on defining neglect and threshold levels.

Method
The doctoral study was conducted within children and families teams in a local authority, Sure Start centres and a homeless charity. Using multiple methods, it involved interviews with ten local authority social workers, eight Sure Start professionals and seven parents who had received professional interventions arising from concerns about neglect. The research also involved an analysis of ten case files relating to families where neglect was the predominate concern. This paper draws on findings from interview data with professionals.

Results
Formally, professionals reiterated dominant, legal definitions of neglect. Although sole focus on the physically neglected child was viewed as stereotypical, emotional neglect was defined less comprehensively. Crucially, the threshold of neglect remained unclear. Professionals reflected that standards of ‘good enough’ parenting and issues given prominence differed between social workers, professional groups and individual cases. Different values, professional and knowledge bases and experience were cited as explanatory factors for inconsistencies. Reinforcing existing research, physical neglect was considered easier to identify and evidence than emotional neglect, providing professionals with visible, ‘objective’ and medical evidence to meet thresholds.

Conclusions
Lack of clarity and inconsistencies between professionals in determining adequate care has serious implications for identifying and responding to neglect at a multidisciplinary level. This highlights the need for improvements in training and collaboration around definitions of child neglect and threshold levels. Several professionals concluded that thresholds warranting social work intervention were too high, often resulting in reactive rather than preventative work. Reflecting the interest of the state, this contributes to a failure to address deep-seated underlying contributory factors to neglect and the need for more stringent focus on early intervention.

F26.4

Grading the Graded Care Profile
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Objectives
This BASPCAN funded study explored the introduction of the Graded Care Profile (GCP), a tool for assessing child neglect which involves grading care-giving on a bipolar qualitative scale (Srivastava and Polnay, 1997), to a Scottish local authority where around 50% of children on the child protection register are due to neglect. The study sought to ascertain the views and experiences of parents and practitioners in respect of the GCP.

Method
The Principal data from the study consist of:

- 22 questionnaires and eight semi-structured interviews with practitioners who had used the GCP
- Two focus groups with a sample of seven these practitioners
- Semi-structured interviews with parents who had previously had the GCP used with them (4) and with the practitioners who had used the tool with them (4)
- Observations of use of the GCP (3)
- Follow up interviews with parents after observations (2)
- Follow up interviews with practitioners after observations (2)

Results
- Findings confirmed some previously identified benefits of the GCP, particularly clarity around inter-professional thresholds and assessment of neglect
- The use of the GCP with parents could also sometimes engender detailed discussion about 'good enough' parenting
- However the data also raised significant questions about the use of the GCP, particularly the extent to which it can be used in partnership with parents; challenges involving the language and format of the assessment; and its claims to provide an objective assessment of care giving.

Conclusions
The GCP adds to the range of assessment tools available to practitioners, and helpfully breaks down the caring task into more specific areas when working with families where neglect is a concern. The GCP appears to support inter-professional working around neglect and, in some cases, is consistent with good partnership working with parents. There are however also significant challenges in using the GCP - particularly with ‘hard to reach’ birth parents - which need to be better recognised than they currently are.
Results
The evaluation identified a number of themes:

- Training, supervision and support since the assessment of young people who exhibit sexually harmful behaviour is a specialist task that requires training and clinical oversight in order to be done competently.
- The recommended establishment of a research and evaluation project to examine the processes and input, output and outcome measures to assess effectiveness.
- Systems and procedures to be implemented as part of any evaluation framework consistent operational process between Community and custodial settings.
- The need to widen and enhance collaborative working and communication between all agencies to avoid duplication.

Conclusions
Although specialist provision for community assessment and treatment of adolescents have been in place for some time, there has been a recognised gap in community programme provision for those young adults older than 18 but younger than 21 years, the age identified for referral to the Community Sex Offender Group Work Programme.

The Safer Lives model reflects best practice which is both empirically and theoretically supported. The longer term effectiveness of the model is yet to be measured but in keeping with 2009 recommendations an evaluation framework has been established that will capture outcomes and measure effectiveness.

F27.2
Working with Families After Sexual Abuse: Helping their Needs and Needing their Help
Sharon Hall
Newman University College, Birmingham, UK

Objectives
To explore the benefits and challenges of working with families where there has been sexual abuse, within a wider context of working holistically with young people who have sexually harmed, recognising that family members may be seen as part of the problem as well as part of the solution, and that we need to balance the needs of family members with the significant strengths they can contribute.

Method
This paper is based on ESRC sponsored doctoral research which combined a qualitative survey of professionals and a fieldwork placement in a Youth Offending Team in the Midlands, UK conducted in 2009. The mixed methods study included observation and interviews with professionals within and external to the YOT, with volunteers and with young people.

Results
Five views of family influence were identified, representing ways that professionals may see families rather than categories where a family might be pigeon holed. These views were tentatively labelled “Dangerous families”, “Families in need”, “Recognise influences”, “Parents can support work” and “Parents as experts”. Examples included professionals who described practice in all of these areas as well as families who could be considered to span three to five views. Challenges include reunification, resistance, releasing control and available resources.

Conclusions
The involvement of parents and families during assessment and intervention work is crucial, firstly to understand the needs and strengths of the young person, any roots of their behaviour and the wider context of needs and strengths within the family. Some intervention methods rely significantly on the cooperation of family members, and this presents challenges if family members are unwilling or unable to contribute. The research supported the need for a nuanced approach to families where sexual abuse has occurred, and reiterated the importance of preventative work, clear policies and strategies and the need for agencies to work well together.

F27.3
Fending for Themselves in an Uncertain World: Child Prostitution in Kenya
Lusike Mukhongo
Moi University, Rift Valley, Kenya
Objectives
To establish the state of social services in Kenya and its subsequent effect on the rising cases of child prostitution in Kenya.

To investigate the role of family set-up on the sexual choices made by young people in Kenya.

To determine the relationship between poverty, HIV/AIDS, armed conflicts and the increase in child prostitution in Kenya.

Method
Target population was 11-24 years. They were sampled from the beaches, night clubs, and adult shows. The 11-17 group provided data on the relationship between poverty, HIV/AIDS, family values and child prostitution. The 17-24 group gave reflections on their personal experiences with prostitution and what factors prompted them to engage in it at an early age. Simple random and purposive samplings were employed. Structured questionnaires, focus group discussions and interview schedules were used, while exploratory factor analysis (EFA) was used to establish correlations between different intervening variables.

Results
Beyond the beautiful city lights, and into the dark alleys, poorly lit bars, and the notorious night clubs commonly known as “madhouses”, children get drawn into acts of prostitution for various reasons. They include: orphaned by HIV/Aids, internally displaced as a result of armed conflicts, high poverty levels, the search for a better life encouraged by an emerging sex tourism industry, insufficient feeding programs in schools and poorly coordinated, and under staffed children’s welfare department.

Conclusions
Families in informal settlements live in very tiny rooms, thus children spend a lot of time outside the houses, away from the watchful eyes of their parents. Parents and the community are therefore not able to determine what activities children engage in away from home. Poverty is a factor in child prostitution and there is need for more intervention programmes and poverty reduction programmes by the government. The children’s department is also not well equipped to handle issues of child abuse. Thus, there is need for building capacity for such departments and government agencies that deal with child protection issues.

Objectives
To compare policy on young people displaying harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) at local and country level in the UK. This project builds on previous research (Hackett et al., 2005) to provide insight into developments in HSB policy, specifically in light of the revised child protection guidance in the jurisdictions of the UK. A complementary strand compares HSB policy between the jurisdictions of the UK. The project is informed by criminal justice and penal policy nationally and internationally, and theoretical debates on risk, public protection and preventive governance.

Method
Techniques of documentary analysis are the methods used to interrogate policy and policy-related documents. The range of documents include for example:

- Local area documents (Area Child Protection Committees’ Regional policy and procedures, Northern Ireland DHSSPS 2006)

Conclusions
The exploratory findings and conclusions focus on:

- The developments in local and country policy and how these aim to effectively meet the needs of children and young people displaying HSB.
• Aspects of, and the extent to which, there is divergence, convergence, difference and similarity between policy in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
• Critical analysis of the broader context for policy.

Free Paper Session 28
Chair: Judith Masson
Venue: PFC 3/006a

F28.1

Maternal Madness: Accounting for Child Sexual Abuse Allegations in Australia’s Family Law System
Elspeth McInnes
University of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia

Objectives
The research aimed to identify the types of justifications and explanations used by legal officers and experts in the Family Court of Australia to account for children’s disclosures of paternal child sexual abuse when the courts determine that the alleged abuse did not occur. The courts’ decisions about parenting arrangements in such cases are further analysed to identify the courts’ hierarchy of harms to children arising from children’s disclosures of child sex abuse which have been rejected by the court.

Method
Cases for analysis were selected from Family Court Cases involving child sex abuse allegations, published on the Australian Legal Information Institute website http://www.austlii.edu.au in the years 2006-2011. Searches were conducted using the terms ‘unacceptable risk’ and ‘child sexual abuse’ to identify cases. Twenty cases were chosen for detailed analysis from the most cited cases for each of the search terms, where the courts had rejected the allegations. These were then scrutinised to determine the reasons the allegations were rejected, the accepted explanations for the rejected allegations, the consequent parenting arrangements and any identified risks to the child arising from the arrangements.

Results
The allegations of child sexual abuse were raised by mothers on the basis of either children’s disclosures to them, children’s sexualised behaviours, or witnesses. Allegations were rejected on the basis of the father’s denial and family reports to the court. Children’s negative views of the father were seen as maternal coaching. The most common explanations for the allegations were that the mother had a delusional disorder, or that she was enmeshed with the child. Where the court assessed that the mother would not accept its findings, children were commonly ordered into the care of the father with limited or no contact with the mother.

Conclusions
Pseudo-psychology has become the primary means of family law officials to explain the existence of children’s detailed disclosures of child sexual abuse which are rejected by the family court. Despite being the primary court system dealing with allegations of incestuous child sexual abuse against young children, the family court has no structured access to clinical forensic assessments of alleged victims and perpetrators in child sexual abuse cases. Rather the parent making the allegations will face heavy scrutiny of her mental health, parenting and motivation and face loss of care of the child for raising the allegations.

F28.2

Examination of Family Characteristics Where Sexual Abuse has Occurred
Anne Morrison, Jacqueline Lorimer
Child Care Centre, Belfast, UK

Objectives
Research evidence to date highlights that certain characteristics are more likely to exist in families where sexual abuse is present. The objective of this study is to explore if these characteristics are reflected in a local clinical sample. For example, we explore a number of variables including whether alcohol/ drug abuse is more likely to be present, if domestic violence is likely to be a feature and if one or other parent is likely to have experienced sexual abuse themselves.
Method
We reviewed pertinent literature and analysed data from a random sample of 50 families who have attended a specialist sexual abuse centre in Northern Ireland.

Results
Results indicate that our sample reflects the broader knowledge base regarding family characteristics where sexual abuse has occurred.

Conclusions
The importance of the family environment is recognised as a major factor in a child’s recovery from sexual abuse. This local study has important implications for the assessment and treatment of child sexual abuse. To optimise a child’s recovery, clinicians need to take cognisance of the research highlighting family characteristics in order to inform appropriate treatment plans.

F28.3
A Profile of a Random Sample of Children Referred for the Investigation of Child Sexual Abuse
Jenny Gilmour, Anne Morrison
Child Care Centre, Belfast, UK

Objectives
To examine the characteristics of children aged between 3-13 years and their families, referred to a specialist unit for the investigation of child sexual abuse with a view to informing service development.

Method
A random sample of 56 cases was examined retrospectively and data collected in respect of a number of variables e.g. the child’s age at referral, whether disclosure of sexual abuse occurred and at what point in the investigative process disclosure occurred.

Results
The results of this study offer an insight into the demographics of children referred to a specialist service. It also highlights information relating to their engagement in the investigative process and reports on particular characteristics of the perpetrators for the individual children.

Conclusions
The findings of this study give an overview of how children present at a specialist child abuse unit and identify features relating to their family environment and sexual abuse histories.

F28.4
Multiagency Response to Childhood Sexual Abuse: Exploring the Role of a Specialist Referral Centre
Lindsay Voss
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Objectives
To gain insight into the role that a single specialist child sexual abuse referral centre plays in the lives of the people who become associated with it, whether as children and families who access its services or as professionals whose work requires bringing them into contact with it.

Method
Three methods used:

1. Case tracking of children (n=60) who attended the Centre for health, police and social care outcomes.
2. Interviewing professionals (police, health and social care) to gain insight into their perceptions of working with the Centre.
3. Analysis of service user questionnaires.

Results
Case tracking shows that a small minority of children presented as an ‘acute’ case and only 6 underwent forensic examination (n=6). The rate of prosecution of perpetrators was very low. Where specialist nursing input was available, it had an impact on the quality of follow up care.

Results of interviews with professionals will not be available until November 2011.

Analysis of a small sample of service user questionnaires (children and their carers)
suggest that they valued the sensitive approach adopted by professionals in the centre. Further analysis to be completed in Autumn 2011.

Conclusions
A broad ‘child centred’ approach should be adopted to developing the multi-agency response to children who have been sexually abused. The medico-legal aspects of care are important, but as children rarely presented following an acute ‘one-off’ event, agencies in general and health services in particular, should focus on providing a sensitive ‘joined up’ response that meets the complex needs of the children and their (non offending) parents and carers.

The input of specialist nurses in ‘tracking’ the progress of cases, providing follow up care, attending child protection conferences and ensuring effective communication with the child and family appears to be beneficial.

Free Paper 29
Chair: Cathy Humphreys
Venue: PFC 2/018
F29.1

Family Links: Kinship Care and Family Contact Research Project
Meredith Kiraly, Cathy Humphreys
University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Objectives
- To identify patterns and trends in family contact arrangements for children in kinship care.
- To explore the benefits and challenges presented by family contact from the perspectives of the various family members involved in kinship care placements, and kinship care support staff.
- Given the rapid growth of kinship care in Victoria, Australia, to provide information to guide policy and practice in the new kinship care support programmes.

Method
Strand 1: a survey of current approved kinship carers about family contact arrangements and issues, with 430 responses received.

Strand 2: interviews with 21 children and young people in kinship care, 20 mothers and fathers, 7 groups of kinship carers and 4 groups of kinship care support staff.

Results
There was strong affirmation by family members of the importance to children of contact with their family members. However, parental contact, while important to children, presented many complexities and at times was very difficult. Families need considerable support to help with the challenging family dynamics involved. Sibling contact was shown to be extremely important to children, as is contact with extended family members. Kinship carers have huge support needs that are largely unfulfilled.

Conclusions
Kinship care offers greater opportunities than other for ongoing contact with family members, providing security and support into adult life. However, families need far more professional support with challenges presented by contact visiting than currently available. This may be direct assistance such as contact centres or third party supervisors, or indirect support such as counselling and parenting advice for caregivers and parents; family-centred substance abuse programs; mediation between parents and caregivers; and legal assistance. Better support provides the best chance to ensure children’s safety and wellbeing, to help parents with their relationships with children, and to protect carers from undue stress.

F29.2

Baby on Board: Infants in Care and Family Contact Research Project
Cathy Humphreys, Meredith Kiraly
University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Objectives
To identify patterns and trends in parental contact arrangements for infants (12 months and under) in protective care.

To explore the impact of parental contact from the perspectives of foster carers, support workers and case managers, forensic clinical psychologists and legal representatives.
To identify good practice in supporting infants’ attachments and wellbeing.

Method
The research involved a case file audit of all infants in care in Victoria Australia on 1 August 2007, focus groups and interviews, and brief case studies.

Results
Serious concerns were revealed about the welfare of infants involved in high frequency family contact arrangements (4-7 times per week). These included infant distress; poor qualify of environments for visits; and the involvement of multiple strangers in babies’ lives in order to facilitate contact arrangements.

High frequency parental contact was largely driven by legal advocacy on behalf of parents, who were often unable to comply with high frequency contact orders and interact effectively with infants during visits.

Court-ordered high frequency parental contact did not lead to an increased incidence of family reunification over a 12 month period.

Conclusions
A focus on quality rather than quantity of parental contact for infants is needed. In particular, the disruption to an infants’ secure base in their attachment relationships needs to be minimised to ensure safety, security and wellbeing.

The environments and support for contact between parents and infants need substantial improvement to make visits more positive for both infant and parent.

The adversarial paradigm of the Victorian Children’s Court is not conducive to cooperative planning between parties at this critical period in an infant’s life.

F29.3

Social Networking for Proactive Child Protection in Prohibited Contact Situations

Fiona Boyd, Adam Barnard
Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham, UK

Objectives
To explore ‘best practice’ for the use of social media surveillance in the routine protection of children in the UK who are deemed to be at risk’ from family and friends in accordance with the definition of risk within Children Act 1989 (England and Wales).

Method
Open discussion and focus group session with 25 professionals in child care practice in the East Midlands of England to provide testimony on practice issues and social networking. This was followed by further literature and policy reviews relating to the ethical and legal obstacles, both real and mythical which surround the prohibition of such work within local authorities in England and Wales.

Results
Findings of this pilot study relate the issues which may create barriers to this form of protective surveillance that have seldom been tested in law. It is clear that uses of this material are developing in relation to breaches of criminal law (Waddinton 2011). This has also been looked at through the ethical lens of the Human Rights Act 1989 v’s the UN Convention of the rights of the child 1989 which helped to clarify some of the issues around the Data Protection Act (1998) which has been cited within the research as an impenetrable barrier to this endeavour.

Conclusions
The reality of early 21st century child protection cannot ignore electronic media within which the lives of UK children are embedded. The use of material which has been gleaned through practice and personal inspection by social workers within online social networking sites has been used to challenge parents protection of their children within the civil court arena. This study shows the need for a look at matters within the civil law arena and for the set-up of a national protocol on the use of this information if we are to keep children safe within the child protection arena.

F29.4

SET Connects – Therapeutic Support for Looked After Children and their Carers
Lesley Mackie, Kerry Sweeney, Leigh Crawford
South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust, Northern Ireland, UK
Objectives
To develop a therapeutic service to support looked after children and their carers. To build capacity and understanding amongst carers of the needs of children and young people who have who have experienced abuse, neglect and trauma and may be presenting with attachment and trauma difficulties as a result.

Method
SET Connects was established in August 2009 and started taking referrals in October 2009.

SET Connects’ main models influencing service delivery are attachment, developmental, including neurodevelopment, trauma, competency, resiliency and systemic models.

The recent evaluation of SET Connects aimed to measure the extent to which the service was meeting its original objectives, and to examine and assess the SET Connects service model of capacity building, in particular:
- Consultation and intervention with residential homes
- Consultation and intervention with foster carers/family placements
- Training programmes with foster carers/supervising social workers/field social workers

Results
Field social workers, foster carers and supervising social workers gave very positive feedback on the SET Connects service and how it has helped to improve their understanding of the young person in their care, and also their confidence in supporting them.

The foster carers were very complimentary of the training programmes and how it has increased their knowledge and skills on brain development and attachment issues.

Residential care staff liked the consultation approach and also found the reflective practice very useful.

Interviews with senior managers showed that they felt the service was meeting the needs of looked after children.

Conclusions
The evaluation showed that the SET Connects therapeutic model is well established and highly valued within children’s services.

The recommendations of the evaluation report included:
- Explore the capacity of SET Connects to carry out Psychological assessments/functioning.
- Improve marketing of service
- Further training for all staff in DDP, also e.g. theraplay, sensory integration therapies.
- Improve interfaces and information systems with CAMHS.

Free Paper Session 30
Chair: Jonathan Picken
Venue: PFC 3/011

F30.1
A Practice Framework for Tower Hamlets Children’s Social Care: Building on the Munro Review
Tony Stanley
LB Tower Hamlets, London, UK

Objectives
Contemporary practice enhancements must include a move from static risk assessment to meaningful risk management and intervention with families and a move from practice ‘recorded after the fact’, thru pro-forma ICS means, being replaced with conceptual practice frameworks, where social work planning and critical case reflection are encouraged and mutually reinforced. Practice frameworks are one method noted to enhance social work practice and outcomes for children and families; however it is not a straightforward development for child welfare organisations to implement and sustain.

Method
Taking a scaffolding approach to practice analysis, we designed a new practice framework to incorporate and visualise a ‘building block approach’ directing, but not restricting practice, toward the final social work judgment that would be reached. Social workers had been traditionally orientated toward forming an understanding of the nexus of child development, parental capacity and environmental factors, and we wanted to guide workers in a radically different way.
Results

Our new practice framework is discussed; adding to the debate around what is possible to achieve in very busy child welfare organisations, as we continue to strive toward improving and building a more responsive child welfare services.

Conclusions

This is a fundamental departure from a pro-forma recording system (ICS), so influential over the past decade (Allen & Stanley, 2011); new ways of working - like the group consultation method (Field, 2008) - do operate comfortably within the practice framework, and we have found that practice is now more than just an assessment idea.

F30.2

Protecting Extremely Vulnerable Palestinian Children: The Experience of Child Protection Social Workers in Southern Lebanon

Patrick O’Leary¹, ², Aisha Hutchinson¹
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Objectives

To identify the professional development of social workers working with Palestinian refugee children. Palestinian refugees are a very disadvantaged group experiencing high levels of poverty, armed conflict, and social disadvantage. Children are particularly vulnerable in refugee camps and gatherings and there are few reliable services and statutory measures to protect even extreme cases of abuse and neglect. This is an important goal in order to maintain a child focus in a very challenging and insecure political and military environment.

Method

This was a qualitative study. Eleven social workers working for a humanitarian aid organisation in Southern Lebanon were interviewed up to five times over a 21 month period. Interviews focussed on key developments in their skills and knowledge. Social Workers were observed interviewing children and families on over 100 visits. Particular emphasis was given to how social workers maintained a child focussed approach. Themes were identified over the research period.

Results

Social workers changed their initial goals for working with child protection. This was marked by a less authoritarian stand on what ‘should’ be done, with a development towards a more participative and collaborative approach to work ‘with’ children and families. Political conflict and poor community awareness of child protection risks presented dilemmas in how they should best prioritise, causing stress when there were many demanding issues. Social workers spoke about their hopes to make a difference to children’s lives. The negative personal impact of working with very severe cases of child abuse was raised by social workers.

Conclusions

Child protection work with extremely marginalised groups brings many professional challenges. The political context of working refugees can add to these complexities especially when the social worker is Palestinian. The quality of the relationship with children and families is an important factor for social workers gaining a richer understanding of how best to engage and intervene. An ability to seek assistance from colleagues and celebrate success is important for organisations to encourage. Having visibility and connection with community offers an important protective factor for the both the social workers own safety as well as ensuring positive change is sustainable.

F30.3

An Audit of the Effectiveness of an Advice and Resolution Service in a Health and Social Care Trust in NI

Mary McColgan, Anne Campbell
University of Ulster, Derry, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives

The Audit examined the reasons for referral to the Advice and Resolution Service as implemented by an initial assessment team in a Northern Ireland Trust, the direction to subsequent services and the typology of services provided. It also considered the views of a Family Intervention Team as regards the assessments carried out by the Initial Assessment Team. It also examined factors which influence decision making in the ‘grey areas’ of child protection.
Method
The audit utilised a mixed, sequential methodology, including a quantitative examination of 308 telephone contacts to an Advice and Resolution service and a qualitative study of the perceptions of social workers and managers. The recorded call sample was chosen from the total number of phone calls to the Initial Assessment team over a six-month period. In addition, three focus groups were convened with social workers and sixteen semi-structured interviews were undertaken with social workers, relevant managers and independent chairs. Quantitative data were inputted to SPSS and qualitative data was analysed via a manual thematic technique (Burnard 1991).

Results
Findings indicated that assessments undertaken by the Initial Assessment team were thorough and comprehensive. The detailed information provided in the assessment reports assisted social workers in their decision making as regards child protection or case planning protocols. It was also underlined that, in the interface between child protection and family support, it is clear that child protection work takes precedence, often at the expense of prevention work. Moreover, there was a general consensus that the formal processes of meetings and supervision is crucial to enhancing agreement as regards how to proceed with a case.

Conclusions
The complexity of the referral pathway from initial assessment to family intervention services is clearly illustrated in the audit. Social workers in family intervention teams often rely on the accuracy of information in the initial assessment and this is key to decision making as regards intervention. Ultimately, management have responsibility for the practice of staff, by challenging the thinking behind opinions and assessment decisions, and encouraging an ethos of reflective practice, although it is recognised that the latter is often difficult to achieve in a busy working environment.

F30.4
A Pilot Study of the Strengthening Families Model of Child Protection Conferences to Examine Interagency Working, Family Partnership and Outcomes for Children at Risk

Lindsey Coombes, Jane Appleton, Emmanouela Terlektsi
Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK

Objectives
1. To examine the impact and feasibility of implementing the Strengthening Families approach to Child Protection Conference model across one County Council
2. To consider parental engagement in and views about the child protection conference process
3. To identify key indicators/measures around child outcomes which could be used as a marker and evaluated in a larger study.

Method
A mixed methods design was adopted. The study was conducted in one local authority. Data collection consisted of: (1) semi-structured interviews with 30 professionals and 8 parents (2) non-participant observation with a purposive sample of 4 SF and 6 traditional child protection conferences (3) sociograms of CPCs (4) anonymised documentary evidence relating to the resulting child protection plans. Interviews and observation data were transcribed and analysed using a thematic approach to identify important themes and trends using NVivo8 computer software. Quantitative data from the anonymous questionnaires were analysed using SPSS (Version 17) and examined using a range of non-parametric statistics.

Results
• All participants in CPCs felt under time pressure
• Children and young people over the age of 12 were invited to CPCs but very few attended
• A minority of professionals reported having received training for CPCs
• Even when parents were prepared for the initial CPC they were still anxious, stressed, felt disempowered and some were afraid that their child(ren) might be “taken away”
• Sociograms indicated that there was limited interaction between professionals in both traditional and SF CPCs
• Some outcomes in plans were clearly expressed, some outcomes were not well written and lacked clarity.
Conclusions
The study indicated that generally CPCs were working well in localities. However,(1) the training for professionals regarding CPCs should be improved (2) organisation of CPCs should be improved (3) preparation for CPCs (professionals and parents) should be improved (4) ways of involving young people in CPCs should be explored.

Free Paper Session 31
Chair: Daphne Rose
Venue: PFC 3/006b

F31.1
Shaken Baby Prevention Education - An Ongoing Project - From Inspiration to Action
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Objectives
1. To share the story of a project that has moved from a local area to various corners of the world.
2. To illustrate the challenges that such a project has brought and the benefits for communities, families and clinicians.
3. To describe the ongoing evaluation and research aspects and how these have helped the project continue to have direction.
4. To describe the impact of clinical issues that have also informed and directed the project.

Method
This will be a narrative presentation of the data that has arisen from the various research activities, evaluation and development processes that have informed the project. The stories of the project’s challenges and expansion into other countries will also be told by clinicians from two different countries. The project seeks to inform parents and carers about both the dangers of shaking a baby and how to respond safely to a crying baby.

F31.2
‘Keeping the Baby in Mind’: The Role of Maternal Reflective Functioning in the Prevention of Abuse and Neglect
Chris Cuthbert, Gwynne Rayns
NSPCC, London, UK

Objectives
To introduce the theoretical construct of ‘reflective functioning’ and review empirical evidence on its association with attachment quality, abuse and neglect.

To provide case examples of how insights from this approach are being put into practice on the ground; and what early evaluation results are beginning to tell us about the potential of these approaches.

Method
This paper draws on a review of the literature on ‘mentalisation’ and ‘reflective functioning’ as they relate specifically to attachment and maltreatment during infancy. We also provide case examples of practice – in particular of the ‘Minding the Baby’ programme, originally developed at Yale University in the US and now being replicated by the NSPCC as part of an efficacy trial in England, Scotland and Wales.
Results
Parental ‘reflective functioning’ refers to the capacity to envision mental states (thoughts, feelings, needs and desires) in oneself and others; that is to ‘keep the baby in mind’. These processes have been linked to a range of positive outcomes in both parents and children, including most importantly secure attachment. Evaluation of the Minding the Baby programme at Yale University in the US shows encouraging results. NSPCC’s UK replication of the programme is measuring the efficacy and transportability of this approach to UK settings.

Conclusions
Reflective functioning is a critical construct for researchers and practitioners with an interest in the development of secure attachment and prevention of abuse and neglect. Further investment is required in development and rigorous evaluation of new models of intervention underpinned by insights from this construct.

F31.3
Physical Abuse – Experiences of Combined Treatment for Children and their Parents
Doris Nilsson¹, Cecilia Kjellgren²
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Objectives
Physical abuse of children may be one of the most widespread forms of maltreatment. Despite the number of victims and the potential harm of being physically abused a limited number of specialized treatment programmes are in practice to assist children who have been victims of physical abuse and parents who have abused their children. CPC-CBT (Combined Parent Child CBT for Families at Risk for Child Physical Abuse) presented by the CARES institute (Runyon et al, 2004) was introduced in Sweden five years ago.

Method
Four teams (within child protection and child and adolescent psychiatry services) were trained to do the treatment work and started to use the programme in Sweden. The programme is a 16-session programme where children and parents receive treatment in parallel groups as well as in joint family sessions. About 70 families have received the treatment so far in Sweden. A pilot study was set up in 2010 to evaluate the effects of the treatment. Sixteen families (21 parents and 25 children) were invited to participate in the pilot study with a pre- and post treatment data collection.

Results
The preliminary results show significantly decreased symptoms of depression among parents. Further they report using less violent parenting strategies after treatment. Children initially reported high levels of having experienced trauma and high levels of symptoms of PTSD. After treatment the symptoms of PTSD as well as depression were significantly reduced. Children also reported after treatment that parents were using less violent parenting strategies.

Conclusions
Treatment programs that target physical abuse of children seem to be a neglected area. In Sweden few children have received specialized treatment for their experiences of being physically abused and few abusive parents have been offered effective help. The promising results from the pilot study could indicate that a treatment programme could be implemented that serves victims of abuse and reduce the long-term consequences and possibly prevent parents from using further violence against children. Additional implications will be discussed.

F31.4
The Power of Children’s Voices: Why it is Important to Listen to and Learn from what Children have to Say about Physical Punishment in Childhood
Bernadette Saunders
Monash University, Victoria, Australia

Objectives
The significant insights into physical punishment that can be gained from research that captures children’s experiences and
perspectives have been recognised for a number of years. However, around the world, only a relatively small number of published qualitative studies have sought children’s perspectives on this topic. This paper overviews some findings from research involving children, and highlights some Australian children’s voices from a recently published qualitative study which aimed to shed light on the nature of parental physical punishment, its effects on children and parents, the conditions surrounding its occurrence, and factors that may determine its intergenerational transmission.

**Method**

Recent literature was reviewed to identify common themes in research eliciting the views of children around the world in relation to physical punishment at home, at school, and in public. The research in Victoria, Australia involved 31 children aged between eight and 17-years-old in individual interviews, mainly in their homes, or in focus groups in schools.

**Results**

Children shared their experiences of, and views about, physical punishment. Their experiences and views varied. Some children had been subjected to physical punishment at home and in public, other children had not been physically punished. Themes included feelings of physical and emotional pain, confusion, anger, and a diminished sense of self. Children recognised intergenerational discipline patterns, adults’ motivations and reactions, and children proposed desirable changes.

**Conclusions**

The research draws attention both to children’s subordination and vulnerability in societies that sanction their physical punishment, and to children’s competence to consider issues that affect them and to communicate valuable insights and ideas that can enlighten adults’ perspectives.

Despite ratification in 1990 of the UNCRC (1989), Australian children are rarely consulted on issues such as being hit by parents whom they love and respect. Banning physical punishment of children in Australia does not appear imminent. The importance of consulting children and of including children’s voices in public debate about ‘lawful correction’ or ‘reasonable chastisement’ is clearly apparent.
to emphasise the central importance in protecting children of investigative strategies such as joint investigation, strategy meetings, child protection conferences or a focus on the identification and prosecution of perpetrators.

F32.2

Who is Referred to Court Assessment Services? A Descriptive Study and Commentary on Treatment Needs of 50 Families in Care Proceedings
Gerry Byrne
Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK

Objectives
To provide good quality data on the problems and treatment needs of the parents and children. Our purpose in part is to correct what seems to us the near complete absence of published empirical data on the mental health needs and histories of parents and children leading up to care proceedings.

To raise awareness of the complex treatment needs and patterns of limited access/uptake to appropriate parenting support and psychological services pre-proceedings. The depth and chronicity of people’s needs tends to be underrepresented in published research which often can focus more on a specific problem, such as domestic violence / substance misuse.

Method
11 Court Assessment Services will collate data on five cases, using a schedule devised by the authors to capture important features of this population. Drawing on documentary records, the schedule will be completed by clinicians involved in the assessment. Standard pre-established guidelines will be administered by experienced clinicians to classify and rank parents’ and children’s difficulties.

Data to be collected on the children includes demographic factors, attachment and developmental history, child maltreatment, therapeutic, and social work interventions.

Data on the parents includes demographic factors, child maltreatment, parenting style, mental health and substance misuse histories, criminal records, domestic violence.

Results
This is an ongoing study due to be completed by December 2011. The study should provide more detailed data on the nature of parents’ and children’s difficulties and their treatment needs pre-proceedings than appears currently available. It should also offer possible areas for commissioning to consider when thinking about the treatment and therapeutic needs of this high need group of families.

Conclusions
We are interested in revisiting the usefulness of the concepts of ‘resistant parents’ and ‘untreatable families’, given the usually entrenched and recurring nature of parents’ difficulties.

Data will be analysed to identify themes and patterns in terms of the nature of parents’ and children’s problems and their response to help pre-proceedings.

F32.3

Responding to Vulnerable Children: Developing Policy About the Care and Protection of Children
Rosemary Sheehan
Monash University, Victoria, Australia

Objectives
Child protection arrangements in Australia are closely aligned with judicial processes and segregated from broad child welfare, family support or health and mental health promotion systems. Legislation provides clear structures and procedures for responding to child abuse, focussed on immediate events and less on the long term personal, societal, health and behavioural outcomes for children. How effective is the Children’s Court is underpinned by notions of social responsibility, regulation and minimum burden as well as a strong individualist and individual rights basis to welfare policy that is evident in Australia.

Method
This presentation reports on the Victorian segment of a recently completed study which provided a national assessment of the institution of the Children’s Court across each of Australia’s eight states and territories. Judicial officers and key stakeholders were asked about the contemporary status of, and current challenges faced by the child welfare
and criminal courts in their jurisdiction and their degree of support for child welfare and juvenile justice jurisdiction reforms canvassed in Australia and overseas.

Results

However, tension between child protection and legal systems is challenged by how the problem of child maltreatment is framed, and whether or not child abuse is understood as a problem of family conflict that demands sanction, or as a mix of social, economic and psychological difficulties that are responsive to services and public aid.

Conclusions

The presentation outlines some of the reforms that have been introduced to respond to these challenges and how these have been informed by UNCRC and other systems’ principles.

F32.4

Assessing the Response Set of Parents in Child Abuse and Neglect Psychological Evaluations

Linda Jeffrey1, John Frisone2, Sydney Burns3, Michael Frisone4

1Rowan University, Professor Emerita, Glassboro, New Jersey, USA, 2Rowan University, Professor Emeritus, Glassboro, New Jersey, USA, 3Smith College, Northampton, MA, USA, 4Teachers College Columbia University, New York, NY, USA

Objectives

To provide empirical data concerning social desirability and defensive responding by parents in court-ordered psychological evaluations in the context of termination of parental rights cases; and to identify assessment strategies to minimize social desirability and defensive responding by parents in child abuse and neglect cases.

Method

Data are reported from psychological evaluations conducted with over one hundred parents whose children were in the custody of child protective services and who faced litigation concerning the possible termination of their parental rights. Social desirability and defensive responding scale scores are reported from the administration of the Paulhus Deception Scales, the Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory III, and the Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory 3.

Results

While the mean scores of parents assessed reflect high levels of social desirability, e.g. 60.74 T on the PDS Impression Management (IM) and 66.41 T on the PDS Self Deceptive Enhancement (SDE) Subscales, the range of response among parents is wide, e.g. 44 and 49, respectively on the IM and SDE. Some parents in these court-ordered evaluations displayed below average social desirability and defensive responding scores, contradicting “common-sense” beliefs that all parents will deny personal problems or difficulties when undergoing such high stakes assessment.

Conclusions

Detection of social desirability and defensive responding by parents undergoing court-ordered psychological evaluations in termination of parental rights cases is essential to the accurate and fair interpretation of the parents’ psychological test findings. Psychological evaluation findings may play a significant role in judicial decision-making in termination of parental rights cases. As a group parents in this context are likely to show elevated social desirability and defensive responding. However, the range of response is large. The court-based nature of the evaluations may also motivate candid self-disclosure.

Workshop 26

Venue: PFC 2/013

Whole Family Treatment Services – Interagency Dilemmas and Solutions in Research and Practice

Michael Murphy1, Vicky Maloney2, Tony Long1

1University of Salford, Salford, UK, 2Early Break, Bury, UK

Objectives

To explore the interagency dilemmas in practice and in research concerned with the development of whole family treatment services.

Method

The British government has relied on these services to offer a bridge to the most socially excluded families in our society. These services have been developed to respond concurrently to both parental and child
vulnerability and need. This paper is based on a series of evaluative studies of services in the north of England. These studies employed a mixture of qualitative and quantitative techniques and attempted to measure interagency inputs, outputs and change in family life and interagency systems. This workshop is not primarily concerned with how these services work, but with the interagency dilemmas that they expose.

Results
The session explores the interagency dilemmas to practice and to research that intrude into the development of whole family approaches and goes on to outline potential solutions to those dilemmas, using examples of current practice. What becomes clear during the course of the session is that the interagency dilemmas that beset all child care interventions are exaggerated by the interagency demands of whole family systems. These systems cannot rely on normal interagency solutions, but require innovative and non-traditional approaches to encompass the extra demands of whole family provision.

Conclusions
Whole family services do not provide the ‘answer’ to interagency collaboration; instead they pose complicated interagency challenges to people-working systems that this workshop begins to explore.

Workshop 27
Venue: Lanyon G74

Safeguarding Babies and Very Young Children from Abuse and Neglect: Key Issues in the First Four Years
Rebecca Brown, Harriet Ward
Loughborough University, Loughborough, UK

Objectives
To explore the importance of decisive action to safeguard children in the early years.

To explore why delays occur and their consequences.

To explore issues that might reduce delay and improve decision-making: identifying which parents are most likely to change; identifying key points in the decision-making process.

Method
The workshop will use findings from a prospective longitudinal study of infants suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, all of whom were identified before their first birthdays and have been followed until they are aged four / five.

This was a mixed method study utilising data collected from social work case files, interviews with birth parents, and a wide range of professionals involved. The study devised a formal risk analysis methodology to classify children into four groups - according to risk of harm - at identification and again at ages three and four. In this way, changes to their circumstances could be tracked.

Results
By the time they were three, about a third of the children were safeguarded through separation, a third were safeguarded living with birth parents whose circumstances had changed and a third were not safeguarded, living with birth parents but at continuing risk of suffering harm. 60% of the children were showing significant behavioural and emotional difficulties. The majority of these were children who had suffered extensive abuse and neglect prior to removal or who had remained with parents who had been unable to safeguard them.

Conclusions
Delayed decisions were key issues that impacted on the lives of these children. The workshop will focus on case histories of a number of the children in the sample and explore why delays occurred and what might have been done differently to improve their life chances.

Workshop 28
Venue: PFC 3/007

Using Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP) and Neuro-Strategies to Promote Positive Change with Hard to Engage Young People
Lynne Peyton
Peyton Child Care Consultancy and Training, Northern Ireland, UK
Objectives
To increase participants’ understanding of the reasons for resistant behaviour and why many abused and neglected young people consistently employ self defeating and self harming behaviour to meet their needs.

To train participants in specific NLP tools to interrupt unhelpful patterns of behaviour and create opportunities for young people to develop more positive and empowering behaviours.

Method
Through this interactive workshop participants will learn and practice techniques for engaging young people and building rapport, shifting young people’s physiology, focus and language patterns, as well as how to preframe challenging situations to achieve better outcomes. The presenter is a qualified Social Worker with over 30 years experience in developing, managing and quality assuring services. She is an independent consultant contracted by statutory and voluntary agencies to support good practice. She is a certified master practitioner in NLP and in the use of neuro-strategies to influence human behaviour.

Results
By the end of the session, participants will have had an introduction to human needs psychology and will have learned at least three techniques they can immediately employ in their day to day work with hard to engage young people - and their parents!

Conclusions
These leading edge techniques have helped to empower staff in community and residential settings to achieve positive change in their work with high risk young people. These fun approaches inspire confidence and are applicable in a wide range of circumstances making this an attractive workshop for all disciplines. See www.lynnepeyton.com for feedback.
Parallel Session 6  
12:15 – 13:15

Action for Children Youth Performance  
Venue: Sir William Whitla Hall

ARTiculation Buddies present ‘Operation Deep Freeze’

Free Paper Session 33  
Chair: Anne Lazenbatt  
Venue: PFC OG/007

F33.1  
An Outcome Evaluation of Interventions for Children Living with Partner Violence, Determined by Multiagency Scrutiny of Police Notification in the West Midlands  
Louise Dixon¹, Geoff Debelle², Clare Edwards³, Rachel Jones²  
¹University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK, ²West Midlands Police, West Midlands, UK, ³Birmingham Children’s Hospital Trust, Birmingham, UK, ⁴Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Trust, Birmingham, UK

Objectives  
The multiagency Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment has been in operation in the West Midlands area since January 2010. All incidents of ‘domestic abuse’ where a child resides within that home are reported to West Midlands Police Child Abuse Teams and scrutinised by multiple agencies using a screening tool to promote safeguarding of children and timely and appropriate interventions. This BASPCAN funded research aims to evaluate the validity of the Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment for children living with intimate partner violence. An overview of the multiagency screening tool, description of the project design alongside a report of initial progress to date will be provided.

Method  
Ethical approval is being sought from a variety of multiagency bodies for the two components of the project. Part one consists of retrospective data collection of family details and child outcomes. A stratified random sample of participants from the Police Crime data set in three regions of the West Midlands will be identified. These cases will be followed up for a 12 month period and data extracted from Health, Social Care and Educational Welfare records during this time frame. Part two will consist of focus groups with multi-agency staff to understand their experience of the DARA process and its reliability.

Results  
The complexity and practicalities of designing and accessing data for a large British multiagency study are discussed alongside presentation of preliminary findings.

Conclusions  
Multiagency projects of this nature are complex but feasible. Importantly, they are necessary to understand the effectiveness and reliability of multiagency work designed to promote the safeguarding of children residing with violence in the family home.

F33.2  
Domestic Abuse Recovery: The Evaluation of a New Approach Focused on Strengthening the Mother-Child Relationship  
Emma McManus, Richard Cotmore, Julie Taylor  
NSPCC, London, UK

Objectives  
To identify whether participation in the Domestic Abuse Recovery Together (DART) programme is associated with improvement in specific outcomes. This intervention includes joint sessions with mothers and children following domestic abuse experience. The sessions aim to strengthen their relationship, which is often damaged by the experience of domestic abuse (Mullender et al., 2002). The evaluation will measure a number of outcomes related to the mother/child relationship, their well-being and recovery from the abuse.

Method  
This is a mixed methods design. Quantitative methods include standardised measures, and qualitative methods involve interviews with families and staff involved with DART.

Data is collected before the service starts (Time One), straight after it finishes (Time Two) and six months after programme completion (Time Three).
Data on 130 pairs of mothers and children who have attended DART will be collected over 2-3 years. Time One data, involving the first 18 families is currently available.

**Results**

The preliminary results from the standardised measures data suggest that families involved in DART were experiencing difficulties. The mothers’ mean self-esteem score was below the normal range and most children were rated by their mothers as having emotional and behavioural difficulties.

There were indications of difficulties with the mother-child relationship. The evidence suggested that most mothers did not feel in control of their child’s behaviour. While most mothers were rated by their children to behave more accepting (affectionate) than rejecting (unaffectionate) some were perceived to show a high degree of rejecting behaviours.

**Conclusions**

The results suggest that the families enrolled on the programmes have a variety of needs which DART aims to address.

When further data becomes available the evaluation will identify the extent to which this approach helps to improve outcomes for the families who attend the service. The evaluation will also explore factors which contribute to changes achieved.

F33.3

**Ensuring a Consistent Safeguarding Response to Children Experiencing Domestic Violence Using Barnardos DVRIM (Domestic Violence Risk Identification Matrix)**

Maddie Bell¹, Carol Diffin¹

¹Barnardos and Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK,
²Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

**Objectives**

To determine the threshold and assessment of risk to children from domestic abuse through the application of DVRIM during social work initial assessments.

The evidence base for DVRIM stems from both research into adult risk factors associated with domestic violence as evidenced by the work of the Laura Richards (DASH) and guidance produced by ACPO, and from risk factors from serious case review research. Protective factors in DVRIM are evidenced in child resilience and child abuse research. Further evidence comes from 300 social work cases collected when piloting DVRIM in Northern Ireland and three London Boroughs from 2005 to date.

**Method**

An initial training programme was followed by a review of Initial Assessments in cases within the Belfast Trust Gateway Service implementing DVRIM to assess the level of risk to children and young people from domestic violence followed by a further staff training and mentoring programme and supported by written guidance which includes an innovative safety planning intervention with children 6 yrs +.

**Results**

A review of initial assessments including a multi-disciplinary review of thresholding at point of referral demonstrated that DVRIM supports staff in ensuring a consistent safeguarding response to domestic violence. The reviews also highlighted challenges in a number of areas which required further written guidance:- i.e. timeframes for conducting initial assessment, children’s safety planning interventions, domestic violence occurring at child contact, complexities of domestic violence issues within BME communities and cases involving adult mental health/learning disability, pregnancy/post natal period and the need for staff to implement an initial interview protocol for domestically abusive fathers/father figures.

**Conclusions**

DVRIM does ensure a consistent safeguarding response to children. DVRIM is supportive in social work decision making:

- at point of referral to inform decisions in case allocation
- during the initial assessment
- at completion of initial assessment to support decision to transfer case under a Family Support Plan or Child Protection Plan
- during case supervision.

In 2007 London Safeguarding Children’s Board implemented DVRIM as a multi-agency child-focused risk identification tool facilitating multi-agency information sharing and decision-making about thresholds and level of risk to children from domestic violence.
F34.1


Carole B. King
Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Objectives

This review was undertaken to consider the findings of the Ryan Report (2009) into Institutional abuse of children in Ireland from 1914-2000. Consideration of the findings and emerging themes from documentary evidence and consideration of the commonalities between the institutions revealed three major themes: power, powerlessness and relentless suffering. Implications for current child protection lessons were identified and contemporary issues discussed.

Method

This documentary review of the commission’s documentation of five volumes was undertaken looking at the following issues; structure, function, historical background, context and testimony and emerging themes and commonalities identified and analysed. The review focused on the lived experiences of children from four institutions, two urban and two rural in location, managed by the Christian Brothers and the Sisters of Mercy.

Results

Commonalities were identified between the Industrial and Reformatory Schools and emerging themes were identified and discussed. The three major themes were:

Power
Powerlessness
Relentless suffering

Conclusions

Lessons can be learnt from history and the mistakes of the past can guide good practice for the future.

This review will be of interest to anyone concerned with children’s rights and protection.

F34.2

Safeguarding in the Workplace: What Are the Lessons to be Learned From Those Referred to and/or Barred by the Independent Safeguarding Authority?

Sharon Mackenzie
The Independent Safeguarding Authority, Darlington, UK

Objectives

The Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) was established under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 to make fair, consistent and thorough decisions on people referred for consideration for listing as being barred from working with children or vulnerable adults. Within the last two years the ISA has gathered a body of case information relating to referrals.

This first piece of ISA research aims to provide understanding of the risk of harm posed to children by people who work or volunteer with them and the circumstances, behaviours and settings within which harm occurs.

A further objective is to inform the development of safeguarding policy and good practice in the workplace.

Method

The research will be in two parts:

1. A quantitative analysis to build a subject and behaviour profile of those referred to and barred by the ISA. (ISA Internal Research)

2. A qualitative study of information gathered by the ISA in its case consideration. Including:
   -behaviours prompting referrals;
   -circumstances in which harm or risk of harm occurs; and
   -actions taken by the employer in relation to the behaviours.(ISA Commissioned Research)
Results
The research aims to deliver an in-depth study about harm in the workplace. To include:
- the nature of harm or risk;
- the place(s) harm occurs;
- the manner in which the person(s) or harm is identified; and
- practices within the workplace that allow or prevent harm.

Conclusions
The conclusions from this research, when completed, will better identify the people, settings and circumstances that pose the most significant risks to vulnerable people.

The research will be of interest to employers, professional bodies, local authorities and others concerned with safeguarding, to assist them in the development of policies and practices for the protection of vulnerable groups.

F34.3
Keeping Children Safe through Vetting Schemes - A View from the Antipodes
Nessa Lynch
Faculty of Law, Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand

Objectives
The United Kingdom’s Vetting and Barring Scheme has been a contentious issue in recent times. Disquiet on the level of state intrusion into private and family life has translated into recent reform of the Scheme. There has been little discussion in the literature of the extensive vetting schemes present in some Antipodean jurisdictions. This paper examines how Australia and New Zealand have legislated (or not as the case may be) for vetting in child protection and whether lessons can be learned in how to balance risk assessment with the rights and interests of the person to be vetted.

Method
The author is a lawyer. This study involves analysis of legislation and policy relating to vetting schemes in child protection. The study covers the eight Australian jurisdictions and New Zealand. Case law from administrative tribunals and the courts is also discussed.

Results
Within a reasonably similar cultural paradigm, vastly different approaches to vetting those who would work with children may be observed. Some jurisdictions such as New Zealand and the Australian Capital Territory have no legislative scheme, and the employer is the gatekeeper. Others such as Queensland, have extensive state intervention involving assessment of risk as well as consideration of convictions and cautions.

Conclusions
The balancing of rights and interests in the context of vetting is a complex issue. Vetting is but one limited tool for child protection and it is important that vetting schemes respect fundamental rights such as privacy and non-discrimination.

F35.1
Examining the Impact of Policy and Procedure on Social Work Practice
Kim Holt, Nancy Kelly
University of Bradford, Bradford, UK

Objectives
There appears to be a changing landscape in child welfare practices; with new and complex information systems, taking social workers away from front line practice, at a time when the Public Law Outline, cuts in the legal services budget, and recent events in Haringey, places a greater expectation on front line social workers. “Bring back the orange book” is the response of a number of experienced social workers, to a perceived ‘data-surveillance’ culture, with increasingly less time in face to face work with families who are increasingly hard to reach.

Method
Specifically, the paper considers the intended and unintended outcomes of policy and legislative change, calling into question the tenets of instrumental rationalism that underpin procedural ‘innovation’. Social workers and the designers of policy and legislation occupy different ‘spatialities’.
Results
Centred managerialism, although well intentioned, is almost certainly both too simple and too hierarchical to influence the quality of social work assessments. The frameworks are what governance theorists describe as a ‘minor instrumentality’ – a series of largely remedial procedural steps that falls short in its attempt to re-order the social world. The Public Law Outline combined with increased bureaucracy, place greater demands on local authorities with respect to the assessment, family support and preparation of families.

Conclusions
Given the above, we highlight the complexities of decision-making processes, and how this may further impact on outcomes for families. The researchers have reviewed the relevant legislation, policy guidance and literature in this area, to consider the reasons for disengagement on behalf of social workers and parents, and to consider whether this landscape is changing, and the implications for both social workers and families.

F35.2
How Professionals Experience Complexity and Joint Working in Child Protection
Rick Hood
Royal Holloway University of London, Egham, UK

Objectives
To explore how professionals experience complexity when working together on complex child protection cases, and examine the collaborative response to some of the features of complex cases, e.g. critical incidents, escalating concerns and unpredictable change. Finally, the study aims to contribute the perspective of frontline practitioners to knowledge about interprofessional practice.

Method
This doctoral research was conducted in an inner London children’s trust, based on the participation of members of professional networks in a sample of three child protection cases. The methodology was based on two methods of data collection and analysis: interpretative phenomenological analysis (IPA) and critical discourse analysis (CDA). Both methods mainly draw on data obtained from interviews with participants (about 25, though fieldwork is still ongoing at time of writing), including social workers, school nurses, psychologists, teachers, and youth workers. Some multi-agency meetings were also observed.

Results
The conference paper will present initial findings from analysis of interviews, focusing on the professional experience of complexity. Similarities and differences across and between cases and professional perspectives will be explored. The paper will also present an original model of complexity for inter-professional working, based on complex systems theory, which was developed as a framework of analysis.

Conclusions
In conclusion, the implications of the research will be set in the context of recent developments in policy and practice in the field of children’s services.

F35.3
Testing the Foundations: An Analysis of Social Work Communication in Real and Simulated Conditions
David Westlake, Donald Forrester, Michelle McCann
University of Bedfordshire, Luton, UK

Objectives
Keeping children safe depends largely upon the quality of relationships social workers are able to build with clients, and the level of trust and cooperation these feature. Communicating effectively is therefore a core skill for social workers. However, the fundamentals of such communication have been neglected in research, with few studies gathering data directly from interviews. Consequently there is little evidence around what constitutes good social work ‘talk’. This study aims to develop a theoretical basis for understanding how workers can communicate with clients effectively based on data gathered from real and simulated interviews between social workers and clients.
Method
This is part of a study currently underway evaluating Motivational Interviewing training in two local authorities in London, UK. Data will be based on audio recordings of direct practice with real clients (n=20-40) and simulated interviews where an actor plays a client (n=c.60-80). These interviews are being analysed by an expert group comprising former service users, professionals and academics, who will draw out the specific elements of effective and ineffective communication. The presentation will focus on qualitative data; analysing, for example, the impact of reflections, empathy, and open questions in the context of the conversation and the reaction of clients.

Results
This study is ongoing, and results will emerge in early 2012. Recordings of simulated and direct practice are being gathered.

Findings will be relevant for all safeguarding professionals, and important in filling the knowledge gap around effective practice. Few studies have analysed the client – professional discussion, and training on communication largely derives from counselling. Counselling skills alone are insufficient due to striking differences between the statutory social work role and that of the counsellor - most notable in high risk cases characterised by client resistance. The presentation will focus particularly on processes of confrontation and how risk is addressed.

Conclusions
The study hopes to provide a useful framework for understanding effective communication in social work. Using lessons from current training, interventions like motivational interviewing and multi-systemic therapy, we plan to offer a tool kit for social workers to draw upon in their work with families. The importance of building this knowledge base cannot be understated. Communication is central to the social work role and strengthening the foundations of the professional – client relationship is likely to enhance our ability to keep children safe. The presentation will consider implications for practice and for the training of professionals working in child protection.
PBD. The symptoms of decreased need for sleep, hypersexuality and ultradian cycling serve to differentiate PBD from ADHD among other comorbid conditions.

F36.2

Trends in the Incidence of Childhood Depression in the United Kingdom, a Study in The Health Improvement Network (THIN)
Linda Wijlaars, Irwin Nazareth, Irene Petersen
UCL, London, UK

Objectives
To determine trends in the incidence of GP-recorded depression in children following the contra-indication of certain selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) as they could increase the risk of suicidal behaviour in children (Committee for Safety of Medicines (CSM) advice, December 2003).

Method
We identified 1,502,753 children under the age of 18 years who were registered with their GP for at least one year in The Health Improvement Network (THIN) UK primary care database. Trends in incidence of depression diagnoses, symptoms and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) prescribing were examined between 1995 and 2010 using the Joinpoint regression. Overall, 45,723 (3%) children had at least one depression-related record and SSRIs were prescribed to 16,925 (1%) children.

Results
Rates of depression diagnoses and SSRI prescribing in children and adolescents increased up to 2002; then both dropped abruptly. This was particular the case for paroxetine. On the other hand, rates for drugs that were not contra-indicated, such as fluoxetine and amitriptyline, increased after 2002. Overall rates for SSRI prescribing to children increased after 2006 to 2.8 per 1,000 person-years in 2009. Recording of symptoms of depression has seen a steady rise from 0.8 in 1995 to 4.0 per 1,000 person-years in 2009, whereas rates of depression diagnoses have been constant at 1.8 per 1,000 person years after 2006.

Conclusions
Rates of depression diagnoses and SSRI prescriptions showed a significant drop around the time of the CSM advice, which was not present in rates of symptom recording. This could indicate caution on the part of GPs in making depression diagnoses and prescribing antidepressants. However, after 2006 rates for all SSRIs, except paroxetine, were increasing again. This suggests GPs deemed the benefits of SSRIs more important than the risks, which is in line with results from observational studies that found no increased risk of suicidal behaviour with SSRIs.

F36.3

Supporting Decision Making for Health Professionals in an Emergency Ambulance Services Setting: Assessing Safeguarding Concerns in Relation to Alcohol Consumption in Children and Young People
Rhiannon Beaumont-Wood, Ian Smith, Marion Griffiths, Christine Hinton
Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust, Wales, UK

Objectives
To provide a resource for practitioners making decisions about when it is appropriate to refer a child or young person who has consumed alcohol to Social Services.

Method
A tool has been developed by the Safeguarding Team within the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust (WAST) using an acronym (COPE) that is easy to remember. The acronym supports practitioners in identifying the factors and thresholds to be considered during the decision making process around referring a child or young person who has consumed alcohol to Social Services.

Results
Early results indicate that the quality of the content and appropriateness of referrals being made by WAST practitioners has been enhanced since the introduction of the tool.
Conclusions

This tool has enabled practitioners to gain a better understanding of the factors which may need to be considered when a child or young person has been consuming alcohol in order to safeguard them from harm. Thresholds for referrals around alcohol consumption have historically varied between individual practitioners. The introduction of the guidance tool has improved the quality and appropriateness of the referrals being made to social services following alcohol consumption by children and young people.

Free Paper Session 37
Chair: Donald MacKenzie
Venue: PFC 2/026
F37.1

Who am I? Supporting Identity for Australians who have Experienced Out-of-Home Care
Margaret Kertesz, Cathy Humphreys
University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia

Objectives

• To develop an understanding of how records can support the long term well-being of children in out-of-home care and of adults who were in care as children, and assist them develop a positive sense of self.
• To use this knowledge to enhance recordkeeping practice, and to raise awareness among out-of-home care organisations of the value of records to young people at the point of leaving care and afterwards.

Method

Who am I? is a multi-disciplinary action research project involving academic researchers, government, community sector organisations and consumers. Over the three years of the project, a number of small-scale multi-method nested studies were conducted.

Results

Findings indicate that, while current out-of-home care records are more comprehensive than those in the mid-twentieth century, it remains difficult for care-leavers to locate and access their records. Focussed on current client needs and accountability requirements, rather than on the future identity needs of those in care, current recordkeeping practice fails to transfer information at points of transition, such as placement change or leaving care.

Conclusions

Records are a resource for identity which can be called upon at any stage in a person’s life. Recording practice should be based on the premise that children in out-of-home care will want to access their records in the future. Placing the child at the centre of recordkeeping practice means involving young people in the creation of their own records so that they are relevant and intelligible. The researchers recommend the development of portable personal records, which accompany young people through all placement changes, so that personal information is always available to them should they wish to see it.

F37.2

The Challenges of Parenting Adopted Adolescents as they Negotiate Changing Birth Family Relationships
Mandi MacDonald
Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives

This paper reports findings from a doctoral study exploring the impact of birth family contact on adopters’ experience of parenting children adopted from care, focusing in particular on the evolution of contact throughout adolescence.

Method

This qualitative study was conducted with 31 adoptive parents, representing 17 families, recruited via the longitudinal Northern Ireland Care Pathways and Outcomes Study, whose children were adopted from care between 2000 and 2006, and were aged 10 - 15 years at the time of the research. Data from semi-structured interviews was analysed using Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis.

Results

New contact emerged in adolescence, commonly initiated via social networking sites e.g. Facebook. Negotiating resultant changes in birth family relationships was
considered more complex than the normative challenges encountered in adolescence. Adopters worried that experience of early adversity rendered their child ill-equipped to cope with this complexity, and that birth parents’ continued difficulty with the issues that led to adoption e.g. alcohol and drug misuse, would negatively influence their child’s lifestyle choices at this transitional stage. Adopters perceived a risk to their parental status and influence, and the investment made in their child’s well-being. However, they provided support with negotiating these relationships, motivated by a commitment to their child’s rights.

Conclusions
The focus of UK adoption policy is on delivering stable, permanent new families to children in care who cannot live with their birth families, many of whom have experienced neglect, abuse or loss. Adoptive parents are crucial to successfully achieving this aim. This study provides insight into what it is like to meet the complex developmental needs of adopted adolescents within the context of the growing practice of post-adoption contact. This will help inform policy and practice in relation to adoption support.

Results
The findings showed that majority of the care leavers at least one adult or an organisation that provided them with support. These support systems mostly provided them with practical support in accessing housing, getting information about jobs and getting financial assistance. Unreliability, inability to provide assistance when needed and lack of trust were the major barriers that prevented care leavers in utilising the possible support systems available to them. The support systems had an impact on care leavers employment, housing and health outcomes.

Conclusions
Many research studies have highlighted that many care leavers have poor outcomes because they do not have the support that they need to make the transition to adulthood. Thus if the child care systems are to adequately prepare young people for adulthood they have to be able to identify the networks that are utilised by care leavers so that they can strength them and also remove the barriers that prevent care leavers from accessing support networks. Hopefully findings from this study would be used to create new support networks for care leavers and strength the ones that already exist.
drew conclusions using the qualitative data analysis software (NVivo version 8). The 10 papers selected were then scrutinized by two independent reviewers (IRs). Two main themes were derived from the analysis; the acquisition of knowledge and skills and referral behaviour.

Results

This review highlighted gaps in the evidence and a need to better understand the retention of knowledge, skills and the effect of training on referral behaviour. The evidence indicated that when confronted with physical abuse there is little difference in knowledge and skill when comparing those recently trained with those who had no training or were trained over a year ago. Those participants recently trained were more likely to recognise and respond to emotional abuse and neglect. Five studies linked training with actual and likelihood to refer; the findings suggest that practitioners are more likely to refer if they were recently trained.

Conclusions

It is not known if knowledge, skill or referral behaviour changes are sustained over time. Therefore examining the decision making process of practitioners when executing safeguarding and child welfare interventions will lead to a better understanding of the impact of training as well as the role played by supervision, support and organisational culture. It is also evident that training should not predominantly focus on physical abuse but on those more complex forms of abuse.

F38.2

Prevention through Education: Developing an Arts-Based Domestic Abuse Education Programme for Pre-Service Primary School Teachers in Ireland

Bronagh E. McKee1, Stephanie Holt2

1Stranmillis University College A College of Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK, 2Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Objectives

To design and deliver an arts-based education programme on domestic abuse context and impact on children with student primary teachers in two teaching institutions in the North and South of Ireland; to assess participants’ knowledge of, and confidence in, domestic abuse recognition, response and prevention; and to use the findings to inform future programme design in initial teacher education and other pre-service professional child care and child welfare programmes.

Method

The study adopted a mixed-method approach including a pre- and post-intervention assessment test (N=151) and vignette (N=293) to measure students knowledge development and anticipated decisions on a hypothetical case scenario, and post-intervention programme evaluations (N=117). The intervention was a 6-hour programme of study and delivered to both groups through the use of arts-based education, including role-play, hot-seating, and a Sociodrama.

Results

Findings indicate that participants knowledge of key domestic abuse themes increases significantly following participation in the programme, arts-based education is seen as a creative, effective and safe way to address sensitive issues with pre-service teachers and that there is a need to develop teacher confidence to deliver preventative education directly in schools.

Conclusions

Increased knowledge of domestic abuse recognition and response is a useful starting point for teachers to intervene early when children are exposed to family violence and abuse. With access to the child population, teachers are in an ideal position to contribute also to prevention but only if they receive appropriate pre-service preparation. It is hoped that findings from this study may be used to inform initial teacher education content as well as raise awareness among professionals about a creative and effective way to explore sensitive issues such as domestic abuse with future education, child care and child welfare professionals.

F38.3

Maritime City: Using Gaming Technology to Deliver Child Protection Training

Jonathon Davies, Janet Webb, Ryan Flynn

University of Greenwich, London, UK

Objectives

To evaluate Maritime City - a “serious game” that allows social workers and other professionals to safely experience child protection scenarios on a computer game which is based on real life cases.
Method
This exploratory survey evaluated the opinions of players (n=11, social work students) following two child protection training days at the University of Greenwich using Maritime City.

Results
Early findings suggest that when compared to role plays, players of Maritime City reported positively about the visual picture setting the child protection scenario. Players also reported of being able to emotionally understand the characters in the game and of being able to complete a number of assessments e.g. risk and child observations in a safe environment.

Conclusions
Maritime City offers players a “safe environment” in which to experience a realistic scenario of working with a family where there are child protection concerns. Players are able to make assessments such as those based on issues of risk and child development. Further work is required to develop Maritime City as a tool to supplement existing teaching methods that are used both in the classroom and in practice settings. It is anticipated that this will help to develop ways of educating and training professionals from a range of levels and backgrounds who work with children, young people and families.

Free Paper Session 39
Chair: Helga Sneddon
Venue: PFC 3/017

F39.1

“I Want my Experiences to Make a Difference” Promoting Participation in Policy-Making and Service Development by Young People who have Experienced Violence – A Conceptual Framework
Jan Horwath1, Dan Hodgkiss2, Efrosini Kalyva3, Spyros Spyrou4
1University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK, 2Walsall Integrated Young People’s Support Services, Walsall, UK, 3City College, Thessaloniki, Greece, 4European University, Nicosia, Cyprus

Objectives
Knowledge about young people’s participation in projects associated with violence has been based mainly on individual project experiences in Western Europe. Therefore, we know little about common promoters and inhibitors to effective participation in such projects. This paper seeks to add to this limited body of knowledge.

Method
A literature review was completed of studies of youth participation. These were interrogated by 74 young people from Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece and the UK who worked with practitioners and academics on this project for two years. Between them the young people had experience of or had witnessed different forms of violence including familial abuse, sexual exploitation, war and conflict, bullying and harassment. Having considered the findings and the implications for participation of vulnerable young people, the young people worked with practitioners and academics to develop a conceptual framework and training materials to promote participatory practice amongst vulnerable young people.

Results
The young people criticised existing models of participation believing that they oversimplified the participatory process and failed to take into account that participation is a dynamic, continually changing process which is influenced by a diverse range of factors such as political context, culture and organisational remit as well as micro factors, such as the approach of the facilitator, young people’s experiences and the combination of young people engaged in a participatory project.

Conclusions
The team developed a new framework that takes into account the influence of both the macro and micro factors identified by the young people as influencing participation. Key to understanding meaningful participation is recognition that engagement is a fluid process and any change at a macro or micro level can have significant impact on the contribution of young people.

The focus of this paper will be the framework and the implications for practice.
F39.2
Developing a Model of Multi Agency Consultation
Zarah Newman
Caerphilly Safeguarding Children Board, South East Wales, UK

Objectives
To develop a model of multi agency consultation to support practitioners in a multi agency setting when they are experiencing difficulties in achieving positive progress in a case.

Method
The Board reviewed the case of a young person where there were multiple risk issues; sexual exploitation, alcohol misuse, neglect and in which practitioners were feeling ‘stuck’ due to the complexity of the case and the non engagement of the young person. The review recommended developing a model of multi agency consultation to support practitioners experiencing difficulties in achieving progress in a case. The model was piloted between February and October 2010. The session involves meeting with the multiagency planning group. Two facilitators with significant experience of multiagency planning use different methods (root cause analysis, common language etc) to aid the practitioners in reflecting on the issues.

Results
Six cases were considered during the pilot. All of the cases involved children on the Child Protection Register and in which practitioners felt that they were doing all they could but were not achieving progress. Of the six cases, four progressed to a consultation session. The other two cases were referred back to Managers as they were seeking access to resources or perceiving the consultation as a pre-PLO meeting. Of the four cases in which a session was conducted, 1 resulted in the children’s names being removed from the register and the other 3 cases progressed to Public Law Outline.

Conclusions
Feedback from practitioners involved was that the sessions were beneficial in aiding them to re-think some of the issues from a different perspective and aided decision making in the case. The model is in the process of being rolled out across the Borough and has support from all agencies involved who agree that this approach is helpful. Some lessons about the organisation and preparation of the sessions were learned, in particular how much preparation time is needed by facilitators and that linking the sessions to existing multi agency meetings made it easier for practitioners to attend.

F39.3
Safety At Home: Voices of Children from a Primary Care Population
Anita Morris, Cathy Humphreys, Kelsey Hegarty
University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Objectives
This is a unique opportunity to hear from a primary care population of mothers and their children about the behaviours, people and contexts that can promote children’s protection and safety at home in the context of family violence. Also, to understand whether mothers and children see a role for health practitioners to respond when there is family violence?

Method
Using qualitative methodologies, this PhD project sought women and children who had experienced family violence, from a primary care population in Victoria, Australia. The women had responded to an initial survey that they felt afraid of their ex-partner. In-depth interviews and focus groups were conducted with women and their children aged 8 to 25 years. Interviews with the younger children involved creative and play-based approaches.

Results
The findings reveal a variety of ways that women and children protect each other from the negative effects of living with family violence. Children can identify supportive adults that they can turn to as well as their own agency in keeping themselves, their mother and other siblings safe.

A long-standing relationship with a trusted general practitioner who is aware of the family violence, is strongly identified by women as a positive support in helping the family manage and recover from the violence.
Conclusions
Researched a primary care population of women and children about how they understand children's safety in the home gives researchers, policy makers and practitioners insight into an otherwise hidden population living with family violence. Such insight is invaluable for safety planning at all levels: individual, family and in broader health and social contexts.

Further, the primary health practitioner response is a vital piece in the puzzle and this research can inform practical new ways of responding when these women and children visit their local health clinics.

Workshop 30
Venue: PFC 3/011

Operation Thistle - Highlighting the Dangers of Sexual Exploitation to Young People: A Short Film Developed by Young People Through a Collaborative Approach by 5 Local Safeguarding Children Boards
Philip Diamond
Blaenau Gwent Social Services, Blaenau Gwent, UK

Objectives
To raise awareness of the dangers of sexual exploitation through a DVD film developed by young people. The film is in relation to a highly sophisticated sexual exploitation case that took place in a South Wales valley town and investigated by Gwent Police (Operation Thistle). The case involved:

- the trafficking of young girls from a number of areas across the UK,
- sophisticated on-line grooming and grooming of parents
- the use of the leisure industry (hotels)
- a photography studio and modelling aspirations of young girls, and
- overall the public’s tolerance to prostitution.

The DVD covers all the factors above.

Method
The findings of Operation Thistle were presented to the LSCB where the abuse occurred and also neighbouring boards. It was decided a collaborative approach across the five LSCB areas was required and that a short DVD film would be useful in raising the awareness of sexual exploitation. Seized monies from the perpetrator of the abuse were used to fund the film.

A group of young people, youth workers and safeguarding professionals involved in the case were brought together. Case notes from ‘Operation Thistle’ were used as the basis for the film. Importantly, the film design has been led by young people.

Results
Young people are best placed to inform professionals on how to raise awareness of safeguarding messages. The DVD designed will be quite unique in that we will be aiming for peer to peer training in local schools where young people deliver a school assembly or class.

The results of the investigation and the key messages in the film are

- It is not just vulnerable girls who were targeted
- Use of the internet
- Peer to peer grooming including grooming of parents!
- Public tolerance/intolerance of prostitution of girls
- Modelling aspirations of young girls
- Human trafficking.

Conclusions
Sexual exploitation can happen anywhere! Not just in the big cities!

The DVD highlights a case which involved the human trafficking of young girls from all areas of the UK to a small town in South Wales. The use of the internet was key in grooming young girls as well as the perpetrator’s relationship with a local photographer.

Workshop 31
Venue: PFC OG/024

Safeguarding Children Across Services: Messages From Recent Research in England on Identifying and Responding to Child Maltreatment
Harriet Ward¹, Carolyn Davies¹
¹Loughborough University, Loughborough, UK,
²Institute of Education, London, UK
Objectives
To bring together the key findings from the 15 studies in the Safeguarding Children Research Initiative, commissioned by the Department for Education and the Department of Health following the Inquiry into the death of Victoria Climbié.

To explore the implications for policy and practice in health care, family justice and adult and children’s social care.

Method
The Overview brought together findings from fifteen studies with a wide range of methodologies including scientific reviews of literature and empirical studies. Key findings have been assessed and agreed by a steering group of professionals engaged in service development and delivery.

Results
Key findings for all professionals include:

Major concerns about processes and practice at the point of referral to children’s social care and at the point of case closure.

Maltreated children tend to do better both in terms of stability and welfare outcomes than those who remain with or are returned to birth parents.

Plans made by courts are often not carried out. Recommendations by expert witnesses often prove unrealistically optimistic.

Inter-agency training can be very effective.

Conclusions
The Overview has numerous recommendations for policy and practice which will be explored in the workshop. These include a discussion of whether many of the messages repeat what has been known for thirty years, and if so why so little has changed; why so little feedback is given to courts; whether the Children Act 1989 has inadvertently moved practice towards safeguarding families rather than individual children.

Workshop 32
Venue: PFC 2/013

Secrets that Should be Told - A Community Educational Project: Sexual Abuse Prevention for Pre-School Children and their Parents
Shoshi Ofir, Nessia Lang-Franco, Dafna Tener
1Padeh Medical Centre, Poria, Israel, 2Dream Doctors Project, Philnor Foundation, Israel, 3Haifa University, Haifa, Israel

Objectives
1. Decreasing sexual abuse among pre-school children by increasing awareness
2. Encouraging a dialogue between children and their parents
3. Developing an understanding of basic rules for caution.

The project is the result of co-operation between Social Work students and the Tene Centre for the Treatment of Sexually Abused where 70% of the abused minors who were examined in 2010 were under the age of 10. Therefore, the project was designed for young children.

Method
18 nursery schools in northern Israel (a total of 540 children), their parents and the educating staff will watch an interactive play presented by 2 actors including a clown medical experienced in working with sexually abused children. The play deals with everyday situations which could pose a threat. Dialogue between the players and the audience will highlight the complexity and ‘grey’ areas of the situations (e.g. where the molester is known and loved). Language is suited to the developmental stage of the children and accompanied by songs known to them. Following the performance parents will fill out an assessment questionnaire.

Results
The play will increase awareness and encourage open dialogue thereby avoiding possible abuse and allowing exposure.
Conclusions

Hopefully, the success of the project will result in the play becoming a standard part of the sexual abuse prevention programme for young children. Presenting the difficult subject creatively allows the audience to absorb the message without stress.

In order to evaluate the success of the project the population group must be followed for a long period.

Workshop 33
Venue: PFC 2/011
Listening to What Children and Young People Have to Say about their Experience of Child Protection
Paula Keenan, Gail Neil
The Participation Network, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives

Using a recent local engagement exercise the workshop will afford participants an opportunity to reflect on their own practice through the lens of children and young people’s voices.

Method

By the end of this workshop participants will:

- Be aware of the work of the Participation Network in supporting public decision makers to engage with children and young people
- Be familiar with the ASK FIRST standards for engaging children and young people in public decision making
- Have heard what some children and young people in Northern Ireland have to say about their experience of Child Protection
- Have considered the impact of these messages in relation to their own practice / area of work.

Results

Using key illustrative quotations from a recent engagement between members of the Regional Child Protection Committee in Northern Ireland and children and young people receiving child protection services, participants will undertake a range of reflective exercises.

Conclusions

This will support participants to draw up a brief personal action plan in relation to how they will integrate the learning into their future work.

Workshop 34
Venue: PFC 2/025

Who is at Risk? How Risk Information Can Help Prevent Harm to Children
Kristen Johnson¹, Carol Coohey¹, Lynette Renner¹
¹Children’s Research Center, Madison, WI, USA, ²University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, USA, ³University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, USA

Objectives

To effectively allocate limited resources, child protective service (CPS) agencies need to consistently and accurately identify families at greatest risk of repeatedly maltreating their children. This workshop begins with a discussion about barriers to consistent and accurate risk assessment in practice, reviews the use of research-based risk approaches to child maltreatment prevention efforts in the U.S., describes a collaborative effort to validate and revalidate a risk assessment tool completed by CPS workers in the state of Iowa, and then discusses with participants how valid risk information can be used to improve practice at the case and agency management levels.

Method

A longitudinal study of 8,828 families who maltreated at least one child involved tracking families for a two-year follow-up period to determine how well an adopted risk tool classified them according to the likelihood they would re-maltreat their children. The tool was comprised of 21 items that assessed families’ prior involvement with CPS and characteristics of the caregivers and their children. We analysed additional family assessment data to independently validate a revised risk assessment tool and compared the performance of the adopted risk assessment tool to the revised, newly validated tool.
Results
The adopted risk assessment tool more accurately classified families on the likelihood of future child maltreatment than random assignment but classified most families as either moderate or high risk (i.e., had a high number of false positives). Classification was improved by revising and reweighting the adopted tool. For example, the adopted tool classified 30.7% of families as high risk, and among these families, 33.0% subsequently maltreated a child. In comparison, the revised risk tool classified 16.9% of families as high risk, 36.5% of whom subsequently maltreated a child.

Conclusions
An actuarial risk assessment approach can help improve workers’ identification of high risk families, which may help reduce the likelihood of future child maltreatment. Valid and reliable risk assessment can help improve practice at the case and agency level. For example, risk information can help agency managers evaluate the effectiveness of services and manage workload.
Plenary Session E
14:15 – 15:45
Venue: Sir William Whitla Hall
Chair: Tony Rodgers, Chair, Regional Child Protection Committee and Assistant Director for Children’s Services, HSC Board

Nicholas Crichton, UK Family Justice Council

Nick Crichton was a solicitor in private practice for 15 years. He has been a District Judge for 25 years and the Resident District Judge at the Inner London Family Proceedings Court since it opened in April 1997. He is a passionate advocate for children’s rights and chairs the Voice of the Child sub-committee of the Family Justice Council. He has been instrumental in setting up the Family Drug and Alcohol Court - a project providing intensive support to families with serious drug and alcohol problems in the hope of enabling them to retain or recover the care of their children. He has worked overseas on various projects in the field of child protection - in Russia, the Ukraine, Georgia, Greece, Ethiopia, Namibia and most notably Bulgaria where he has been working for 15 years including spending 5 years working on a project in which he has visited all 28 family courts and visited many specialist institutions. He is currently engaged on a project which seeks to develop a model family court in Bulgaria, linked into support services for families. He is a frequent speaker at conferences, both in the UK and abroad.


Case Closed: What Next? - Lifecourse Trajectories of Young People with Harmful Sexual Behaviours
Simon Hackett, Durham University

Simon is Professor of Applied Social Sciences at Durham University. His work in relation to sexual abuse and sexual aggression by children and young people is internationally known. His previous research in this area includes a major review of the state of policy, theoretical approaches, service responses and user perspectives in relation to young people who have sexually abused others across the UK and Republic of Ireland. Alongside Helen Masson, he has recently completed an ESRC funded study of desistance, recidivism and life course trajectories which will form the basis of his presentation at the Congress. Simon’s practice base in this area extends back to the early 1990s. He was previously a Programme Director of G-MAP. Simon is the author of two books and a wide variety of other book chapters and journal articles relating to intervention with children and young people with harmful sexual behaviours, including the (2004) Barnardo’s publication What works for children and young people with harmful sexual behaviours? Simon is currently Co-Editor of International Social Work and Vice Chair of the National Organisation for the Treatment of Abusers (NOTA).

Children and young people are responsible for perpetrating a significant proportion of sexual abuse. Recent research has identified some of the factors associated with the development of harmful sexual behaviours in childhood and youth, as well as effective intervention approaches. Several studies have indicated low levels of recidivism over short follow-up periods. However, little is known about the developmental trajectories through adolescence and into adulthood of children with harmful sexual behaviours. Simon will present findings from a study of long-term outcomes for young people with harmful sexual behaviours and their families. The study, conducted with colleagues at Durham and Huddersfield Universities, has followed...
up a group of young people between 10 and 20 years since the initial identification of their sexual behaviour problems. Using in-depth, narrative interviewing with these former service users, their carers, parents and the professionals involved we have sought to understand how young people’s lives are shaped by their harmful sexual behaviours through their childhoods and into adulthood and what factors have contributed to both positive and negative outcomes. Simon will discuss some of the major themes arising from the research, as well as former service users’ views on the degree to which professional interventions have supported them and how the professional system can be improved.
Parallel Session 7
16:15 – 17:45

Symposium 10
Evidence Based Innovations in the Assessment and Prevention/Intervention in Child Maltreatment
Convenor: John Lutzker
Discussant: Deirdre MacIntyre
Venue: PFC OG/007

S10.1
Ignacia Arruabarrena, Joaquin De Paul
Department of Social Psychology, University of the Basque Country, San Sebastian, Spain

Objectives
To develop and to test a new instrument aimed to reduce errors and increase consistency in the assessment of child maltreatment severity for substantiation decision in Spanish Child Protection Services (CPS).

Method
A new instrument to assess child maltreatment severity in Spanish CPS was developed based upon an extensive review of the literature, and extended discussions with an expert group. Research focused on four of the 26 scales of the instrument and used 15 case vignettes. A booklet containing four case vignettes was given to each one of the 746 CPS caseworkers who participated in the study. Caseworkers rated the severity of the vignettes, first applying the criteria they used in their daily work, and then to the instrument.

Results
When caseworkers used their previous criteria to rate case vignettes maltreatment severity, very low and insufficient percentages of accurate ratings and inter-rater agreement were obtained. When the instrument was used, percentages increased significantly and reached adequate levels for half of the vignettes. Insufficient percentages maintained for most of the vignettes of moderate severity and of psychological maltreatment. Findings suggest an association between the degree of training with the instrument and the accuracy of severity assessment. No significant relationships were found between accuracy and caseworkers’ professional discipline, gender, degree of dedication to CPS, and years of experience.

Conclusions
Findings indicate high levels of inconsistency in Spanish CPS caseworkers’ assessment of child maltreatment severity. Results support the hypothesis that availability of specific instruments and intensive professional training can contribute significantly to increasing accuracy and consistency, and improving decision-making processes. Some scales of the instrument should be reviewed and additional studies conducted. Attention should also be provided to other individual and contextual factors that can act as sources of errors and favour the emergence of biases in reasoning and decision-making processes.

S10.2
Reducing Risk of Child Maltreatment: Child and Parent Outcomes Following Participation in the Parenting our Children to Excellence (PACE) Programme
Jean E. Dumas¹, Angela M. Begle¹
¹University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland, ²Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC, USA

Objectives
Parenting our Children to Excellence (PACE) in an 8-week, preventive parenting programme for parents of young children (aged 3-6 years). Cast within the coping-competence model of child development, the programme promotes positive parent-child interactions through structured group discussions around common childrearing issues (praise and encouragement, setting limits, self-esteem etc.). The present research investigated the relation of programme engagement (i.e., attendance and quality of participation in sessions) to child and parent outcomes in an ethnically diverse sample.
Method
The sample consisted of 610 parents, some of whom were at high risk for child maltreatment. Measures were obtained from parents and from intervention staff before, during, and after intervention (i.e., at post and one-year follow-up).

Results
Results showed that engagement in the PACE programme significantly improved overall child and parent outcomes at post-assessment and/or one-year follow-up assessment. Results for the high risk subsample were even stronger, as engagement significantly improved almost all of the child and parent outcomes at post-assessment, which continued to significantly improve in the year following programme completion.

Conclusions
Discussion will focus on these findings and on similar evidence providing support for the efficacy of PACE in improving child and parent outcomes among parents in general, as well as parents considered at risk for child maltreatment.

SafeCare: An Evidence-based Practice to Prevent Child Maltreatment—Overview and Strong Outcomes
John R. Lutzker
Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA, USA

Objectives
To prevent child maltreatment through wide implementation and strong outcomes.

Method
The train-the-trainer model with high fidelity should produce widespread implementation by providing single-case research design data, fidelity data, evidence for the importance of coaching home visitors and clear CPS report outcomes showing significant improvements in survival data compared to comparison and control groups.

Results
Single case data, consumer evaluation data, and quasi-experimental data and RCT data show the effectiveness of the SafeCare model.

Conclusions
SafeCare is an effective home visiting model with strong fidelity, widespread implementation, and robust survival data.

S10.4
Child Neglect and Parental Cognition: Implications for Capacity Building in Child Protection Work with Mothers with Cognitive Challenges
Sandra Azar, Stephon Proctor, David Johnson, Michael Stevenson, Robin Hernandez-Mekonnen
The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA

Objectives
To develop an understanding of the role of cognition in child neglect and implications for staff capacity building in child protection services to accommodate to parental cognitive impairments.

Method
This study, funded by US NICHD, examined the validity of a social information processing (SIP) model of neglect. It compared child protection identified neglectful mothers (n=53) with non-neglectful ones (n=37) on elements of this model of etiology (e.g., rigid schemas regarding children and other adults, problem-solving deficits, attributional biases, and neuropsychological measures of cognitive inflexibility). Further, it examined links between these disturbances and direct measures of neglect (home cleanliness, cognitive stimulation provided to children, supervision and injury attitudes). Oversampling of mothers who were lower in IQ was done to examine whether SIP provides more nuanced parenting risk predictors than IQ alone.
Results

Findings indicated significant group differences between neglectful and non-neglectful low SES mothers of preschoolers on unrealistic expectations regarding children, cognitive flexibility, problem solving capacities, and attributional biases. Neglectful mothers also showed significantly more general disturbances on these same areas as they applied to their expectations and appraisals of other adults in their lives and problem solving in adult-adult situations. The predictive value of SIP factors in relation to that of IQ alone will be discussed.

Conclusions

Support for the SIP model was found. The disturbances found require adaptations in interventions. Findings also suggest the need for more nuanced training of CPS workers in how to work with cognitively impaired parents. The SIP model suggests areas of special concern, as well as creation of systems of supports. A preliminary training effort with new caseworkers and supervisors will be described (identification of cognitive problems; adaptations of strategies). Universal design efforts may be needed. A CBT approach to challenging worker rigid thinking and misappraisals of parental responses. Data will be presented suggesting the label of cognitive challenges results in worker biases in decision making and heightened emotion.

Symposium 11

Engaging with Families on the Edge of Care Proceedings: The Use and Effectiveness of Pre-Proceedings Meetings

Convenor: Judith Masson
Venue: PFC OG/024

S11.1

Social Work Perspectives on Pre-Proceedings Meetings

Judith Masson, Jonathan Dickens, Julie Young, Kay Bader

1University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK
2University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

Objectives

This paper presents findings from recently-completed research into new decision-making processes in England and Wales for children on the edge of care. Since April 2008, a local authority considering care proceedings must send the parents a letter before proceedings, stating its concerns and inviting them to a pre-proceedings meeting (unless doing so would be unsafe for the child). Parents are entitled to legal aid and can attend the meeting with a legal adviser. The stated aim is to avoid care proceedings, or if not possible to clarify the issues so that proceedings which are brought can be completed more quickly.

Method

The paper draws on research currently being undertaken by a multi-disciplinary team from the School of Law at Bristol University, and Social Work at East Anglia. The fieldwork will be completed by the end of 2012, enabling this presentation to offer contemporary and original findings. It is being undertaken in six areas, and involves a file survey, observations of meetings, and interviews with social workers and managers, local authority and private lawyers, and parents.

Results

Since the launch of the new process, there has been a significant and sustained increase in the number of care applications, raising questions about its effectiveness. Our preliminary analysis shows generally positive working relationships between the different professionals involved, trying to help the parents engage with children’s services; but underneath this, different priorities and
perspectives that reflect the ambiguities of the new process. In particular, there is considerable frustration from local authority interviewees about the way that their pre-court work is treated if/when cases do go to court.

Conclusions
This paper will focus on the social work perspectives, highlighting the positive aspects, the reservations and the strategies used to manage the process. A corresponding paper by Julie Young, project researcher, will focus on parental perspectives.

S11.2
Parental Perspectives on Pre-Proceedings Meetings
Judith Masson2, Jonathan Dickens1, Julie Young1, Kay Bader2
1University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK, 2University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

Objectives
This paper presents findings from research into the operation of the 'letter before proceedings' and 'pre-proceedings meetings' in England and Wales. It focuses on the experiences and perspectives of the parents. There is a corresponding paper by Jonathan Dickens that focuses on social work perspectives.

Method
The paper draws on research currently being undertaken by a team from the universities of Bristol and East Anglia. The fieldwork will be completed by the end of 2012, enabling this presentation to offer contemporary and original findings. The study is being undertaken in six local authorities, involving a file survey, observations of meetings, and interviews with social workers and managers, local authority and private lawyers, and parents. By the end of the fieldwork there will be observations of approximately 30 meetings and interviews with the parents.

Results
Our preliminary analysis shows that the families tend to be well-known to the local authority, with the children usually on child protection plans. The parents face many difficulties, including domestic violence, learning disabilities or mental health problems, drug misuse and homelessness. Parents often find the letter a shock, and some find the number of different meetings confusing and overwhelming. Generally they welcome the involvement of their lawyer, seeing them as a support, even though the lawyers are often silent during the meetings.

Conclusions
This paper will draw out messages for social work practice by highlighting aspects of the pre-proceedings process that parents find most constructive, their reservations and the factors that can make the difference.

S11.3
Talking at ‘Cross Purposes’: Parent-Professional Interaction in Pre-Proceedings Work in England
Karen Broadhurst1, Kim Holt2, Paula Doherty1
1Lancaster University, Lancaster, UK, 2Bradford University, Bradford, UK

Objectives
The issue of parental engagement in the context of child protection is of considerable international interest. Studies suggest that where parents are engaged with the decision-making process and co-operate with plans for children, this can impact positively on both service and child outcomes. In this context, this paper sought to examine parent-professional interaction in the pre-proceedings meeting using methods of micro-analysis.

Method
Audio recordings were made of 12 pre-proceedings meetings, having obtained informed consents from parents and professionals. Draft content transcripts were produced, followed by more detailed transcription of selected sections of talk to enable micro-analysis using methods of applied discourse studies. Analysis focused on misaligned talk, struggle over topic, plus more subtle forms of resistance on the part of parents. Using methods of applied discourse
studies enabled rich insights to be gained in regard to the nature of tensions between parents and professionals when trying to achieve safe solutions for children outside the court arena.

Results
Detailed analysis of the pre-proceedings meetings indicated problems of engaging parents, with both overt and more passive resistance displayed. Parents tended to view professionals as over-stating concerns for their children. In addition, parents objected to task-focused interventions, complained about multiple professionals intervening in the lives of their families and indicated a preference for relationship-based practice.

Conclusions
While instances of institutional interaction characterised by conflict are frustrating for professionals and parents alike, much can be learned from detailed analysis of disagreement. The study draws conclusions in regard to the possible scope for bringing parent and professionals into closer alignment in child protection work. The study also highlights clear obstacles to partnership work that are more difficult to overcome.

S11.4
Evaluating the Impact of Early Involvement of the Child and Family Court Advisor During Pre-Proceedings Work: Assessment, Timescales and Case Trajectories
Karen Broadhurst1, Paula Doherty1, Kim Holt2, Nancy Kelly2
1Lancaster University, Lancaster, UK, 2Bradford University, Bradford, UK

Objectives
To evaluate a pilot study undertaken in two local authority areas in England, initiated and funded by CAFCASS (Child and Family Court Advisory and Support Service). The CAFCASS initiative piloted the early involvement of the Child and Family Court Advisor at a pre-proceedings stage. The evaluation focused on how this initiative impacted on the quality of pre-proceedings assessment work, representation of child and parent, as well as the progress of cases where they were either diverted from, or progressed to care proceedings.

Method
A mixed methods design was used, that comprised semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders and a file study that included the tracking of cases over a 12 month period. In addition, a comparison group of ‘ordinary cases’ were analysed to illuminate key differences between cases with and without early involvement of the CAFCASS worker.

Results
Preliminary findings (the study is ongoing) illustrate the positive potential of the CAFCASS social worker in pre-proceedings work in regard to expertise and knowledge of court processes. In addition, the evaluation illustrates the value of an early commitment of ‘opinion’ from both the Child and Family Court Advisor and the parents’ legal advocate. Practical obstacles are considered, as well as issues pertaining to any development of this model for pre-proceedings work. The study also illuminates differences in local authority response to the demands of pre-proceedings work, particularly in regard to cost implications.

Conclusions
Preliminary findings from the evaluation of this pilot initiative have contributed to the development of thinking about pre-proceedings work, as well as factors impacting on the quality of assessment and the causes of delay in cases progressing to care proceedings.
Symposium 12
Building an Effective Framework for Child Protection Practitioners in an Uncertain World
Convenor: Marjorie Keys
Venue: PFC 2/026

S12.1
A Firm Foundation
Ruth Mitchell
*Edinburgh Napier University, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK*

**Objectives**
Identify key messages from research, inquiries and literature that have informed educational provision.

**Method**
Since the development of the online Masters level modules in Edinburgh Napier University the volume of relevant inquiry reports, legislative and policy documents, research and indeed books has increased exponentially year on year. Failure on the part of those providing education to be fully conversant with published material means that courses will fail to reflect current evidence and have limited value. Courses are open to all members of the multidisciplinary groups working in child protection and for them to be of value to such a diverse group, material needs to drawn from generic and profession-specific sources.

**Results**
The report into the death of Brandon Muir (Hawthorn & Wilson 2009) identified the need for improved assessment, and record keeping, while following the death of Baby P, Laming (2009) stressed the need to develop “authoritative practice”. Munro (2011) identified we need to understand underlying issues that make practitioners unable to “properly help and protect children”. Meanwhile literature highlights different aspects of child protection practice, such as the use of touch, and the challenges of entering the “intimate space” of families (Ferguson 2011). Evidence from a range of such sources is a vital component of contemporary education for today’s practitioners.

**Conclusions**
This paper will give examples of such influences, and of approaches that can be used to enable students to gain knowledge and understanding, while developing some of the skills and attributes that are identified in the literature as being key to effective safeguarding practice.

S12.2
Bricks and Mortar
Kevin Mitchell
*Edinburgh Napier University, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK*

**Objectives**
Discuss some of the challenges faced by front line practitioners and the perceived benefits that can be gained from exposure to educational opportunities at post graduate level.

**Method**
This paper is a personal reflection by a former senior police officer who has been involved in the inspection of child protection services throughout Scotland since 2005. The challenge of keeping abreast of current policy, practice, literature and research is one shared by many professionals. The online MSc in Advanced Practice in Child Protection at Edinburgh Napier University provides the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of key issues, research that supports best practice in child protection and the impact of such research on developing policies, legislation and practice.

**Results**
The online environment is new to many students, most of whom complete initial qualifications in traditional classroom settings. However, delivery of material via the internet reflects societal changes in relation to communication e.g. the increased use of e-mail and social networking. Opportunities to explore relevant electronic resources and developing skills in critiquing research are all beneficial. Communication is a fundamental issue in child protection work and using only the written format, in online discussion of potentially emotive topics, is challenging. However, with support from each other and lecturers it offers scope for sharing good practice and examining alternative perspectives.
Conclusions
If child protection education can accurately reflect uncertainties faced by practitioners, such as in the area of risk assessment, it has the potential to enrich the process of learning. Studying provides opportunities to ensure learning is meaningful by promoting the application of theory to practice. Professionals are increasingly expected to maintain standards, and post graduate education offers not only access to knowledge, but opportunities to share, reflect on and critically examine practice. These are underpinning foundations for building confidence and increasing capacity to cope with the rigours of this difficult and challenging area of work.

S12.3
Influencing the Design
Lindsey Robb1,2
1Edinburgh Napier University, Edinburgh,Scotland, UK; 2City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh,Scotland, UK

Objectives
Examine the key findings from inspections carried out in Scotland into child protection practice, and their influence on educational provision.

Method
Learning from mistakes is a common concept, yet in child protection this has been hindered by the person-centred approach to investigating child deaths, blame culture and performance management systems (Munro 2010). Joint inspections of services by HMIE heralded a new approach to the oversight of child protection work in Scotland by not only identifying where things have gone wrong but by also highlighting good and effective practice. This paper presented by a Senior Practitioner in Social Work, studying towards MSc in Advanced Practice in Child Protection, examines how educational design can incorporate such messages into meaningful learning experiences.

Results
‘How well do we protect Scotland’s children?’ (HMIE 2009) provides a detailed account of messages arising from inspections and highlights many of the key strengths of the system. The report lists the challenges that need to be addressed in order to improve the experiences of children and young people who are the subject of concern. These include assessment of risk and need, planning to keep children safe and improve their circumstances; meeting longer term needs to build positive futures and information sharing/recording. Education and training of frontline staff is a key part of this process.

Conclusions
Inspection reports influence practice through policies and guidance yet practitioners often view these as aspirational (Vincent et al 2010). When incorporated into educational provision for professionals however, services to children, young people and their families can potentially benefit.


S12.4
Building for the Future
Anne Neilson
Edinburgh Napier University, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

Objectives
Consider the importance of looking forward into the future when designing child protection education.

Method
The role of a Nurse Consultant for Vulnerable Children brings with it many diverse responsibilities. One such responsibility is contributing towards programmes in HEIs, for which there is often a contractual agreement. While part of the work requires input in the delivery of classroom and online teaching, a key element is communicating with colleagues about changing priorities in policy, and resultant changes to the service.
The importance of ensuring the integrity of current educational programmes cannot be overstated, yet looking into the future is never an exact science.

**Results**

The aim of this presentation is to provide an update about future priorities for service (and consequently for education), as seen from the perspective of a professional with a lead clinical role who has responsibilities at a strategic, policy making level. While the first three presentations have given insight into many existing and emerging priorities, one area that merits consideration, and that undoubtedly will be a priority for the future, is the need to consider where child protection “sits” in relation to other areas.

**Conclusions**

It is recognised that we cannot really address vulnerability, risk and adversity in the lives of children without considering the lifespan perspective (Daniel & Bowes 2010), and indeed this is reflected in the educational provision at ENU. Similarly, the whole practice of protecting children and young people, and systems within which we strive to achieve this, can be viewed as being just part of a much bigger endeavour. How then might educational provision respond to such new approaches?


**S12.5**

**A View from the Edge**

**Sue Higham**

1. The Open University, Milton Keynes, UK,
2. Napier University, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

**Objectives**

Critically discuss the extent to which current provision reflects the priorities of child protection work and has the potential to respond to emerging priorities in the future.

**Method**

This final paper in the symposium is given by the External Examiner for all child protection modules delivered at Edinburgh Napier University. It takes a critical overview of the extent to which the existing provision has the potential to respond effectively to both identified priorities and to those which are just emerging. Drawing on experience as a Senior Lecturer with the Open University and an External Examiner elsewhere, the presenter identifies some of the challenges for any institution that is striving to ensure effective education in the uncertain world of child protection.

**Results**

A number of challenges have been identified by the first four papers in this symposium. These include responding to key findings from inquiries and inspections, as well as the need to enable practitioners to develop skills for working in areas that can be emotionally and personally demanding. Delivering online education to a student group that is diverse, not only in terms of professional background but also geographical location, presents additional challenges. One of these is to understand and utilize the legislation and policies that influence practice, not only in the four nations of the UK but also further afield.

**Conclusions**

Delivering online education at Masters Level can present some difficulties but it does, however, provide the potential for responding to some of these challenges in innovative ways. This presentation will identify some strategies, from the current provision at Edinburgh Napier University, that have the potential to enable students from a range of professional and geographical backgrounds to prepare for practice in an uncertain world. It will conclude with comment regarding how educators themselves can be prepared to meet some of the challenges of the future.
F40.1
Risk Factors for Unidirectional and Bidirectional Intimate Partner Violence Among Young Adults
Lynette Renner1, Stephen Whitney2
1The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, USA, 2University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri, USA

Objectives
To identify common and unique risk factors for intimate partner violence (IPV) among young adults in relationships. Guided by two models of IPV, the same set of risk factors was used to examine outcomes of unidirectional (perpetration or victimization) and bidirectional (perpetration and victimization) IPV separately for males and females.

Method
The sample included 10,187 young adults, ages 18-27, who cited involvement in previous romantic relationships. The three study outcomes of IPV (perpetration, victimization, or bidirectional IPV) were taken from Wave 3 of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health - a longitudinal study of a nationally representative sample of adolescents in grades 7-12 in the United States. The risk factors for IPV were primarily related to violent socialization (e.g., childhood maltreatment, youth violence) and personal adjustment (e.g., alcohol use, depression) and were drawn from Waves 1 and 2.

Results
Approximately 47% of the respondents experienced some form of IPV and the majority of respondents reported bidirectional violence. For males, childhood sexual abuse was associated with perpetration and bidirectional IPV and childhood neglect was associated with bidirectional IPV. For females, childhood neglect was associated with all three IPV outcomes, and childhood physical abuse was associated with bidirectional IPV. Youth violence perpetration during adolescence increased the odds for all IPV outcomes among females, while low self-esteem increased the odds for all IPV outcomes among males. A history of suicide attempts predicted bidirectional IPV across genders.

Conclusions
The results revealed more common risk factors for bidirectional IPV than unidirectional IPV and few common risk factors across genders. The results indicate that IPV prevention and intervention strategies should be tailored to the unique risk experiences of males and females rather than focus on a common factors approach. However, child abuse, youth violence, and suicide prevention efforts may reduce incidents of later IPV for males and females, and these strategies should continue to be an emphasis in practice and research.

F40.2
Coping with Conflictual Relationships to Increase Social Well-Being: Young Mums in Mozambique
Aisha Hutchinson1
1University of Southampton, Southampton, UK, 2Tilda Goldberg Centre, University of Bedfordshire, Bedfordshire, UK

Objectives
To identify the coping strategies used by young Mozambican women (aged 15-19) during unintended pregnancy to inform strengths-based social work and social development intervention.

Method
This doctoral research was conducted in two geographical regions through the national programme for sexual and reproductive health (SRH) in Mozambique. The study comprised of 21 semi-structured narrative interviews with young women (16-19 years old) who had had an unintended pregnancy; 8 focus groups using a vignette with young women, and 14 individual interviews with those working in SRH.

Results
Participants described at least one conflictual relationship in response to the pregnancy. Over half experienced conflict with their partner, and three-quarters experienced some form of conflict from those with parental responsibility. Four described episodes of physical violence. Others describe verbal conflict and being forced to do things they did not want to do. Six coping strategies used to survive, manage or reduce conflict were identified, including:
• Reducing emotional distress by thinking positively
• Engaging in active discussion and negotiations
• Seeking alternative arrangements for material provision
• Responding with strength or hostility
• Using the value of the child to support negotiations
• Strategically remaining passive through conflict.

Conclusions
Young women predominantly drew on internal and relational strategies to reduce conflict. There was no evidence of organisational/institutional support to reduce conflict. Rather than intervene, practitioners said they would consider this as ‘family business’. When conflict is reduced in families, pregnant young women were better cared for. How young women reduce conflict with gatekeepers (e.g. family members or professionals) is critical to meeting other needs such as the provision of shelter, protection, food, clothes, health care, education, emotional and social support. It is therefore essential for social development programmes to strengthen young women’s relational coping strategies in response to conflictual relationships.

F40.3
“Hung by a Nail...” - Children, Young People and Domestic Abuse: The Influences and Implications of the Convention on the Rights of the Child
Colm Dempsey
Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
This presentation will highlight that:

1. Domestic abuse has a significant impact for children and young people

2. Little research has been carried which addresses, children and young people’s experiences of domestic abuse as a Human Rights issue from the perspective of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

3. How the CRC stands, within the plethora of other Human Rights instruments, as a stark reminder to a firm commitment to advance the protection of children

4. Recent judgements issued from International Human Rights Courts have significant implications for states and their agencies right down to front-line organisations and support services.

Method
The research of Kelly and Mullender: “Complexities and Contradictions: Living with Domestic Violence and the UN Convention on Children’s Rights” (2000) provided the basis for the presenter’s Masters Thesis. The research study was based on an comprehensive literature review allied with a period of fieldwork within five jurisdictions, analysing the impact, influence and implications of the CRC in the field. This study now forms the basis of new research to be conducted by the presenter as part of Doctoral studies.

Results
Although the Convention of the Rights of the Child is the most internationally accepted human rights instrument, the reality remains that no domestic or international law can guarantee that children or young people shall not be subjected to any form of violence. This paper will outline the, many ‘hurdles’ which are in the way, such as economy, culture, tradition or religion which provides an excuse mechanism for state parties to procrastinate on their obligations to the CRC.

Conclusions
This paper argues that children have a right to be free from all forms of violence, abuse and neglect Benchmark judgements from regional Human Rights Courts have held State parties accountable for failures in complying with their obligations and have become a catalyst for a renewed look at violence against children’s experiences of domestic abuse as a human rights issue. General Comment No.13 will ensure that will continue to be the case for the foreseeable future.

F40.4
Health Professionals’ Response to Disclosure about Domestic Abuse: Attitudes to Children
Julie Taylor1,2, Caroline Bradbury-Jones2, Fiona Duncan3, Thilo Kroll2
1NSPCC, London, UK, 2University of Dundee, Dundee, Scotland, UK, 3NHS Fife, Fife, Scotland, UK
Objectives
One in four women is likely to experience domestic abuse, with serious physical, psychological and emotional health consequences. However, recognition of the impacts on children living with domestic abuse experience is recent and emergent. Most research regarding domestic abuse focuses on detection and disclosure, but little is known about the influence of attitudes and beliefs on health professionals’ responses following disclosure and their recognition of the linkages between domestic abuse and child protection.

Method
This qualitative, two-phase study used Critical Incident Technique interviews to elicit midwives’; health visitors’ and general practitioners’ beliefs regarding domestic abuse (n = 29). Three focus group interviews were then undertaken with women who had experienced domestic abuse to gain an essential user perspective. Data were analysed using an inductive classification system designed specifically for CIT, augmented through framework analysis. Selected critical incidents were transformed into anonymised vignettes for use in Phase Two. The ‘common sense model’ provided the theoretical framework underpinning both data collection and analysis.

Results
There was significant variation in the connections health professionals made between domestic abuse and child protection. Responses fell largely into two groups: those focused primarily on support needs of the mother; and those concerned primarily with the welfare of the child. Of the latter, however, there was rarely an explicit acknowledgement of the association between domestic abuse and child protection. Moreover, there was considerable evidence of continued lack of information sharing between different agencies around domestic abuse and children. Practitioners were sometimes frustrated about the need for an escalation of events before triggering a multiagency child protection response.

Conclusions
Recognition of domestic abuse and its consequences seems to have been improved by recent initiatives such as routine enquiry by midwives and increase gender based violence training within the health service. Response to concerns, particularly around children, remains inconsistent, with the potential to leave children at risk of harm. There is a continued need for adequate response to training needs and targeted skills development across the child care and protection sectors. Effective inter-agency collaboration is dependent on locality and personality.

Free Paper Session 41
Chair: Martin Price
Venue: PFC 3/017

F41.1
Sexual Exploitation: How the Meaning Given by Those Involved to Risk and Protective Factors Influences Perceptions of Choice and Pathways Taken
Jane Dodsworth
University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK

Objectives
To develop an understanding of how, the meaning ascribed by young people involved in sexual exploitation to interactive risk and protective factors, critical moments and turning points in their lives impacted on their perception of choice and ability to ‘manage’ pathways through involvement, and to use that knowledge to inform practice and develop services which promote the provision of a secure base.

Method
The aim of this doctoral research was to hear participants’ stories, focusing on the meaning for them of their childhood and adult experiences and pathways taken. Therefore, a qualitative grounded theory approach was used to ensure that the expertise of the participants was captured and that analysis was derived inductively from the data. Recruitment of participants was via specialist projects and snowball sampling in two areas of the UK. Of the 24 participants interviewed half became involved in selling sex pre-18 and half in adulthood. Variations in age and types of experience became an iterative part of the analysis.

Results
Findings indicate that what appears to determine who is likely to be the most vulnerable, and who most able to ‘manage’,
is the accumulation of risk factors in early childhood and the personal, familial and wider ecological resources available to individuals across the lifespan. How these factors are managed influences the degree of victimhood or agency, vulnerability or resilience each individual perceives they have.

Conclusions
Key determinants of pathway outcome were: whether, and how, the search for approval and affection was resolved; whether feeling ‘different’ led to a sense of defeat or strengthened resolve; whether coping strategies were adaptive or maladaptive; and crucially, whether individuals experienced the availability of a secure base, whatever form it took. It is hoped that the findings from this study could inform more effective ‘secure base’ service provision.

F41.2
The Impact of Childhood Sexual Abuse on Adult Functioning – Critical Findings from a Review of the Literature
Pauline Deazley
The Nexus Institute, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
The objective of the review is to provide professionals working in the area of sexual abuse and adult and family functioning with an overview of critical findings from recent research on: the spectrum of child abuse; the additional impact which family characteristics and other variables (e.g. neglect, physical abuse) can have on psychological distress; outcomes in relation to psychological, social and interpersonal adult functioning; and the correlation between childhood sexual trauma and high risk sexual behaviour.

Method
The presentation was prepared through a comprehensive literature review of recent research on the long-term impact of childhood sexual abuse, researched through professional publications and books. The information has formulated into a power-point presentation for use as a training resource within organisations and conferences for professionals working within the area of childhood sexual abuse and adult and family functioning.

Results
The presentation defines and looks at critical findings from the research on the characteristics of childhood sexual abuse. I consider the findings regarding factors and variables, such as, the level of abuse, the child’s relationship to the abuser, deprivation and neglect which can further affect adult functioning and increase levels of psychological distress. The presentation concentrates on adult survivors’ psychological, social and interpersonal functioning, the impact on their own parenting and the correlation of childhood sexual abuse and high risk sexual behaviours.

Conclusions
The literature suggests that the impact of sexual abuse cannot be looked at in isolation but has to be considered in conjunction with other variables such as family of origin characteristics; physical abuse; neglect; deprivation, the relationship of the child to the perpetrator; the nature of the abuse; the coping strategies developed at the time of abuse and how their continuance into adulthood can impair functioning.

F41.3
Retrospective Accounts of Reporting Child Sexual Assault in Childhood: Implications for Assisting Parents and Teachers to Become Effective Guardians
Nadia Wager
Buckinghamshire New University, High Wycombe, UK

Objectives
The aim of this paper was to examine the responses made to adult child sexual abuse survivors’ disclosures of abuse made during their childhoods, with a view to ascertaining the barriers to receiving an appropriate, beneficial response.

Method
This was a retrospective web-based survey of 481 community adults (men and women), 183 of whom were survivors of CSA, employing a mixed-methods approach. Twenty-five percent of the survivors of CSA (n=57) indicated that they had told someone of the abuse whilst they were still a child. Of these 57% reported a negative response from the
person to whom they disclosed and only 25.3% received a positive response, which was classified on the basis of evidence of affirmative action and/or emotional support.

**Results**

Thematic analysis of the responses to open-ended questions revealed a number of reasons for non-disclosure and several different manifestations of a negative response to disclosure. With regard to non-disclosure the explanations included; a lack of opportunity, the attempt to maintain relationships, shame and embarrassment, normalisation, self-blame, fear, sense of hopelessness and consideration for others. Importantly, a number of the respondents reported regret over non-disclosure, particularly as they felt complicit in the subsequent abuse of siblings. Negative responses to disclosures include; disbelief, blamed, dismissive responses, encouraged recantation of the accusation and sexual abuse by the confidant.

**Conclusions**

Whilst developments in the PSHE curriculum focusing on sex and relationships will hopefully remove a number of the barriers to disclosure, this will be detrimental to the well-being of children until the adult guardians to whom they are likely to disclose are educated as to the necessity and nature of an appropriate response. Practical suggestions to this endeavour are offered.

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**Supporting Individuals Who Experience Sexual Abuse During Childhood**

*Diane Seddon1, Anne Krayer1, Catherine Robinson1, Hefin Gwilym1, Gaynor McKeown2, Carolyn Hodrien2*

1Bangor University, Wales, UK, 2Victim Support, Wales, UK

**Objectives**

From a range of stakeholder perspectives we:

1. Present key findings from a qualitative study looking at the experiences and support needs of individuals who experienced sexual abuse during their childhood.

2. Explore how services (generic and specialist) respond to individuals who experience sexual abuse during their childhood and consider the perceived effectiveness of service responses.

3. Provide an evidence base to inform developments in policy, practice and service provision to better meet the needs of individuals who experience sexual abuse during their childhood.

**Method**

Using qualitative methods we completed:

1. In-depth interviews with 30 strategic and operational staff in statutory and independent organisations. Interviews were framed by a topic guide that included prompts about: professional roles; dealing with disclosures; service provision; working to current policy and practice guidelines; and, models of service organisation and delivery.

2. In-depth interviews with 30 individuals who experienced childhood sexual abuse. Stories were elicited using the biographical narrative interview method and included personal reflections on disclosure, emotions, ways of coping and service provision.

A Project Reference Group that included individuals who experienced child sexual abuse informed the research process.

**Results**

From a range of stakeholder perspectives we identify key service delivery challenges associated with supporting individuals who experience sexual abuse in their childhood, including: supporting a difficult to reach group; addressing stereotypes about counselling; recruiting and retaining staff/volunteer support workers; funding; ensuring flexible, responsive and personalised services; working jointly to support individuals and their families; delivering services in rural areas; and, securing feedback from individuals who use services. We consider gaps in service provision relating to peer support and support for families, identify unmet needs for help and highlight areas for future staff training and development.
Conclusions

Whilst there have been important developments in recent years that have significantly improved support for individuals who experience sexual abuse during childhood, for example, the UK Sexual Assault Referral Centres, there remains considerable scope for service development and improvement. In particular, there is limited understanding amongst staff of one another’s roles and responsibilities and, consequently, a lack of effective joint working. Cuts in funding to third sector organisations have led to a culture of competition rather than collaboration. Limited flexibility in the types of services provided and their delivery is also problematic; this hinders the provision of individualised, person-centred support.

Free Paper Session 42

**Chair:** Amy Weir  
**Venue:** Lanyon G74  

F42.1

**Systematic Assessment in Child Protection: Learning from Drug Errors and Other Adverse Events**  
Julie Taylor¹,⁴, Gerry Armitage², Diane Jerwood¹, Laura Ashley³  
¹NSPCC, London, UK, ²Bradford Institute for Health Care Research, Bradford, UK, ³University of Leeds, Leeds, UK, ⁴University of Dundee, Dundee, UK

**Objectives**

To examine the use of Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (FMEA) as a mechanism for identifying and reducing decision making error when undertaking risk assessments with families who have multiple and complex problems. We address patient safety at the broadest level, applying the techniques learned from drug medication errors to the complexities of child protection. FMEA is a systems approach developed exponentially by military, engineering, space and manufacturing programmes. More recently it has been adapted for use within healthcare. FMEA is a prospective quality assurance methodology to examine potential process failures, evaluate risk priorities and determine remedial actions.

Method

Building on work undertaken within health care on drug medication errors, we explore the methodological techniques of FMEA as applied within child protection and compare and contrast with the Social Care Institute of Excellence (SCIE) model. We demonstrate how research can usefully draw on quality assurance techniques and apply them in real world settings where complex decisions with potentially life-threatening outcomes can be influenced. Working with a range of LSCBs, we have applied the explicit methods of FMEA to a range of complex child protection cases.

Results

Within child protection, FMEA has the potential to examine meticulously the assessment process and how it develops within a case, using this analysis as a building block to understanding strengths and weaknesses in the system more broadly in order to make improvements. SCIE has encouraged an explicit methodology for child protection investigations and for understanding ‘near misses’ in day to day practice as a helpful feed-back loop, but this has so far been largely retrospective. FMEA offers a contrasting - and extremely useful - alternative perspective.

Conclusions

Given the lessons from biennial analyses of serious case reviews it is clear that there is much still to improve within the child protection system. FMEA responds to Munro’s review of child protection by offering an alternative systems methodology that is built on human factors that are frequently implicated in serious case reviews. The patient safety techniques that are successful within healthcare can be applied usefully within the child protection system.

F42.2

**Child and Family Practitioners’ Understanding of Child Development: Lessons Learnt from a Small Sample of Serious Case Reviews.**  
Marian Brandon², Peter Sidebotham¹, Catherine Ellis¹, Sue Bailey², Pippa Belderson²  
¹University of Warwick, Coventry, UK, ²University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK
Objectives
To consider how the knowledge that practitioners, and especially social workers, have of child development might have had an impact on case management and subsequent outcomes for the children.

Method
This qualitative study purposively selected six cases from the thirty three available Serious Case Reviews completed in 2009 or 2010. Thematic analysis was applied to each case and common themes identified. A transactional ecological perspective was used to analyse the cases and attachment was the principal theoretical foundation for the analysis of the child’s development in the context of their environment.

Results
The findings highlight professional responses to physical and emotional development in infants and young children in the context of bruising and faltering weight and widen out to consider older children and professional responses to social and behavioural development, including behavioural distress among young people, and children with disabilities, and considers the meaning of the child to the parent and vice versa. The findings summarise what has been learnt from these six cases about practitioner’s knowledge of child development and how this relates to management in cases of maltreatment and outcomes for children.

Conclusions
Each of the six children’s lives and experiences were unique and different. However, there are some recurring themes in agencies’ faltering responses to potential warning signs of abuse and neglect that could be seen to link to the child’s development, or to an understanding of the child’s likely developmental capacity. A central aim in presenting these findings is to highlight the messages from these individual cases for both practitioners and for Local Safeguarding Children Boards.
Objectives
This presentation aims to increase participants’ knowledge of:

- The conceptual framework used for preventing child abuse and neglect
- Recent developments in prevention and combating child abuse and neglect in the Netherlands
- Findings about ‘what works’ in national and regional measurements against CAN in five countries: Netherlands, Sweden, Germany, Hungary and Portugal, using findings from the Daphne Project 2011-201.

Method
The presentation will include the following components: conceptual framework and recent developments in prevention and combating CAN in the Netherlands and findings about ‘what works’ in national and regional measurements against CAN in 5 countries: Netherlands, Sweden, Germany, Hungary and Portugal (Daphne Project 2011-2012) including first findings of an evaluation in professional and parental focus groups.

Results
Participants will learn about evidence based and/or practice based continental approaches in five European countries and about strategies and policies that are based upon this. Participants will also learn about some challenges and inspiration in working together in an international project.

Conclusions
If you are interested in strategy and continental approaches you can’t miss this session!

Free Paper Session 43
Chair: Stephanie Holt
Venue: PFC2/017

F43.1
Outcomes for Social Workers of a Short Course on Engaging Fathers in Child Protection
Jonathan Scourfield¹, Nina Maxwell¹, Alison Bullock¹, Brid Featherstone², Sally Holland¹, Richard Tolman³

Objectives
Several studies have shown that child protection workers tend to engage much more successfully with mothers than fathers (by which we mean any men with significant involvement in children’s lives). There have been a number of different criticisms of this tendency, but relatively little evidence to indicate how father engagement can be improved. An evidence-based training intervention was developed, with the aim of improving the quality and quantity of initial engagement of fathers. This was based on findings from practitioner and service user interview data and a review of research evidence on barriers and facilitators in relation to father engagement.

Method
A two-day course was designed, consisting of one day of awareness-raising about the issue and one day which was primarily focused on micro-level practice skills training, based on aspects of motivational interviewing. Experienced trainers delivered the course to fifty social workers from two Welsh local authorities. Quantitative evaluation data were collected via questionnaires administered at the start of the course and two months later. Qualitative evaluation data included observation of training and follow-up semi-structured interviews with a purposive sample of participants.

Results
At the time of writing this abstract, the results are not known, as data collection continues until September 2011. Results will be presented for the impact of the training on social workers’ self-efficacy in engaging fathers, the readiness of social work teams to work with fathers and self-reported engagement of fathers on current caseloads.

Conclusions
The presentation will consider the extent to which a short course can have an impact on the gendered culture of child protection social work. The challenges of training on this issue will be discussed, as will the limitations of the intervention and the potential for future training and research.
F43.2

Group Work Interventions for Women and Children Experiencing Domestic Abuse: Do they make a difference?

Stephanie Holt, Gloria Kirwan
University of Dublin, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Objectives
To explore the impact of a therapeutic group work programme for eight mothers and eight children (7-11 years of age) who have experienced domestic abuse prior to joining the programme. With an explicit focus on the benefits of this intervention to the participants, this research aims to ascertain if and in what way, participation in the group work programme impacts on the participating mothers and children; to establish if participation in the group programme (for both/ either mothers and children) impacts on child well-being; to determine what impacts can be sustained over time.

Method
Both quantitative and qualitative data will be collected from three distinct populations at three points in time. Phase One involves gathering quantitative baseline data on the mothers and children, using standardised measures. Qualitative individual interviews with mothers and focus groups with children will explore expectations of the programme. Upon completion of the group intervention Phase Two involves mothers completing the same standardised measures, with qualitative interviews with mothers, children and staff exploring their experiences of the programme and perceptions of benefits. Phase Three will follow up participants one year later to assess the sustainability of any improvements over time.

Results
With this group work programme due to commence in September 2011 and complete in December 2011, this paper will report on an analysis of the findings of phase one and two, illustrating the experience of participating in this group work programme and the impact of this intervention from the perspective of the participating mothers, children and professionals.

Conclusions
The usefulness of the group environment in helping participants share the full extent of their personal experiences has been recognised as an essential and distinctive element of groupwork practice (Yalom, 1995). Drawing on the extensive literature on group work with vulnerable populations, this study will explore the extent to which this group work programme has provided the opportunity for participants to benefit from the therapeutic factors that a positive group work experience can provide.

F43.3

Involving Fathers and their Families in the Evaluation of the Caring Dads Safer Children Programme: Challenges and Ethical Issues for Practitioners

Nicola McConnell, Matt Barnard, Richard Cotmore, Julie Taylor
NSPCC, London, UK

Objectives
To consider what impact data collection for the evaluation may have on CDSC service users and programme delivery, and to provide an opportunity to reflect upon and improve data collection processes.

Method
CDSC is an intervention that aims to protect children by working with violent fathers to stop their abuse by improving their parenting. Outcomes of CDSC are evaluated using standardised measures and interviews. This research provides practitioners’ perspectives on the experience of data collection for the evaluation. Focus groups were held with social work practitioners working with the fathers and their families at five different sites shortly after they had collected the evaluation data at T1.

Results
There were examples of teams working creatively to implement the evaluation design and obtain consent in a way that was ethical and sympathetic to the needs of both challenging and vulnerable service users. Practitioners described how integrating standardised measures within practice can positively inform their work but also gave examples where using the measures impact unhelpfully on the practitioner-service user
relationship. At worst user engagement with the service can be undermined. Analysis revealed a range of factors that make it more difficult to involve CDSC service users, particularly women and children, in the evaluation.

Conclusions
Practitioners faced practical and ethical dilemmas trying to collect robust data for the evaluation in a context where they are trying to retain engagement with vulnerable families and work with violent fathers who pose a risk to their children and partners. The review demonstrates that the advantages of using standardised measures in the evaluation design must be considered alongside any disadvantage that they may present to the delivery of the programme. Use of measures can cause competing priorities for practitioners.

F43.4
Evaluating the Outcomes of the Caring Dads Safer Children Programme
Nicola McConnell, Matt Barnard, Richard Cotmore, Julie Taylor
NSPCC, London, UK

Objectives
To evaluate an intervention that seeks to protect children by working with violent fathers to stop their abuse by improving their parenting, and to use learning from the programme to develop better ways to protect children from family violence.

Method
CDSC is a group work programme being delivered across four UK sites over two years. It incorporates a before-and-after evaluation design using standardised instruments and interviews. Data is collected from the fathers, their children and the children’s mothers prior to the start of the programme, at the end of the programme, and at a six month follow up. The evaluation approach will investigate the association between the programme and scores obtained via standardised measures.

Results
Early descriptive analysis indicates that attrition of fathers referred to CDSC will be very high, but most of those assessed as suitable to attend are committed when they begin the programme (T1). Over a quarter of the fathers attending CDSC in the first year reported clinically significant levels of parental stress at T1. However, the results obtained also suggested that several fathers minimised indications of stress in their parent-child relationship in the responses they gave. Very few reported negative or rejecting parenting behaviours towards their children, despite having history of abusive behaviour.

Conclusions
Response bias from fathers either minimising or failing to recognise their harmful behaviour is suggested by the scores obtained at T1 so far. It is possible that average scores could worsen at T2 as fathers become more aware of their previous behaviour. The early analysis gives emphasis to the importance of obtaining children’s perceptions of their father’s behaviour whenever possible with this group of men, as we would predict some discrepancy between the fathers’ and children’s reports on his behaviour. High levels of attrition add to the size and complexity of this task.

Workshop 35
Venue: PFC 3/006b
Maintaining a Child Protection Focus When Working with Children and Young People who Display Harmful Sexual Behaviours – The NCATS Model
Alex Stringer, Hilary Crew
NSPCC National Clinical Assessment and Treatment Service, London, UK

Objectives
To promote professional awareness of the characteristics of children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviours.

To demonstrate the importance of a holistic approach to assessment as well as multi-agency working when seeking to safeguard and support children and young people with harmful sexual behaviours.

To promote the application of techniques and methods that support a child protection focus when working with children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviours.

Method
Participants to engage in short exercises to discuss/debate the characteristics of children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviour. Theoretical models and empirical
research will be used to evidence and further illustrate these characteristics to fortify participants’ understanding.

Theoretical models, legislation and knowledge derived from practice experience will be used to demonstrate the importance of a holistic approach and multi-agency working.

Models of working used by NCATS (NSPCC’s National Clinical Assessment and Treatment Service) will be disseminated to illustrate and promote a child protection focus when working with children and young people with harmful sexual behaviours.

Results
The workshop will disseminate and promote knowledge derived from practice experience as well as encompassing research and theory.

Conclusions
Intended learning outcomes for this proposed workshop are:

Participants will have an improved knowledge of the characteristics of children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviours.

Participants’ recognition of the need for holistic and multi-agency approaches when working with children and young people with harmful sexual behaviours will be fortified.

Participants will be informed of the models of working undertaken by NCATS in its work with children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviours.

Combined, this will assist participants to maintain a child protection focus when working with children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviours.

Workshop 36
Venue: PFC 3/007

Resilience and Burnout in Child Protection Social Work
Paula McFadden, Anne Campbell, Brian Taylor
University of Ulster, Derry, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
1. To identify protective factors identified by child protection social workers who appear to be resilient to burnout.

2. To examine burnout in child protection social workers using a three dimensional model which measures emotional exhaustion, depersonalisation and reduced efficacy. (Maslach 1986).

3. To compare levels of resilience and burnout within a demographic range of respondents from child protection social workers in Northern Ireland.

4. To explore the relationship between organisational factors and both resilience and burnout among child protection social work staff.

5. To reveal the experiences of those who have left the front line child protection Social Work.

Method
Mixed methods were used in this study. A questionnaire containing “burnout”, “resilience” and “area of work-life” measures and demographic questions, was distributed to respondents (n = 162). The target sample (response 39%) were Gateway and Family Support Social Workers from the Health and Social Care Trusts, NI as well as the Voluntary Sector. Interviews took place (n = 30) with social workers from across the sample and represent graduate employees (AYE) through to senior managers so that a range of perspectives could be represented. Those still in post as well as “leavers” were interviewed so that in-depth understanding could be achieved.

Results
The results are currently being analysed but will be available for dissemination at the conference in April.

Conclusions
It is anticipated that findings from this study could help inform policy and practice in relation to retention of experience in child protection social work teams. During 2009 NISCC stated that 80% graduates take their first post in child protection social work. The level of turnover of staff in this sector has a direct impact on the level of inexperience in teams which is a critical issue. Insight into the resilience factors, those organisational and individual factors that sustain staff, is of particular interest and should provide an evidence base for strengthening this workforce.
Workshop 37
Venue: PFC 2/013

Early Permanency for Young Children
- Reflecting on 12 Years of Coram’s Concurrent Planning Project
Shabnam Rathore, Karika Karsna
Coram, London, UK

Objectives
To reflect on the successes and challenges of Coram’s 12 years of providing early permanency through concurrent planning for babies where risk is determined early. To facilitate a wider debate with the legal and social work practitioners on the future direction of permanency for vulnerable young children.

Method
The workshop will draw on Coram’s experience and evidence from partner Local Authorities on the experience of babies in the care system. The workshop will be used to prompt a discussion on the challenges of swift permanent placement early in child’s life. Coram’s Concurrent Planning project is used as an example of the complexities within the care system in relation to decision making and permanency planning. This project aims to achieve stability, avoid delays and change of placements through working on two permanency plans concurrently - return to home and placement for adoption with foster carers who are also approved as adopters.

Results
Coram’s concurrent planning project has placed 59 children in 12 years; none of these placements have been disrupted. Our analysis highlights the need of vulnerable babies for an early enduring attachment in order to minimise the likelihood of not finding a permanent solution later as risks compound and longer term issues present themselves.

Conclusions
The scale and impact of delay for children in care has been highlighted by a number of recent policy and research initiatives (e.g. Family Justice Review; Ward’s research into the wellbeing of infants suffering harm, 2010). Concurrent planning has been highlighted as a solution and there is an increasing interest in this approach. The workshop is a timely opportunity to discuss this approach as well as wider issues regarding early permanency for young vulnerable children.

Workshop 38
Venue: PFC 3/011

Building a Skilled Workforce and Organisation to Keep Children Safe: The Safety in Partnership Approach
Deirdre Mahon, Jennifer McKinney
Western Health and Social Care Trust, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
This workshop explores the experiences of the Western Health and Social Care Trust in developing and implementing the Safety In Partnership approach in Northern Ireland. This systemic approach is relationship-based and is a practical intervention that makes a constructive difference for families and professionals, creating meaningful safety for children. The model builds on the Signs Of Safety approach devised in Western Australia by T urnell and Edwards and the Structured Decision Making tool created by Sawyer and Lohrbach in Minnesota, USA. Participants in the workshop will be provided the opportunity to learn about and practice some of the techniques used.

Method
Participants will be provided the opportunity to practice some of the tools used, for example, genograms. With skilful use of questioning, genograms highlight the nature of relationships within the family and between the family and networks. This questioning approach enables practitioners to explore strengths, complicating factors and risks within cases. This knowledge is then used to build safety for the child.

Results
A summary is provided of lessons learned at this early stage of implementation. Early findings indicate that the approach enhances critical inquiry and minimises the potential for bias by workers through mapping the safety, danger and risk factors for the child and their family. This mapping is carried out using a visual tool in partnership with families and in collaboration with professionals. Participants in the workshop will feed back on their experiences of practicing with the tools and discuss how this can contribute to their own work with children and families.
Conclusions

Early indicators show that this approach has made a difference for professionals and families and creates a purposive focus for child protection work. Workers report that they feel more skilled in working with children and families, particularly with those hard to reach families. For this approach to be successfully implemented and maintained, it is essential that a systemic approach is adopted by the organisation which reflects the Practice Principles underpinning Safety in Partnership.

Workshop 39
PFC 2/025

The Voices of Youth with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Transitioning from Care: What Child Welfare Agencies Need to Know
Linda Burnside2,3, Don Fuchs1, Amy Reinink1, Shelagh Marchenski1
1University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 2Manitoba Family Services, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 3Avocation: Counselling, Consulting, Research & Training, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Objectives

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is increasingly recognised as a serious disability affecting a significant number of children in child welfare care. Since 2004, researchers in Manitoba, Canada, have examined the experiences of children in care with FASD, learning about their placement experiences, health care needs, educational outcomes, and financial costs to the system. This workshop will provide a brief overview of the results of this research, with an emphasis on the researchers’ most recent study: the experiences of youth with FASD as they transition to adulthood from child welfare care.

Method

Qualitative interviews were conducted in 2009-2010 with 20 youth with FASD who had grown up in child welfare care.

Results

This study provides a rare opportunity to hear directly from youth with FASD about their needs. The youth shared poignant information about their lives, their hopes and fears for the future, and what they need to transition to adulthood successfully. In particular, youth demonstrated that there is a mismatch between agencies’ efforts to prepare them for adult responsibilities when they are developmentally unable to make use of these services until well into early adulthood. Their perspectives hold compelling insights for child welfare agencies who work with youth as they emancipate from care, whether adolescents who have FASD or those who do not.

Conclusions

The impact of FASD is devastating for the children affected by the condition and has considerable implications for child welfare agencies who support them to adulthood. This research points to the need to develop unique transitional services to facilitate emancipation for these vulnerable youth, including a reformation of traditional child welfare services. These recommendations for reformation will be identified, outlining the benefits for youth with FASD and the implications for child welfare service delivery.

Workshop 40

Venue: PFC 3/006a

Using Innovative Risk Based Approaches to Early Identification and Engagement with Families Vulnerable to Escalating Problems
Leighton Rees2, George Selvanera1
1Cordis Bright Ltd, London, UK, 2Denbighshire Council, Denbighshire, Wales, UK

Objectives

Building on pilot work in Merthyr Tydfil, the local authorities of Wrexham, Flintshire and Denbighshire in north-eastern Wales commissioned Cordis Bright, a research company, to work with statutory and voluntary sector agencies to map/identify vulnerable families. The key objectives were to test innovative partnership models through applying risk-based techniques to share information and identify and engage early families at risk of escalating problems.

Method

Key steps include:

- Designing a data sharing tool (drawing on Think Family research about key determinants of disadvantage associated with poor child outcomes
and establishing data sharing protocols to permit cross matching of data about families)

- Cross matching lists of families produced by individual agencies (data was submitted about 4,668 families, 3,590 individual families taking account of different agencies identifying the same families) across the local authorities by more than 60 agencies

- Analysis of data to identify the extent of and the characteristics of vulnerability for individual families and within communities more generally.

**Results**

The research identified 1,172 families that had significant multiple disadvantages (five or more of nine principal indicators) - 25.1% of all individual families. In over half of these cases, only one agency provided information about the family. Moreover, it emerged that several particular indicators of risk were closely correlated with the existence of other indicators. These are parents lacking academic qualifications, lack of funds for basic items such as food and clothing and evidence of substance misuse in the household.

**Conclusions**

The risk indicators are useful in identifying families vulnerable to escalating problems. These also predict the existence of other vulnerabilities. This has implications for, and is driving, system and practice redesign across the local authorities to support early intervention with families rather than costly ‘incident’ or ‘problem’ driven approaches. The research also challenges assumptions about locational disadvantage and instead finds vulnerability dispersed throughout the community necessitating bespoke support tailored to family circumstances.

**Workshop 41**

**Venue: PFC 2/011**

**Child to Parent Violence – Challenging Perspectives and New Approaches to Family Violence.**

Declan Coogan  
National University of Ireland Galway, Galway, Ireland

**Objectives**

To broaden discussions and increase awareness about violence and abuse in families by examining the use of violence by children and young people at home towards parents.

Exploring and responding to child-to-parent violence in practice raises a variety of dilemmas and questions for clinicians and practitioners, some of which will be explored during the workshop.

The potential for the adaptation in Ireland and United Kingdom contexts of the innovative Non Violent Resistance (NVR) approach to working with parents who have been abused by their children will be considered from agency and practitioner perspectives.

**Method**

The proposed workshop will focus on a review of the research (esp. Weinblatt & Omer 2008) and clinical practice papers on Non-Violent Resistance and on practice examples introduced by the facilitator and by delegates.

Reference will be made to the “Tackling Violence at Home” Strategy (DHSSPS 2005) in Northern Ireland and the “National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence 2010-2014” (Cosc 2010) in the Republic of Ireland in relation to policy and practice guidance on child-to-parent violence.

**Results**

Delegates will be introduced to the potential for practice and policy development offered by a new approach to working with families where child to parent violence takes place.

**Conclusions**

Case examples will be shared and delegates will be invited to take part in discussions about how best to respond to this emerging issue in policy and practice.

The uncertainty faced by policy makers, researchers and particularly practitioners in relation to developing effective responses to this under-recognised form of family violence will be addressed and innovative models of practice will be explored.
Parallel Session 8
09:00 – 10:30

Symposium 13
Convenor: Jenny Pearce
Venue: PFC OG/007

S13.1
Sexual Grooming of Young People in Northern Ireland - Evidence from the 2010 Young Life and Times Survey
Dirk Schubotz1,2
1ARK, Northern Ireland, UK, 2School of Sociology, Social Policy & Social Work, Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
To ascertain the self-reported experiences of sexual grooming and exploitation amongst 16-year olds, through the 2010 Northern Ireland Young Life and Times (YLT) survey.

Method
The YLT survey is an annual postal survey undertaken among 16-year olds in Northern Ireland. Its sample frame is the Child Benefit Register. Every 16-year old born in February and March of the survey year who is resident in Northern Ireland and receives Child Benefit payments is invited to take part in the YLT survey. Respondents can complete the survey by mail, online or over the phone.

Results
884 respondents completed the 2010 YLT survey. One in nine reported that they had been groomed by an adult; only 27% of these incidents occurred online. One in twelve said they had been given drugs or alcohol and then taken advantage of sexually when under the influence of these. One in twenty had been offered something (money, drugs, alcohol etc) in return for sex/other sexual activity. Females were much more likely to be at risk, to be taken advantage of sexually or be sexually groomed. Most incidents happened when the young person was under sixteen.

Conclusions
The 2010 YLT survey provides baseline data among 16-year olds for incidents of sexual grooming and other sexual risks they have faced. The survey found that whilst online is the most likely way young people are groomed, overall this only accounts for just over one quarter of grooming incidents. The fact that two-thirds of respondents who had been offered something in exchange for sex had not talked to someone of authority about what happened raises concerns about appropriate help-seeking mechanisms in place for them.

S13.2
Protecting Looked After Children from Sexual Exploitation - Lessons from Research
Helen Beckett
University of Bedfordshire, Luton, UK

Objectives
To increase knowledge and understanding of the sexual exploitation of children in care, in order to aid better prevention of, and responses to, this issue in future.

Method
The study adopted a multi-method approach, including interviews with professionals and young people, completion of sexual exploitation risk assessments by social work staff and review of social services case files. All fieldwork related to Northern Ireland.

Results
The research found high proportions of children in residential care (and some in other placements also) to have been sexually exploited by individuals in the community. This population was observed to be at particular risk of sexual exploitation because of (a) the impact of their pre-care experiences; (b) the care experience itself; and (c) the specific targeting of this population by perpetrators. In many cases, the abuse occurred over prolonged periods of time, despite efforts to address this. Many complex factors were observed to be contributing to the difficulties of protecting young people from this form of abuse.
Conclusions
The research raises pertinent questions about the effectiveness of current responses to the sexual exploitation of young people in care, both in terms of protecting young people from this form of abuse in the first place and in terms of responding to emerging concerns. There is a clear need for greater understanding of how to identify and divert risk at an early stage, how to extricate young people from abusive situations, how to hold perpetrators to account and how to manage the challenge of safeguarding young people who frequently do not see themselves as in need of being safeguarded.

S13.3
‘How We See It’: Negotiating Agency and Victimhood Among Sexually Exploited Young People
Camille Warrington
University of Bedfordshire, Luton, UK

Objectives
The research examines the tensions between child protection and participation frameworks with sexually exploited young people. In particular it explores how sexually exploited young people are involved in decision making about their care and support and the consequences of involving (or not involving) them in these processes.

Method
This research is informed by grounded theory drawing on narrative analysis of data. Methods comprise of 20 semi-structured interviews undertaken with young people (14 - 18yrs) using sexual exploitation services; 10 interviews with specialist sexual exploitation practitioners. Second interviews due to be completed with all 20 participants in September 2011. All research is undertaken as part of ongoing professional doctorate studies.

Results
Emerging findings from young people’s narratives suggest that young people’s involvement in decisions about their care and protection in relation to sexual exploitation is variable and is at times, overlooked, considered inappropriate or an ‘add on’. The dynamics of the formal child protection frameworks, that such young people encounter, are largely described by them as associated with a loss of control and privacy and a sense of disempowerment. Where young people describe being offered greater involvement in formal and informal decision making processes, their own role in safeguarding is explored.

Conclusions
Discourses about young people’s participation are commonly associated with young people’s engagement with wider structural and political processes. There is a need to more comprehensively apply these perspectives to individual encounters within child protection and safeguarding systems. In particular, the dissonance between young people’s and professionals’ perceptions of risk and safety in relation to sexual exploitation should not prevent participation of young people in decisions about their care. The protective potential of involving young people in these processes must also be considered. Whether young people’s agency is viewed as problem or resource may be critical to informing responses to them.

S13.4
Still Reducing the Risk? A Comparative Analysis of Support Provision in the UK for Young People at Risk of Sexual Exploitation
Paula Skidmore
Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, UK

Objectives
The research updates a previous study completed by the author in 2006, in partnership with the Children’s Charity Barnardo’s (published as Scott & Skidmore (2006) Reducing the Risk; Barnardo’s support for sexually exploited young people] . It examines the applicability of the Barnardo’s model of service intervention identified as the ‘Four A’s’ (Access, Attention, Assertive Outreach & Advocacy), for organisations working in different contexts, especially independent voluntary youth sector projects that are often working as ‘sole operators’ in any given region/locational within the UK.
Method

The Barnardo’s research was a two year evaluation of 10 specialist young people’s support projects across the UK. It combined quantitative monitoring of outcomes for service users (557 young people under 18) and qualitative interviewing of social workers, youth workers, police, probation and other professionals who were delivering services (68 interviewees). The comparative analysis, being carried out over a 15 month period from 2011-2012, involves conducting 30 semi-structured interviews at non-Barnardo’s services that are not directly targeting CSE to test the applicability of the ‘Four A’s model’ for these providers. In addition, participant observation at Practitioner meetings and CSE forums supplements the interview data analysis.

Results

The Barnardo’s evaluation showed services had evolved a clear proactive model of practice intervention with vulnerable and at risk young people. This ‘Four A’s’ intervention model produced a statistically significant reduction of sexual exploitation risk for young service users over a two year monitoring period. The evaluation clearly signposted areas of professional practice development in order to intervene early and effectively to prevent escalations in sexual exploitation risk for vulnerable young people. The new research explores to what extent the original study findings are directly applicable to other forms of child protection intervention and independent youth work provision.

Conclusions

Young people who are sexually exploited come from a variety of backgrounds and circumstances but they are often extremely vulnerable due to a combination of underlying ‘background’ factors (such as domestic violence, or parental drug/alcohol misuse) and more ‘immediate’ risk factors (such as running away, or disengagement from education). This often, but not always, produces circumstances where adult exploiters deliberately target vulnerable young people and entrap them into sexually exploitative experiences. The “reducing the risk” research and its follow up, identify clear priorities for service providers in supporting these supposedly ‘hard-to-reach’ young people to prevent them becoming sexually exploited.

S13.5

Sexual Violence and Exploitation: The Under-Investigated ‘Weapon’ in Gang-Related Violence

Carlene Firmin
University of Bedfordshire, Luton, UK

Objectives

- Consider questions about ‘agency’ and ‘victimisation’ of girls and young women living within a criminal gang context
- Illustrate how sexual violence and exploitation is enacted within and between criminal gangs
- Distinguish gang-associated sexual violence and exploitation from the notion of ‘gang-rape’
- Explore the justification for a gendered approach to tackling gang-related violence in policy and practice.

Method

- Reviews findings from two research projects (Firmin 2010 ‘Female Voice in Violence’; Firmin 2011 This is it, This is my life).

Both address the impact of gangs and serious youth violence on women and girls including:

- Literature review of research on gender and gang violence in the US and UK
- Desk top analysis of relevant central government policy in violence against women; child protection; gang-related violence.
- Findings of focus groups and one semi structured interview with: gang and non-gang associated women and girls; male gang-members; with non-gang associated males; practitioners

Results

The research identified that:

a) Women and girls are affected by criminal gangs and gang-related violence

b) Policy and practice responses to gang-related violence fail to consider the impact of such violence on women and girls
c) Women and girls experience gang-associated sexual violence and exploitation

d) Women and girls display agency in criminal gang contexts

e) Girls are being processed through youth justice and school exclusion systems which are male-dominated in practice and ideology.

Conclusions

- A gendered approach to tackling gang-related violence is required
- The prevalence of sexual violence and exploitation within and between criminal gang requires exploration
- Responses to violence against women need to girls under the age of 18
- The youth justice and school exclusion systems must be reviewed to better respond to girls.

Symposium 14
Data linkage and Longitudinal Studies in Child Care and Protection: Opportunities and Challenges.
Convenor: Julie Taylor

Venue: PFC 2/017

S14.1
Children with Long Term and Complex Needs: the Feasibility of Combining Administrative Datasets
John Pinkerton, John Devaney, Trevor Spratt, Andrew Percy
Queen’s University, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives

This study seeks to test the feasibility of combining administrative data held by children’s social services with the Northern Ireland Longitudinal Survey, a sub-set of the census. In doing so the study aims to explore whether the characteristics of children and their families known to children’s social services differed significantly from children living in the same community in similar circumstances.

Method

The research aims to combine the two large administrative datasets and to undertake an analysis of the merged data with reference to the above research question.

Results

The paper will present the initial findings of the study, and draw conclusions about the utility and practicality of such an approach in social care research in the area of child protection and child welfare. In doing so the presentation will reflect on the ethical, legal and technical challenges in undertaking secondary analysis of administrative datasets across different agencies.

Conclusions

This study will improve our knowledge about the utility and feasibility of using the secondary analysis of linked administrative data to aid our understanding of the needs and possible responses to child welfare issues in the United Kingdom.
Child Maltreatment: Variation in Trends and Policies in Six Developed Countries

Ruth Gilbert¹, John Fluke², Melissa O'Donnell³, Arturo Gonzalez-Izquierdo¹, Marni Brownell⁴, Pauline Gulliver⁵, Staffan Janson⁶, Peter Sidebotham⁷
¹University College London, Institute of Child Health, London, UK, ²University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work, Denver, Colorado, USA, ³University of Western Australia, Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, West Perth, Australia, ⁴University of Manitoba, Manitoba Centre for Health Policy, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, ⁵University of Otago, Injury Prevention Research Unit, Dunedin, New Zealand, ⁶Karlstad University, Karlstad, Sweden, ⁷University of Warwick, Health Sciences Research Institute, Coventry, UK

Objectives
International comparisons of measures of and responses to child maltreatment can offer insights into the impact of widely differing policies governing child protection services. We explored trends in six developed countries/regions (England, Sweden, Western Australia, New Zealand, USA, Manitoba) in indicators of child maltreatment for children under 11 years old, since the inception of modern child protection systems in the 1970s.

Method
We studied a range of child maltreatment indicators by developmental age groups, and compared time trends in the annual incidence of these indicators in six countries/regions. We analysed continuous linear trends against change-point models with two slopes and a parameter estimating the time at which the change of slopes occurred.

Results
Large differences (5 to 10 fold) between countries in the rate of contacts with child protection agencies contrasted with limited variation (less than 2-fold) in rates of maltreatment-related injury or violent death.

Lower levels of maltreatment indices in Sweden compared with the USA are consistent with lower levels of child poverty and parent risk factors and policies providing higher levels of universal support for parenting in Sweden.

Conclusions
We found no consistent evidence for a decline or increase in indicators of child maltreatment across the six countries/regions despite the array of policy initiatives designed to achieve a reduction.

Overall, one or more child protection agency indicators increased in five out of six countries, particularly in infants, possibly reflecting early intervention policies.

To improve the evidence base for child protection policies, governments should facilitate use of anonymised, linked, population-based data from healthcare and child protection services to determine the impact of policy on trends in child maltreatment. Rising placements of children in out-of-home care demand urgent evaluation using RCTs.

Taking a Long View in Child Welfare: How Can We Evaluate Intervention and Child Well-Being Over Time?

Janice McGhee¹, Fiona Mitchell¹
¹University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK, ²Scottish Child Care and Protection Network, Scotland, UK

Objectives
The UK is a world leader in birth cohort and panel studies, yet such studies tell us little about the growth and development of child populations caught up in state child welfare services where neglect and other associated risks to their well-being are present.

Method
The lack of a longitudinal research on the demographics of this population and the pathways taken through child welfare systems inhibits the development of effective policy and practice. At the same time there is a fundamental gap in knowledge about the efficacy of services provided by all disciplines and agencies to this child population and the impact in the short and longer term on their well being.
Results
This paper draws together knowledge generated from an international seminar series designed to explore the potential and pitfalls in combining data routinely collected by agencies and longitudinal survey data to begin to address some of these questions.

Conclusions
Technical, ethical and methodological dimensions are considered in utilizing routinely collected administrative data and in designing a longitudinal survey that would allow for this long view.

S14.4
The Importance of Discourse and Context When Interpreting Administrative data
June Thoburn
University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK

Objectives
This contribution starts from the UN requirement for all jurisdictions to collect robust administrative data on vulnerable children as an essential tool in combating parental and ‘system’ abuse. It considers the relationship between English longitudinal research studies and routinely collected administrative data on children ‘in need’ of additional (targeted) social care services (specifically, the Children in Need (CiN) census and the children looked after data set). It is argued that the availability of a ‘child as unit of return’ minimum data set on vulnerable children is essential for an understanding of child protection policies, service outputs and outcomes.

Method
For these data to have maximum validity and utility, discussions are needed (as has been happening as part of the Munro child protection review in England) between researchers and practitioners about the key variables to be collected on children, families, services and outcomes. This should ensure that data sets take on board emerging research findings, but also, to achieve ‘buy in’ from those who provide the data, that the data collection process is compatible with recording for case management purposes.

Results
To avoid unwieldy ‘one size fits all’ data collection systems and at the same time provide robust data on outcomes, linkages across data collection systems on material deprivation, employment, health, education and psychological wellbeing are essential. However, an understanding of differences in professional discourse (between different disciplines and between professionals, managers and researchers) requires the investment of time if the obstacles are to be overcome.

Conclusions
From a study of administrative data on out-of-home care and adoption as responses to child maltreatment in 28 jurisdictions, the presenter concludes by making a case for international collaboration on the content of minimum data collection schedules. She ends on a warning note for those seeking to learn about ‘what works’ in other jurisdictions and gives examples of how a lack of understanding of context can lead to inappropriate conclusions.

S14.5
Comparisons of Data on Violent Child Deaths in England
Peter Sidebotham1, Marian Brandon2, Carol Hawley1, Sue Bailey2, Pippa Belderson2
1University of Warwick, Coventry, UK, 2University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK

Objectives
The aim of this work is to provide up to date, comprehensive data on serious and fatal maltreatment of children in England, and to set those data in the context of other relevant data on children’s health, well-being and possible harm.

Method
A descriptive analysis of Serious Case Reviews from 2009-2010, using data from the database reports. Data are compared to other available data sources including Office for National Statistics (ONS) death registration statistics, Home Office data on recorded homicides, Child Death Overview Panel returns, and the Child in Need database. Collated data from SCRs carried out between 2005-10 are presented to provide information on current trends.
Results
The total number of homicides in children and young people aged 0-17 in England is around 50-55 based on the ONS and Home Office data (approximately 0.48 per 100,000). Rates are highest in infancy, dropping in the preschool years, and rising again in late adolescence to just under 1 per 100,000. The numbers and rates of Serious Case Reviews are similar in the middle childhood years. There is a higher rate in infancy and a lower rate in adolescence. Overall, we estimate the total number of violent and maltreatment-related child deaths (0-17 years) to be around 74 (0.67 per 100,000).

Conclusions
Comparing different official datasets provides different estimates of the numbers of violent and maltreatment-related deaths. A range of datasets are required to provide a comprehensive understanding of the nature and burden of such deaths.

Free Paper Session 44
Chair: Gerry Byrne
Venue: PFC 2/025

F44.1
Family Violence and School Success: Testing An Ecological Model to Understand the Impact of Abuse on School Success
William Sheppard, Scottye Cash
The Ohio State University, Columbus, USA

Objectives
To test an ecological model regarding how factors in each ecological level (micro: child, parent, and family relationships; meso: friendships and school) affect physically abused school performance (reading percentile, math percentile and number of days absent) as compared to non-physically abused children.

Method
The present study is a quantitative secondary analysis. The sample size included a total of 200 children, with 100 physically abused and a control group of 100 non-physically abused in an urban school, in grades 4-6 and ages 9-12 years. To ensure group similarity, the control group was matched according to race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, and age. The children and their families were assessed on children's internalizing / externalizing behaviour, parental discipline practices, family interaction / events, and the children’s view of friendship and feelings of loneliness. Data were also collected on the children's reading percentiles, math percentiles, and numbers of days absent.

Results
The findings indicate that there are significant similarities and differences in their ability to perform in school between physically abused children and non-abused children. Differences exist across all levels, including the microsystem and mesosystem. Results showed that there are specific structures and situations that affect both physically abused and non-abused children, although there are far more factors that impact physically abused children. Specifically for abused children, there is a direct relationship between physical abuse and their absentee rate. Furthermore, days absent is a mediator for reading and math percentiles; however, this same dynamic doesn’t hold true for the non-abused children.
Conclusions

Previous research has demonstrated the effect physical abuse can have on children. However, the present research illustrates how physical abuse affects children on different ecological levels that negatively result in absenteeism, a factor that further diminishes the child’s academic success. The goal of this presentation is to provide new approaches regarding prevention and intervention strategies that will enable practitioners and administrators to effectively work with these vulnerable children so that they can succeed even in the face of adversity.

F44.2

Choosing Supports, Supporting Choice: Understanding the Relational World of Vulnerable Young People in School Settings

Annie Gowing
University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Objectives

To develop an understanding of the relational world of vulnerable young people in school settings and to raise awareness among schools about the role of non-teaching staff in the lives of young people, particularly young people who are experiencing abuse and neglect.

Method

This research was conducted in a secondary college in outer Melbourne and formed part of a larger study into school connectedness. The study was multi-method, using focus group interviews, a student questionnaire and student journals.

Results

Findings indicate that vulnerable young people experience greater difficulty in establishing supportive relationships with teachers in the school setting. They are more likely to forge a connection with staff in non-teaching roles. These include library staff, information technology staff, sporting coaches, maintenance staff, school nurses and front office staff. These relationships are often forged as a result of the young person’s pattern of school attendance and the relational opportunities that are available to them in the school setting.

Conclusions

Research has established that a strong relationship with a non-familial adult is protective for young people. For most, that relationship is likely to be with a teacher. Schools need to ensure however, that all staff members are recognised as potential significant adults for students and non-teaching staff are particularly important for vulnerable young people. It is within these relationships that vulnerable young people may reveal their circumstances, including disclosing abuse. Schools are therefore challenged to recognise the key role non-teaching staff can play in the support of vulnerable young people and ensure space for such relationships to be nurtured is provided.

F44.3

Peer Bullying in Turkish Preschool Children: An Observational Study

Hatice Uysal¹, Caglayan Dincer², Pinar Bayhan³
¹Nigde University, Nigde, Turkey, ²Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey, ³Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey

Objectives

Recent studies of peer bullying during the preschool period in various countries have demonstrated the importance of studying bullying at this age. Although there is lots of evidence about middle childhood and adolescent bullying in Turkey, studies of the preschool period (3-6-year-olds) have been limited. The purpose of this investigation was to explore the nature of peer bullying during the preschool period.

Method

This masters research was conducted in two independent preschools in Ankara, Turkey, where the researcher was a non-participant observer. Teachers of 121 preschool children completed a Preschool Social Behavior Scale-Teacher Form (Crick, Casas & Mosher, 1997) and a child information form for each child. Information about children’s social behaviours in preschool was obtained through peer nomination and teacher interview. Based on analyses of these measures, 14 children were selected for observational assessments (for 7 weeks). Anecdotal records were conducted in their free time and art activities. After that time, sampling and scan sampling were conducted in their free time.
Results
Results indicated that bullying occurred mostly in their free time and verbal bullying occurred more than other bullying types in each activity. Hitting, yelling, taunting and exclusion were the more frequently observed behaviours. Time and scan sampling provided some evidence for bullies and bully-victims.

Conclusions
The discussion emphasizes the theoretical and the methodological need for studies of peer bullying in the preschool period that reflect individual and cultural differences. Also, the child information form provided some clues to understanding the reasons for the bullying. Sometimes teachers gave inconsistent information about children who were observed.

F44.4
Disablist Bullying and Initial Teacher Education: A Critical Examination of Knowledge, Experience, Confidence and Attitudes
Noel Purdy¹, Conor McGuckin², Kate Carr-Fanning²
¹Stranmillis University College, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK, ²Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Objectives
To investigate student teachers’ (Northern & Southern Ireland) (i) knowledge of, (ii) experience with, and (iii) confidence in dealing with disablist bullying. A central aim of the project has been to identify priorities for North / South Initial Teacher Education (ITE) regarding the preparation of teachers to address effectively the issue of disablist bullying in schools.

Method
A mixed-methods approach was adopted: focus groups were conducted with final-year students in Stranmillis University College, Belfast (n = 2 groups), and Trinity College Dublin (n = 2 groups). Participants were preparing to become primary teachers (1 group per institution) or post-primary teachers (1 group per institution). All final year students in both institutions were also invited to complete a questionnaire (n=167).

Free Paper Session 45
Chair: Jonathan Picken
Venue: PFC 3/017

F45.1
Case Study of a Systemic Approach to Improving, Embedding and Sustaining Supervision Practice in a Statutory Child Protection Setting
Judith Gibbs¹, George Habib²
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Objectives
To develop a better understanding of creating a sustained supervision practice in a statutory child protection context. Supervision is being increasingly understood as integrally linked to client outcomes and yet data from many inquiries in the Australian context indicate continuing problems in using supervision to develop a practice led culture.
Method
This paper describes what has been learnt over a two year period using an action learning approach in a region of the Victorian Department of Human Service Child Protection Program. The approach has focused on leadership and attending to the organisational, social, and emotional context as well as to the training of supervisors at every level. Ongoing analysis of workshops, surveys, and other participant feedback informed further design and planning.

Results
Key learning to be discussed:

- The centrality of a common model and language of supervision throughout the programme.
- Addressing the commonality of processes at casework, practitioner, supervisor and manager level involving the use of authority and power.
- Importance of leadership behaviours and practices that model improved supervision practice.
- A ‘cascade approach’ to facilitate transfer, embedding and sustaining improved supervision practice.
- Providing spaces for different stories about and perceptions of supervision relationships and processes.
- Struggling and persisting with the approach in the face of a risk averse, defensive wider context that had created a supervision avoidant culture.

Conclusions
A child protection supervisor will be better positioned to experience, reflect, think, and behave in the role of a “collaborator in reflective practice” if they also have regular and consistent access to reflective supervision. Embedding such practices within a statutory culture depends on the social and emotional context of their organisation becoming hospitable to and resonating with this construction.

F45.2
Harnessing Knowledge, Improving Policy and Practice: The Development and Review of a National Initiative to Support Child Protection Work in Scotland
Fiona Mitchell\(^1\), Beth Smith\(^2\)

\(^1\)Scottish Child Care and Protection Network, Scotland, UK, \(^2\)Multi-Agency Resource Service, Scotland, UK

Objectives
This paper will describe a Scotland-wide initiative funded by central government to promote the exchange of research and practice knowledge and expertise. Its objective is to promote an exchange of learning on ways to harness knowledge for the ongoing development and improvement of policy and practice in the child protection field.

Method
This narrative paper draws on the working experience of the authors and on the findings of an independent study of the Scottish Child Care and Protection Network (SCCPN) and Multi-Agency Resource Service (MARS) that they work for. The study reported on drew on documentary analysis, analysis of the project’s monitoring data, in-depth interviews with the five project staff and 20 key stakeholders, and a survey of professionals working in education, health, social work, police and law in Scotland (32% response rate; \(n=332\)).

Results
Working at micro and macro levels, SCCPN and MARS have been responsive to local needs for information (e.g. in the development of policy, practice and in conduct of case work) and instrumental in facilitating the inception of national projects aimed at coordinating policy and practice development on specific issues (e.g. the conduct and use of significant case reviews, the implementation of a training framework for professionals involved in child protection). The paper will provide an overview of the initiative’s development, its activities to date and key lessons learned.

Conclusions
Successive inspections and inquiries into child protection case work have recommended that practitioners need access to up-to-date knowledge and expertise to inform their practice. In Scotland, a Inspection into the Care and Protection of children in Eilean Siar, recommended ‘the establishment of a multi-agency resource on which all staff in Scotland working with complex child protection issues can draw for advice, expertise, training and research...’ (SWIA, 2005). Together, the SCCPN and MARS have been successful in
F45.3

Supporting, Educating and Leading Staff: What Do We Know about what Works in Supervision?
Lynne McPherson, Margarita Frederico, Patricia McNamara
La Trobe University, Victoria, Australia

Objectives
This paper will examine contemporary complexities inherent in front line child protection practice, drawing upon relevant and contemporary knowledge. A framework for effective supervision which accounts for complexity, vicarious trauma and the need for critical reflection will be proposed.

Method
A comprehensive literature review was undertaken as a component of a doctoral thesis. The central research question is what is ‘effective’ supervision in child and family practice? Data were generated from a critical analysis of the literature and draw on the author’s experience in the field as a practitioner and educator.

Results
Key suppositions are proposed:

- Child and family practice is highly complex. Effective supervision will account for the complexity with a strong educative component.
- The emotionally demanding nature of the work requires the supervisor to demonstrate attunement to the emotional support needs of their practitioner. Supervisor skills to manage distress and to appropriately contain practitioner anxiety, based on a sound knowledge of vicarious trauma would be essential.
- Supervisors who demonstrate transformational leadership practices are more likely to motivate and maintain staff.
- Organisational constraints need to be mediated by the supervisor.

Conclusions
A framework for effective supervision of child protection practice, which accounts for context, complexity and the impact of vicarious trauma, will be presented. Implications for implementation will be explored.

F45.4

A Constructivist Grounded Theory Study of Role Development in Child Protection Social Workers - Interim Findings
Martin Kettle
Glasgow Caledonian University, Glasgow, UK

Objectives
The initial objectives of the study were

1. An exploration of the perspectives of social workers working in child protection.
2. The development of a substantive theory of role development in child protection social workers.
3. Development of specific recommendations for practice in South Lanarkshire and beyond, and for future research.

Method
The study is using a constructivist grounded theory approach (Charmaz, 2006) underpinned by a symbolic interactionist theoretical framework. This has a number of key phases, namely the concurrent collecting of data, coding, which consists of initial and advanced coding, and data analysis using the constant comparative method memoing and theoretical sampling.

Data is currently being gathered from interviewing child protection social workers and analysing the transcripts of those interviews following a grounded theory methodology. By the time of congress data gathering will be at least 50% complete.

Results
The literature review for the study led to the conclusion that the assessment and management of risk to children continues to challenge child protection, and has been identified as an area for improvement across
Scotland. There is a significant gap in knowledge in relation to the process by which social workers acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to undertake child protection work effectively, and the perspective of social workers is under-represented in the literature.

Conclusions
The study has already raised significant issues in respect of reflexivity and role tension for the practitioner/researcher and the presentation will include some observations and reflections on that tension.

At this stage it is too early to offer definitive results or conclusions from the study, as data gathering has only just begun. By the time of Congress it is anticipated that substantive theory will have begun to develop.

Free Paper Session 46
Chair: Nigel King
Venue: PFC 2/018

F46.1
Female Sexual Abusers: Theory to Practice
Sherry Ashfield
Lucy Faithfull Foundation, Birmingham, UK

Objectives
To review the messages from empirical research and explore how this knowledge can assist in the development of evidence-based practice with women and their families.

Method
Traditional approaches to female sexual harm have been based largely on research relating to men. As the body of empirical research has developed it is now accepted that, although the abusive behaviours demonstrated by women may be similar to their male counterparts, their pathways to abuse are uniquely female (Harris 2010). Knowledge of these pathways and increased awareness of the implications of gender is vital if workers are to develop practice which is evidence-based, gender responsive and sensitive to the needs of victims of female sexual harm.

Results
Clinical experience engaging with female sexual abusers and their families indicates the benefits that can emerge from evidence-based practice that utilises research knowledge with awareness of the realities of women’s lives and experiences. Workers speak of feeling more confident in their ability to assess and manage risks of harm more effectively. Female sexual abusers also report more effective therapeutic relationships with their workers and an increased belief that they can work towards a positive future that is free from harm for them and others.

Conclusions
If workers can increase their understanding and identification of factors associated with female sexual harm they will be better equipped to respond in circumstances where female sexual harm may have occurred.

F46.2
Nature of Policy on Sex Offenders: A Critical Examination
Connie Smith
University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

Objectives
This paper provides analysis of the basis for, and nature of, policy on sex offenders in the context of criminal justice, penal and social developments. It considers literature that challenges the basis of the policy primarily directed to the predatory paedophile whose victims are unknown to them, where the reality is most sexual harm is between peers and by people known to one another (McAlinden 2010). It also draws on the theoretical literature on the emergence of the “penal state”, preventive governance and risk.

Method
This paper draws on a range of academic literature provides a theoretical and conceptual framework for the critical analysis of developments in policy.

Conclusions
Wacquant (2004) locates the emergence of “penal state” as integral to the neo-liberal state. The primary concern of criminal justice has become “public protection” through risk assessment and management (Parton, 2006). This is a significant move away from concerns with social context of crime and rehabilitation. Those who have committed sexual offences have been singled out for particular punitive and regulatory action. Exploratory conclusions suggest these are key drivers in policy.
F46.3

The Nature and Extent of Child Sexual Abuse by Teachers in Zimbabwean Schools: Issues and Trends
Almon Shumba
Central University of Technology, Bloemfontein, South Africa

Objectives
This study sought to determine the nature and extent of child sexual abuse by teachers in Zimbabwean schools.

Method
Data on reported cases of child sexual abuse by teachers in Masvingo Province were collected from the perpetrators' files.

Results
The study found that 30 cases of reported child sexual abuse by teachers in schools. Of these, 27 cases involved sexual abuse of girls and 3 cases of sexual abuse of boys (sodomy) by male teachers. The perpetrators included 5 school heads; 5 senior teachers, and 20 junior teachers. The study found that 15 teachers of these teachers were discharged and blacklisted from the teaching service; 2 were found not guilty; and 13 were awaiting hearing at the time of data collection. Research shows that the reported cases of child sexual abuse are merely a tip-of-iceberg because most child sexual abuse cases are never reported to the authorities.

Conclusions
It is clear from the findings that the laws and regulations in Zimbabwe are now firm on perpetrators of child sexual abuse in schools because teachers found guilty of the offence are discharged and blacklisted from the teaching service. In conclusion, child sexual abuse by teachers is still on the increase in Zimbabwean schools.

F46.4

Helping to Heal - Equipping Families of Internet Offenders to Move Forward
Tracy Shakes, Jo Ziegert
The Lucy Faithfull Foundation, Alvechurch Birmingham, UK

Objectives
To illustrate how adapting a family centred approach can assist partners and children to understand what has happened to their family and approach the future with hope.

Method
To date, little attention has been given to the difficulties experienced by families when internet offending is identified as occurring within the family home. The lack of ‘hands on’ behaviours associated with this form of behaviours can lead partners to struggle to reconcile the associated harm with their perceptions of their partner. Failure to understand the emotional processes associated with the experiences of the partner and children can lead to the woman being labelled as ‘in denial’ or ‘non co-operative’, increasing concerns regarding her ability to protect within the family in the future.

Results
Clinical experience working with female partners under the auspices of the Inform programme indicates that increasing the family’s knowledge of the core elements associated with internet offending can facilitate the family to move forward. On completion of the programme, partners speak of feeling better equipped to support their children and to identify and manage potential future risk.

Conclusions
The provision of clear and specific information regarding internet offending, within a supportive gender responsive environment can empower partners and families in the healing process.

Free Paper Session 47
Chair: David Spicer
Venue: PFC 2/011

F47.1

Am I Right, Are You Right, is Anyone Right? An Analysis of Children’s Policy in Ireland Between 2002-2009 Through Children’s Rights perspectives
Kerry Cuskelly
HSE, Dublin, Ireland
Objectives
The purpose of the study was to analyse 16 Irish children’s policy documents through six identified children’s rights perspectives to ascertain how children are constructed within society and in effect treated in relation to their rights on an Irish level. Analysing policy is important as it reflects the values and beliefs of society at any given time. This study could also be applied on an international level for comparative analysis.

Method
The methods used in this masters thesis were content analysis and data analysis. The children’s rights perspectives were: caretaker (1), welfarist (2), protectionist (3), participatory (4), rights-based (5) and emancipatory (6). A data analysis tool was constructed using one matrix containing manifest content and another matrix containing latent content.

Results
The key results were:
1) There is an ambiguity in relation to children’s rights in Irish children’s policy.
2) Overall, the policy-documents were not “child-centred”.
3) There is a “tokenistic” approach to participation in the children’s policy.
4) Retraction, in relation to youth justice was found to exist within the documents.

Conclusions
The conclusions suggest that:
1) Policy is constructed in an overall adult-centred way within an apparent “child-centred” framework.
2) Policy is constructed in a way that exhibits an agreement with international recommendations while at the same time sticking to traditional ways of viewing children in regards to rights.
3) There is a continued disenfranchisement of children by constructing them by using terms such as “vulnerable”, “protection”, “obligation of adults” and duty of care”.

Developing a Centre for European Child Protection Studies – Foundations and Plans
Trevor Spratt
Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives
To identify the key imperatives driving nations to develop child protection systems.

To identify areas of consensus in relation to the goals of child protection systems across Europe, based on the results of a recent international research project.

To identify gaps in our knowledge base in relation to the effectiveness of child protection systems, the relationships between childhood adversities and problems experienced in adulthood and the theories and methods informing child protection practice.

To describe the work of the European Centre for Child Protection Studies.

Method
A cross-national comparison of child protection systems across five nations based on a literature review and secondary data analysis.

Results
The key imperatives driving nations to develop child protection systems are scientific (prevalence and effects of child maltreatment), economic (investment in children), legal (recognition of children’s rights) and moral (league tables of inter-country performance). A consensus is evident amongst European nations as to why children require protection, but less so in terms of how this might be achieved. To help address these uncertainties the European Centre for Child Protection Studies at Queen’s University Belfast concentrates on three areas of study: international comparison of child protection systems; the effects of childhood adversity across the life-course; and theories and methods to inform practice.

Conclusions
The growing interests in international comparison of child protection systems, research findings and practice methods, are driven by scientific, economic, legal and moral imperatives. Whilst work already undertaken has identified consensus in relation to principles of system design and practice, more may be achieved by sharing of best practices across national borders, conducting research on the effects of childhood adversity across the life-course, together with development of theoretical and evidence methods to inform practice.
F47.3

Preventing Child Abuse and Exploitation in the Delivery of International Aid – AusAID
Kate Eversteyn¹, Karen Flanagan²
¹AusAID, Canberra, Australia, ²Save the Children, Melbourne, Australia

Objectives
• To explore the steps needed to keep children safe in the delivery of aid
• To identify practical steps in building a collaborative relationship with INGOs and Government.

Method
AusAID is the first Donor government to have child protection compliance standards linked to funding agreements. This Child Protection Policy was developed after growing recognition of the risks posed to recipient children in vulnerable circumstances.

The presentation will explore the role collaboration and ongoing partnership plays in protecting children and personnel from an INGO and Donor perspective. Key areas to be explored include:
• Lessons learnt over the last 5 years
• Policy framework development and implementation with government and community partners
• Using Online Forums to build networks and support NGOs implementing a child protection policy
• AusAID’s Child Protection Policy Review.

Results
Case studies and practice examples from both organisations will demonstrate:
• Progress to date and challenges encountered
• Impact this initiative has made on raising awareness of the risks to children
• Risk reduction strategies being implemented to prevent abuse and exploitation
• Increased accountability mechanisms now required in Development work and Aid delivery.

Conclusions
Sharing responsibility and working in partnership is a critical principle to keeping children safe. Working in complex environments where there are no formal systems or government authorities to act requires NGOs and Donors to work collaboratively and hold each other accountable. AusAID and Save the Children are facing these challenges together and will continue to strive for safe outcomes for children.

Workshop 42
Venue: PFC 3/006b

Parenting Education - A Resource to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect
Nereido Rodriguez, Ron Brown
Children’s Bureau of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, USA

Objectives
This workshop aims to increase delegates’ knowledge and understanding of:
• How parenting education helps to prevent or reduce the occurrence of child abuse and neglect
• The need to change parenting education to reflect the reality of today’s world
• how to guide parenting educators to think “outside of the box” when working with families and parents.

Method
The NuParent Parenting Education Program has been developed over the last 15 years in approximately 80 different community based organisation sites in California and some other states. The programme works with families from the last trimester of pregnancy to five years of age. Parent Learning Questionnaires are used as a tool to research the impact of the programme for families.

Results
Results of the Parent Learning Questionnaires show that:
• 64% more parents reported knowing how to guide and set limits for their toddler “most of the time” from pre to post session;
50% more parents reported knowing how to help their preschool child become self-sufficient and independent "most of the time" from pre to post session; and 42% more parents reported knowing how to support their preschool child's self-regulation and socialisation skills.

Conclusions
Key findings from the evaluation of the Parent Learning Questionnaires were in the following areas:

- **Skills:** Increased confidence in their parenting knowledge and skills, their ability to assist their children’s learning, and their access to resources and social supports to help parents.
- **Bonding:** An increase in their ability to understand their children’s temperament, express affection to their children, spend quality time with their children, and manage their challenging behaviour.
- **Interaction:** An increase in the amount of time they spent talking to, playing with, and reading to their children and providing their children with a daily routine.

Workshop 43
Venue: PFC 3/007


Philip Gilligan
University of Bradford, Bradford, UK

Objectives
To explore:

1. The extent to which the recommendations of the Nolan Report with regard to clergy convicted of offences against children have resulted in the outcomes that would have been expected given their adoption by the Catholic bishops in England and Wales in 2001.
2. The potential significance of this for victims and survivors.
3. Factors that have influenced the Church’s response in these cases.

Method
Relevant data from Church agencies and media reports is analysed alongside information about two specific cases from the diocese of Salford and relevant sections of Nolan (2001), Cumberlege (2007) and Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service procedures (CSAS, 2010).

Results
There is a significant mismatch between the rhetoric of Church policies and outcomes in most real cases.

There are inconsistencies between current CSAS procedures and recommendation 78.

Despite recommendation 78 and the rhetoric of statements by the Church since 2001, 64% of relevantly convicted and sentenced priests in England and Wales had not been laicised by September 2010.

Neither of the cases from Salford resulted in the laicisation of the perpetrators, 12 years and 2 years after sentencing.

Despite recommendations 77 and 78, bishops and relevant Church bodies have not provided public justifications for 'exceptions'.

Conclusions
The Church appears to have been inhibited in carrying out its declared policies because it is attempting to serve legitimacy communities beyond victims and survivors of clerical abuse. Full commitment to the paramountcy principle by the Church and more genuinely independent external scrutiny of its relevant decision making processes is urgently required.

It is unacceptable that the laity and most especially victims and survivors of abuse by priests, are required to see them as ongoing recipients of a sacred power and to accept that they will remain potential beneficiaries of Diocesan funds, under canon law.
Workshop 44
Venue: PFC 3/006a

“But I Was Only Looking”: Risk, Sexual Abuse and Indecent Images of Children

Lisa Saint
RWA Child Protection Services, Wolverton, UK

Objectives
This interactive workshop will:

- Identify influential research studies regarding the risk posed by people who download indecent images of children
- Explore the tension for practitioners arising from conflicting messages arising from research
- Discuss static and dynamic risk assessment tools utilised with contact sex offenders

Method
National professional experience has illuminated multiagency difficulty in assessing and managing the risk posed by people with convictions relating to indecent images of children, particularly in a family setting. A collection of research studies regarding the risk has been analysed and applied to everyday practice. Drawing upon recent research and live case studies this interactive workshop will generate discussion regarding the tension amongst experts regarding the risks posed by people concerned with indecent images of children.

Results
Professional experience suggests practitioners in a multiagency setting find it useful to have commonly used terminology explained to inform effective engagement with families. Experience of applying research to practice will be integrated throughout the workshop. Historic and current research regarding profiles and behaviours of contact sex offenders will be presented to enable practitioners to identify risk indicators and appropriate risk management in the family unit. Dynamic and static risk assessment tools will be presented to enhance general understanding.

Conclusions
This workshop will engage with delegates to establish key principles of best practice when working with families attached to a person who has convictions related to indecent images of children. Messages from research will be utilised to inform guidance for practitioner’s oral and written evidence for assessment in Family Courts and future risk management.

Workshop 45
Venue: PFC 3/005

The Therapeutic Community Approach to Working with Adolescents who Display Challenging Behaviour

Peter Clarke, Karen Parish
Glebe House, Cambridgeshire, UK

Objectives
- To explore the background to Therapeutic Communities
- To outline the theoretical ‘Cornerstones’ underpinning the work at Glebe House
- The use of Community Meetings as a therapeutic tool
- The use of the resident chairman’s role as a therapeutic tool.

Method
The workshop will use interactive discussion, video extracts and examples of how the therapeutic community approach can facilitate the building of positive attachment, containment, respect and responsibility, as well as allowing for constructive challenge and self-exploration.

Results
Glebe House is a therapeutic community that has been working with young people with challenging behaviour for over 40 years; Glebe House has a specialism working with young people with harmful sexual behaviour. Glebe House provide a two year residential treatment programme for adolescent males aged 16-21 years as well as providing a community based service.

The workshop aims to demonstrate how residential care can provide a living and learning environment that can help facilitate change.

Conclusions
The Therapeutic Community Model is particularly suited to creative work with troubled and troubling teenagers.
Workshop 46
Venue: Lanyon G74

After Munro: Implementing Effective Change in Child Protection Systems
Avery Bowser, Helga Sneddon, Michelle Harris, Kathy Brennan
Centre for Effective Services, Belfast, UK

Objectives
Another child protection crisis, another major review and the need for significant change in the child protection system, which will set the template for changes in practice. While there is widespread agreement with Prof Eileen Munro’s conclusion that the child protection system needs to move from a compliance culture to one that values professional expertise and is focused on the safety and welfare of children, the Review shares the challenge faced by all its predecessors - how to successfully and fully implement its recommendations?

Method
This workshop seeks to offer potential solutions by connecting the emerging evidence from ‘implementation science’ to the Munro Review and drawing on participants’ own experience of effective implementation of policies, programmes and practice. There is increasing international recognition that the effective implementation of policies, programmes and practices is critical for achieving better outcomes for children. Even the best evidence based programmes will be ineffective without proper attention to implementation. Having evidence that something works in one location does not mean that it will be equally effective elsewhere. Research suggests that only 20% of attempts at implementation make it to full effectiveness.

Results
This workshop will seek to establish the links between the evidence around what works in implementing evidence informed practices, programmes and policies, and the development and reform of child protection services and systems.

Conclusions
The majority of the workshop will be interactive and participants will leave with resources that could be used to highlight this learning in their organisations.

Workshop 47
Venue: PFC 2/013

Health and Social Care Working Together to Improve the Quality of Life of Looked-After Children and Young People
Mary Sainsbury
Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE), London, UK

Objectives
Joint Guidance produced by the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) and the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) aims to improve the quality of life of looked-after children and young people. The focus is on ensuring that practitioners work together to place the young person in every activity that affects their life. SCIE has also developed an innovative online resource (launched October 2011) for looked after children. The resource details key information about the guidance in an engaging and accessible way, informing young people of their rights and empowering them by setting out what they should expect from services.

Method
Guidance development was underpinned by research reviews, practice surveys including talking directly to children and young people and evidence from a number of experts in this field. The presentation will outline the evidence on which the guidance is based, describe the key messages, and demonstrate the new digital guide for children and young people.

Results
Nationally, the quality of services for looked-after children and young people is uneven. The guidance explores evidence that suggests that effective leadership is the ability to create an organisational culture with a strong learning capacity. The ability to acquire, assimilate and
apply knowledge and take seriously the need to learn from mistakes is critical.

Conclusions

When difficult decisions are made about budgets and resources, protecting and meeting the needs of looked-after children and young people should be our priority, as they make up one of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in our society. Our aspirations for them should be high and not be compromised.

Workshop 48

Venue: PFC 2/026

Hunting and Convicting a Travelling Sex Offender

John Geden¹, Todd Zerfoss²

¹Hampshire Police, Hampshire, UK, ²Immigration & Customs Enforcement, Fairfax VA, USA

Objectives

The central theme of this workshop will be built around a recent investigation, conducted by the British police, involving a British citizen who established a fake charity in Phnom Penh as a conduit to gain access to, and then to sexually abuse, vulnerable local children.

Method

This case was investigated over the course of several months with the suspect receiving a substantial prison sentence in Cambodia. The presentation will include the difficulties faced in tracing the offender and gathering evidence including interviewing victims in Cambodia. This case study will highlight the divergent responses that many developed nations including the UK apply to home based abusers as opposed to those who abuse abroad. Leading NGOs allege that UK law enforcement is ‘turning a blind eye’ to this problem.

Results

The presentation will link to academic theory exploring abusers’ motivation to offend and the freedom to achieve this in many under developed nations.

Workshop 49

Venue: PFC 3/011

Workshop - Exploring Cultural Competence

Fiona Milligan

NCB NI, Northern Ireland, UK

Objectives

This workshop introduces the concept of Cultural Competence to practitioners working with children and families from ethnically diverse backgrounds. It aims to demystify the notion that unless you know everything about every culture you are not culturally competent. Moreover the workshop will reinforce that cultural competence is a continuous learning process that a practitioner can add to throughout their career.

Method

The cultural competence workshop is delivered though a range of interactive techniques that requires audience participation and reflection. Participants will explore how they identify other people’s culture as well as their own culture. Further exploration will incorporate the notion of expectation on others to ‘assimilate’ to the host society; however we would expect to be ‘accommodated’ elsewhere. Participants will also reflect on how people learn to live in the United Kingdom and how we may misinterpret their actions/beliefs.
Results

Participants are encouraged to reflect and evaluate their attitude and practice in relation to being a more culturally competent practitioner. Participants will also be provided with additional reading and signposted to where they may find more information on culturally specific care and needs.

Conclusions

As a result of attending this workshop it is anticipated that participants will reflect on their own practice to date and identify areas for development. The session will be delivered by the Diversity In Action Northern Ireland (DIANI) project manager, based on workshop presentations that have been delivered to practitioners across Northern Ireland by the DAINI project. The DAINI project is delivered in partnership by NCB NI and Barnardo’s Northern Ireland.
Clerical Abuse in the Catholic Church in Ireland – Transparency, Accountability and the Process of Review

Ian Elliott
National Board for the Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland

Ian Elliott was appointed as the inaugural Chief Executive Officer of the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland and took up the post in July of 2007. Later that year he undertook a review of two child protection cases in the dioceses of Cloyne which led directly to the inclusion of the diocese in a public inquiry process. Prior to taking up this post, he had been seconded to the Social Services Inspectorate of the Department of Health and Social Services and Public Safety in Northern Ireland, to lead on Child Protection. Ian spent two years setting up and helping to lead a Reform Implementation Strategy to restructure the delivery of child protection front line services following an inspection which had highlighted significant deficits. He had been seconded to the Inspectorate from his post as Director for the NSPCC in Northern Ireland which he had taken up in February of 2000.

The Catholic Church in Ireland is the most scrutinised body on the island with regard to the matter of safeguarding children. It has been the subject of four government inquiries to date, severely and consistently criticised by media both here and across the world. In the face of mounting pressure from within as well as public opinion, it is seeking to change and fundamental to that process is increased transparency and accountability in the exercise of power within the Church with regard to its safeguarding practice. This presentation focuses on the critical role that an independent review process occupies in achieving these objectives. Drawing on the experiences of the National Board in trying to complete a comprehensive review of safeguarding practice across the Church, the lessons learned and challenges faced will be identified. The difficulties encountered in complying with legislation and with canon law will be described, along with the problems that arise from the disparate and diverse structure of the body itself.

Preventing Child Maltreatment: Getting it Right from the Start

Jane Barlow
University of Warwick

Jane is Professor of Public Health in the Early Years at the University of Warwick. She is Director of the newly established Warwick Infant and Family Wellbeing Unit which undertakes research and training focusing on the promotion of wellbeing during pregnancy and the first three years of life.

Jane’s research interests are in the effectiveness of early interventions in the primary prevention of mental health problems and in the prevention of child abuse, and she is Director of the newly established Warwick Infant and Family Wellbeing Unit (WIFWu), which undertakes research and provides training on this topic to a wide range of primary care and early years practitioners. Her current research focuses on the evaluation of interventions that are aimed at promoting the parent-infant relationship, and parenting that is associated with the emotional health of young children. She has many years experience of evaluating a wide range of parenting support interventions, including parenting and home visiting programmes, and has published widely on this topic. She has conducted numerous Cochrane reviews and is an editor of the Psychosocial, Learning and Developmental Review Group. She is currently working on a number of reviews summarising research about the prevention of emotional abuse, and safeguarding in the 21st Century. Her theoretical interests focus on the issue of individual agency and the way in which psychological and social factors act to constrain such agency, and her work draws on a range of philosophical approaches including critical realism, and the burgeoning research in the field of neuroscience and infant development.
Research shows that the first two years of a child’s life are important because the parent-infant relationship during this period influences many aspects of the child’s early and later development. However, recent estimates show that maltreatment during infancy is common. Between 8-12% of all children on a child protection plan are less than 1 year of age, with neglect and emotional abuse accounting for nearly two-thirds of these cases. Infants are also four times more likely to die at the hands of their parents. Non-accidental head injuries in infants are high, and result in up to a third of the deaths in this age-group, with significant brain damage occurring in around half of the survivors.

This paper will present recent research about the impact of emotional abuse and neglect that occurs during the first two years of a child’s life, and will discuss the need to develop care pathways for high risk women that begin in pregnancy, and that involve intensive intervention, and informed decision-making about the removal of the child, before the end of the first year of life.

Closing Remarks

Catherine Powell
BASPCAN Chair
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**MONDAY 16 APRIL 2012**

**09.00-10.00**
- **Symp 1**
  - F Bernard
- **Symp 2**
  - S Vincent FP7
- **Wksp 2**
  - R Caplan FP2 FP6 FP8
- **Wksp 3**
  - T Walsh FP4 FP5
- **Free Wksp 1**
  - J Dickens FP1

**10.00-11.00**
- **Symp 3**
  - E Poots MLA
- **Symp 4**
  - N Trocmé
- **Wksp 4**
  - J Dickens FP1 Luggage

**11.00-12.00**
- **Symp 5**
  - C Bernard
- **Symp 6**
  - T Geraghty FP17
- **Wksp 5**
  - T Hughes FP14 FP15 FP18

**12.00-13.00**
- **Symp 7**
  - P Lewsley-Mooney
- **Symp 8**
  - J Harwin FP26
- **Wksp 6**
  - M Murphy FP25 FP29 FP27

**13.00-14.00**
- **Symp 9**
  - H Buckley FP28 FP31
- **Symp 10**
  - M Keys FP19
- **Wksp 7**
  - H Ward FP33

**14.00-15.00**
- **Symp 11**
  - J Masson
- **Symp 12**
  - J Lutzker
- **Wksp 8**
  - D Coogan

**15.00-16.00**
- **Symp 13**
  - J Pearce FP47
- **Symp 14**
  - J Taylor FP46 FP44
- **Wksp 9**
  - D Mahon FP41

**16.00-17.00**
- **Wksp 10**
  - M Sainsbury
- **Wksp 11**
  - K Karsna FP43 FP40
- **Wksp 12**
  - N Rodriguez

**17.00-18.00**
- **Wksp 13**
  - P Gilligan
- **Wksp 14**
  - G Selvanera
- **Wksp 15**
  - A Stringer

**18.00-19.00**
- **Wksp 16**
  - P McFadden
- **Wksp 17**
  - K Winter
- **Wksp 18**
  - A Stafford

**TUESDAY 17 APRIL 2012**

**09.00-10.00**
- **Wksp 19**
  - L Burnside
- **Free Wksp 14**
  - S Ofir FP35 FP36
- **Wksp 20**
  - C Coohey FP37 FP34 FP38

**10.00-11.00**
- **Wksp 21**
  - C Ferguson
- **Free Wksp 25**
  - J Allister
- **Wksp 22**
  - K Winter

**11.00-12.00**
- **Wksp 23**
  - L Butterworth
- **Free Wksp 26**
  - A Stafford
- **Wksp 24**
  - S Pizzey

**12.00-13.00**
- **Wksp 25**
  - K Winter
- **Free Wksp 27**
  - A Stafford
- **Wksp 26**
  - S Pizzey

**13.00-14.00**
- **Wksp 27**
  - H Ward FP33
- **Wksp 28**
  - P Keenan
- **Wksp 29**
  - S Ofir FP35 FP36

**14.00-15.00**
- **Wksp 30**
  - C Coohey FP37 FP34 FP38
- **Free Wksp 31**
  - P Keenan
- **Wksp 32**
  - S Ofir FP35 FP36

**15.00-16.00**
- **Wksp 33**
  - H Ward FP33
- **Free Wksp 34**
  - C Coohey FP37 FP34 FP38
- **Wksp 34**
  - S Ofir FP35 FP36

**16.00-17.00**
- **Wksp 35**
  - G Selvanera
- **Free Wksp 36**
  - C Coohey FP37 FP34 FP38
- **Wksp 36**
  - P McFadden

**17.00-18.00**
- **Wksp 37**
  - K Karsna FP43 FP40
- **Free Wksp 38**
  - C Coohey FP37 FP34 FP38
- **Wksp 38**
  - D Mahon FP41

**WEDNESDAY 18 APRIL 2012**

**09.00-10.00**
- **Wksp 39**
  - D Coogan
- **Free Wksp 40**
  - D Coogan
- **Wksp 41**
  - K Karsna FP43 FP40

**10.00-11.00**
- **Wksp 42**
  - M Sainsbury
- **Free Wksp 43**
  - D Coogan
- **Wksp 43**
  - P Gilligan

**11.00-12.00**
- **Wksp 44**
  - K Winter
- **Free Wksp 45**
  - M Sainsbury
- **Wksp 45**
  - L Burnside

**12.00-13.00**
- **Wksp 46**
  - A Stafford
- **Free Wksp 47**
  - A Stafford
- **Wksp 47**
  - N Rodriguez

**13.00-14.00**
- **Wksp 48**
  - M Sainsbury
- **Free Wksp 49**
  - A Stafford
- **Wksp 49**
  - P Gilligan

**14.00-15.00**
- **Wksp 50**
  - K Winter
- **Free Wksp 51**
  - M Sainsbury
- **Wksp 51**
  - P Gilligan

**15.00-16.00**
- **Wksp 52**
  - D Coogan
- **Free Wksp 53**
  - D Coogan
- **Wksp 53**
  - P Gilligan

**16.00-17.00**
- **Wksp 54**
  - K Winter
- **Free Wksp 55**
  - D Coogan
- **Wksp 55**
  - P Gilligan

**17.00-18.00**
- **Wksp 56**
  - M Sainsbury
- **Free Wksp 57**
  - D Coogan
- **Wksp 57**
  - P Gilligan

**18.00-19.00**
- **Wksp 58**
  - K Winter
- **Free Wksp 59**
  - M Sainsbury
- **Wksp 59**
  - P Gilligan

**19.00-20.00**
- **Wksp 60**
  - D Coogan
- **Free Wksp 61**
  - M Sainsbury
- **Wksp 61**
  - P Gilligan

**SUNDAY 15 APRIL 2012**

**16.00-18.00**
- **Session Locations by Room**

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**Session 10.00-15.00**
- **Morning sessions Wednesday 9.00-10.30**
- **Late morning sessions Tuesday 12.15-13.15**
- **Late afternoon sessions Monday 17.30-18.30**

**Morning sessions Monday 10.30 - 12.00**
- **late afternoon sessions Monday 17.30 - 18.30**

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**BASPCAN 8th Congress April 2012**

265
Conference Rooms
Peter Foggatt Centre

First Floor

Ground Floor
Conference Rooms
Peter Froggatt Centre

Third Floor

Second Floor
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>When</th>
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<td>Abdelrahim, Zeinab</td>
<td>P12</td>
<td>Tues 10:00</td>
<td>Sir William Whitla Hall</td>
<td><a href="mailto:zeinab.abdelrahim@southerntrust.hscni.net">zeinab.abdelrahim@southerntrust.hscni.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Allister, Janice</td>
<td>W25</td>
<td>Mon 17:30</td>
<td>Lanyon G74</td>
<td><a href="mailto:janice@allister.org">janice@allister.org</a></td>
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<td>Amaranth, Karel</td>
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<td>Mon 16:00</td>
<td>PFC 2/025</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kamarant@montefiore.org">kamarant@montefiore.org</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:grega@bensoc.org.au">grega@bensoc.org.au</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:Julieann.Armstrong@westerntrust.hscni.net">Julieann.Armstrong@westerntrust.hscni.net</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:ignacia.arruabarrena@ehu.es">ignacia.arruabarrena@ehu.es</a></td>
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<td>F46.1</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:sashfield@lucyfaithfull.org">sashfield@lucyfaithfull.org</a></td>
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<td>P18</td>
<td>Tues 10:00</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:marisabarata1@gmail.com">marisabarata1@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Barcham, Claire</td>
<td>WS6</td>
<td>Mon 12:00</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:claire.barcham@scie.org.uk">claire.barcham@scie.org.uk</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:i.g.z.barron@dundee.ac.uk">i.g.z.barron@dundee.ac.uk</a></td>
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<td>Beckett, Helen</td>
<td>S13.2</td>
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<td>Tues 12:15</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:maddie.bell@barnardos.org.uk">maddie.bell@barnardos.org.uk</a></td>
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<td>Bernard, Claudia</td>
<td>S3.4</td>
<td>Mon 10:30</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:c.bernard@gold.ac.uk">c.bernard@gold.ac.uk</a></td>
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<td>Bonner, Brendan</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:brendan.bonner@hscni.net">brendan.bonner@hscni.net</a></td>
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<td>Bowser, Avery</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:m.brandon@uea.ac.uk">m.brandon@uea.ac.uk</a></td>
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<td>Brooks, Lynn</td>
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<td>Sir William Whitla Hall</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lynn.brooks@dvh.nhs.uk">lynn.brooks@dvh.nhs.uk</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>Alphabetical List of Presenters</td>
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# Alphabetical List of Presenters

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<td>Mon 10:30</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:corrin@tcd.ie">corrin@tcd.ie</a></td>
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<td>Cossar, Jeanette</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jeanette.cossar@uea.ac.uk">jeanette.cossar@uea.ac.uk</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:s.l.daniels@leeds.ac.uk">s.l.daniels@leeds.ac.uk</a></td>
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### Alphabetical List of Presenters

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## Alphabetical List of Presenters

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<td><a href="mailto:h.richardson-foster@sheffield.ac.uk">h.richardson-foster@sheffield.ac.uk</a></td>
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<td>Rigby, Paul</td>
<td>PFC 3/005</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:p.rigby@glasgow.gov.uk">p.rigby@glasgow.gov.uk</a></td>
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<td>Robb, Lindsey</td>
<td>F11.1</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:l.robb@napier.ac.uk">l.robb@napier.ac.uk</a></td>
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<td>Robb, Louise</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lrobbs18@cf.ac.uk">lrobbs18@cf.ac.uk</a></td>
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<td>Sainsbury, Mary</td>
<td>W47</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:m.sainsbury@scie.org.uk">m.sainsbury@scie.org.uk</a></td>
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<td>W44</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lisa.saint@rwauk.co.uk">lisa.saint@rwauk.co.uk</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:s.sait@vassar.edu">s.sait@vassar.edu</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:s.san123@scie.org.uk">s.san123@scie.org.uk</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:isabel.s.silva@sapo.pt">isabel.s.silva@sapo.pt</a></td>
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<td>Spratt, Arlene</td>
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<td>Spratt, David</td>
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<tr>
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</table>
# Alphabetical List of Presenters

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<tr>
<th>Presenter Name</th>
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<td><a href="mailto:sharon.vincent@ed.ac.uk">sharon.vincent@ed.ac.uk</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lindsay.voss@scpct.hhs.uk">lindsay.voss@scpct.hhs.uk</a></td>
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| 09.00-10.00| 09.30 - International Delegates Programme Registration  
Peter Froggatt Centre | Plenary Session B  
09.00 - 09.15 Ministerial Address  
Edwin Poots, MLA  
09.15 - 10.00 Prof Nico Trocmé  
Sir William Whitla Hall | Plenary Session D  
09.00 - 09.15 Commissioner’s Address  
Patricia Lewsley-Mooney  
09.15 - 10.00 Founders’ Lecture  
Prof Brigid Daniel  
Sir William Whitla Hall | Parallel Session 8  
09.00 - 10.30  
Peter Froggatt Centre & Lanyon Building |
| 10.00-11.00| 10.00 International Delegates Programme  
PFC/2/026 | 10.00 - 10.30 Refreshments  
South Dining Hall & Sir William Whitla Hall | 10.00 - 10.45 Refreshments  
South Dining Hall & Sir William Whitla Hall  
10.00-10.45 Interactive Poster Session  
Sir William Whitla Hall | 10.30 - 11.00 Refreshments  
South Dining Hall & Sir William Whitla Hall |
| 11.00-12.00| Parallel Session 1  
10.30 - 12.00  
Peter Froggatt Centre & Lanyon Building | Parallel Session 5  
10.45 - 12.15  
Peter Froggatt Centre & Lanyon Building | Plenary Session F  
11.00 -11.45 - Ian Elliott  
11.45 -12.30 - Prof Jane Barlow  
12.30 -13.00 - Closing Remarks  
Dr Catherine Powell  
Sir William Whitla Hall |
| 12.00-13.00| Registration – Peter Froggatt Centre | Parallel Session 2  
12.00 - 13.00  
Peter Froggatt Centre & Lanyon Building | Parallel Session 6  
12.15 - 13.15  
Peter Froggatt Centre & Lanyon Building | |
| 13.00-14.00| 13.00-14.00 Lunch  
The Space & Respite | 13.15-14.15 Lunch  
The Space & Respite | |
| 14.00-15.00| Plenary Session C  
Sir William Whitla Hall  
14.00-14.45 – Gerison Lansdown  
14.45-15.30 – Nazir Afzal OBE | Plenary Session E  
Sir William Whitla Hall  
14.15-15.00 – Nicholas Crichton  
15.00-15.45 – Prof Simon Hackett | |
| 15.00-16.00| 15.30-16.00 Refreshments  
South Dining Hall & Sir William Whitla Hall  
Parallel Session 3  
16.00 – 17.30  
Peter Froggatt Centre & Lanyon Building | Parallel Session 7  
16.15 - 17.45  
Peter Froggatt Centre & Lanyon Building | |
| 16.00-17.00| 16.00 Congress Official Opening  
Sir William Whitla Hall  
Plenary Session A  
16.30-17.15 - Dr Lorraine Radford  
17.15-18.00 - Fergus Cumiskey | 16.30 - 17.30  
Peter Froggatt Centre & Lanyon Building | |
| 17.00-18.00| 18.00 – Welcome Drinks Reception  
Great Hall, Lanyon Building | Parallel Session 4  
17.30 - 18.30  
Peter Froggatt Centre & Lanyon Building  
18.30 Child Abuse Review Drinks Reception  
Great Hall, Lanyon Building | |