

Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: Child protection in England: tackling neglect, improving identification of abuse and developing multi-agency working

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 25th November 2014

Venue: Congress Centre, 28 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS



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FORUM

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Mark Williams MP, Treasurer, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Child Protection
- 9.05 - 9.35 **Key findings from Ofsted's report: In the child's time - professional responses to neglect**
Anji Parker, Principal Officer (Social Care), Ofsted
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 - 9.45 **Tackling root causes of child neglect from an early age**
Anthoulla Koustoudi, Director of External Relations, WAVE Trust
- 9.45 - 10.45 **Identifying and tackling child neglect including emotional neglect: assessing options for policy and best practice**
What will be the likely impact of the Serious Crime Bill's measures to criminalise acts of emotional neglect and psychological harm towards children; is the Bill's definition of neglect fit for purpose? How can social workers, health professionals, teachers and police be best supported in implementing the measures in the Serious Crime Bill and in accurately identifying all types of neglect, amidst claims that certain types of neglect go unnoticed? What more can be done to reduce variations between local authorities in the application of thresholds for intervention in child protection cases? What steps could be taken to identify and tackle the particular issue of neglect suffered by disabled children? Is the recent rise that has been found in cases of emotional neglect a long-term trend; and are local authorities sufficiently resourced to address the volume of cases, particularly in light of budgetary constraints?
Kate Mulley, Interim Director of Public Policy, Action for Children
Assistant Chief Constable Karen Manners, Lead for Child Neglect, Association of Chief Police Officers
Maris Stratulis, England Manager, The British Association of Social Workers
Steve Walker, Deputy Director, Children Services, Leeds City Council
Dr Ruth Gardner, Advisor on neglect, NSPCC
Questions and comments from the floor with **Anthoulla Koustoudi**, Director of External Relations, WAVE Trust
- 10.45 - 10.50 **Chair's closing remarks**
Mark Williams MP, Treasurer, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Child Protection
- 10.50 - 11.20 Coffee
- 11.20 - 11.25 **Chair's opening remarks**
Sarah Champion MP, Member, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Child Protection and Chair, Parliamentary Inquiry into the effectiveness of legislation for tackling child sexual exploitation and trafficking within the UK
- 11.25 - 11.55 **Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups - findings of the Children's Commissioner's inquiry 'If only someone had listened'**
Graham Ritchie, Principal Policy Advisor, The Office of the Children's Commissioner
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.55 - 12.55 **Identifying and tackling child abuse: supporting best practice for multi-agency working and frontline professionals**
How can key professionals work together to more effectively identify and tackle all forms of child abuse at the earliest stage? What will be the impact on care and protection received by children and young people of the new proposed integrated inspections from April 2015? Are current forms of multi-agency working sufficient to detect and effectively deal with the recent rise of forced marriages, honor killings and child sexual exploitation? What more can be done to raise community awareness of child safety issues and encourage individuals to raise concerns? Will the revised guidelines for frontline professionals to tackle Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), and the extension of extra-territorial reach to arrest habitual UK residents under suspicion of FGM-related offences, fulfill Government's aim of reducing abuse; what more could be done? Amidst calls for Government to take steps to allow police to make arrests sooner if they suspect a child is being groomed for sexual exploitation, what steps could be taken to help professionals and others identify and protect potential victims? To what extent will the Serious Crime Bill's criminalisation of the possession of 'paedophilic manuals' aid police in tackling child grooming? In what ways can police and local authorities be helped to deal with the current high volume of child abuse cases caused, in part, by the dramatic increase in historic child abuse cases? How could advocacy services and support for victims during the court process be improved?
Muna Hassan, former Trustee, Integrate Bristol
Martina Longworth, Partner, Moody and Woolley Solicitors, Derby and Secretary, Association of Lawyers for Children
Matthew Grove, Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside and Member of the National Taskforce on Sexual Violence against Children and Vulnerable People
Councillor Neill Young, Cabinet Member for Children and Education Services, Portsmouth City Council
Edith Badgie, Principal Officer, Employment and Equal Rights, NUT
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**
Sarah Champion MP, Member, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Child Protection and Chair, Parliamentary Inquiry into the effectiveness of legislation for tackling child sexual exploitation and trafficking within the UK
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Education Forum