



## **Statutory Officers Report for Health and Wellbeing Board**

### **Corporate Director of Children's Services**

**January 2017**

#### **Talking about abuse that happened in childhood**

A leaflet entitled 'Talking about abuse that happened in childhood' has been produced under the direction of the multi-agency Strategic Management Group of Operation Equinox (the Police and Local Authority joint investigation into historical child abuse in Nottinghamshire). This leaflet provides advice and signposting to support services for victims/survivors.

You can download a copy of the latest version of this leaflet here:

<http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/children-and-families/child-abuse-prevention/allegations-of-historical-child-abuse-in-nottinghamshire/>

The intention is to update the leaflet over time, so please return to this website regularly to ensure you are downloading the latest version of the leaflet.

#### **Liquidlogic Update**

The Liquidlogic Children's, Early Help and ContrOCC systems are now live across Children's Services. After months of working with Liquidlogic to set up and test the system, followed by 12 weeks of training roll out, the new system was launched to workers on Monday 28th November. The Children's system now connects to the Adults Liquidlogic system which was implemented over the summer. We'll be monitoring how the new system is working and continue to work closely with Liquidlogic to enhance both the Adults and Children's systems over the next few months.

#### **Imagination Library reaches 3,000 children a month milestone**

More than 3,000 children a month now get free books through their door in Nottingham thanks to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

Nottingham City Council has been working alongside the Rotary Club of Nottingham to co-ordinate fundraising since it chose to back the Imagination Library in the city in 2012. Since then, donations have increased to see more and more children benefiting.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library delivers children a free book for them to keep and read with their family every month; they receive these from birth until their fifth birthday.

Cllr David Mellen, Portfolio Holder for Early Intervention and Early Years, said: "Reaching this milestone is amazing – it means 3,000 children are now benefiting from getting a free book through their door every month. This is all thanks to the fantastic efforts of our fundraisers and partners.

"It's so important: the free book is about more than just reading; it's dedicated time that parents are spending with their children, developing a love of books at an early age. As well as the close bond this fosters in families, it can also

help with language development.

“However, we need to ensure that people continue to support this charity. I would like to see these free books go to every home in the city.”

Local data shows that Nottingham children are likely to start school with reading skills up to 14% behind the national average, while recent research in the US shows that children who have been on the scheme for three years or more are 28% more ‘school ready’ than those who have not received the books.

Since 2012 over £200,000 has been raised across the city; enough to give out more than 100,000 books. The charity has now delivered over 55,000 books to children registered on the scheme. The money raised will ensure that these children will continue to get the books until their 5th birthday.

Donations are always welcome. Just £2 a month is enough to ensure a child gets their free book. Or for a one off donation of just £25 you will be paying for one child to receive these wonderful books delivered to their home each month for an entire year. You can find out [how to donate](#) here.

To find out more about Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library go to [www.dollybooksnottingham.org](http://www.dollybooksnottingham.org).

### **Empowering the Workforce to deliver Excellence in Safeguarding Practice**

The latest series of Every Colleague Matters events has been scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> February 2017. These events have been developed in partnership with the Children’s and Adults Safeguarding Boards in Nottingham City, to showcase their ongoing commitment to the workforce, and to keep our children and adults safe.

Places are available on the following sessions:

- Female Genital Mutilation - Working Together to end FGM
- Forced Marriage and Honour Based Abuse
- Assessing Physical Abuse: Child-Centered Safeguarding Practice
- Missing Children and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
- Medical Neglect of Children
- Recognising and Responding to the effects of Early Childhood Trauma
- Child Focussed Practice
- Prevent Workshop
- Modern Slavery
- Plus many more sessions are available....

For further information and details of how to request a place, please follow this link: [www.nottinghamchildrenspartnership.co.uk/ecm2016Safeguarding](http://www.nottinghamchildrenspartnership.co.uk/ecm2016Safeguarding)

Our Integrated Workforce Development Team, who organise these events, were recently a finalist for the Guardian Public Service Award in the Learning and Development category.

## **Association of Directors of Childrens Services (ADCS) Blogs**

In my role as Vice President of ADCS, I regularly have to write blogs on a variety of issues – I thought that you might like to read my most recent one:

Baubles, Bells and Budgets - <http://adcs.org.uk/blog/article/baubles-bells-and-budgets>

Alison Michalska  
Corporate Director for Children and Adults  
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