



Safeguarding Save the Date

MACC are pleased to announce a safeguarding conference for voluntary, community and faith sector organisations in 2012.

This conference will include key speakers from the safeguarding arena, tools for voluntary sector organisations to support their safeguarding practice and specialist workshops covering a number of areas including E-Safety.

This conference will be held on March 2nd 2012 (date to be confirmed).

Further details will be available nearer the time.

New MSCB Practice Guidance for the Management of Self-Harm by Children & Young People

This MSCB practice guidance for the management of self harm by children and young people is designed to promote a Multi-Agency response to issues of self-harm in children and young people, with advice about how to facilitate support and intervention according to the level of need and associated risk.

This guidance can be found at:

www.manchesterscb.org.uk/prof-specific.asp

Minimum Standards for E-Safety Version 2

The Minimum Standards for E-Safety Document offers clear guidance and support for agencies in developing appropriate practice and policies for safeguarding children when using information and communication technology. The original document (October 2009) has now been updated and the current version (February 2011) is available at:

www.manchesterscb.org.uk/prof-specific.asp

National Action Plan for Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation

The national action plan for tackling child sexual exploitation, published on 23 November 2011, brings together for the first time actions by the Government and a range of national and local partners to protect children from this largely hidden form of child abuse.

Sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 can involve gangs or individuals luring them into performing sexual activities in exchange for gifts like money, food, drugs or alcohol. It can also happen through grooming using technology - for example, young people being persuaded to post sexual images on the internet or mobile phones.

The action plan looks at sexual exploitation from the perspective of the child. It highlights areas where more needs to be done and sets out specific actions which government, local agencies and voluntary and community sector partners need to take to address this horrific form of abuse.

This is available at:

www.education.gov.uk/a00200288/tackling-child-sexual-exploitation-action-plan



Headline News Children, Young People and Families

The Chancellor made his autumn statement on Tuesday. Some key announcements for children, young people and families:

- The planned £110 above inflation increase to the child element of the Child Tax Credit will not be implemented and the couple and lone parent elements of the Working Tax Credit in 2012–13 will not be updated,
- There will be an extra £600 million to fund 100 additional Free Schools by the end of this Parliament. This will include new specialist maths Free Schools for 16-18 year olds, supported by strong university maths departments and academics,
- An additional £600 million will support those local authorities with the greatest demographic pressures. This funding is enough to deliver an additional 40,000 school places.
- A Youth Contract worth a total of £940 million over the Spending Review 2010 period. The government will fund wage incentives for 160,000 young people to make it easier for private sector employers to take them on,
- A further £380 million a year by 2014–15 to extend the offer of 15 hours free education and care a week for disadvantaged two year olds, covering an extra 130,000 children.

The autumn statement can be found here:

http://cdn.hm-treasury.gov.uk/autumn_statement.pdf

NCVO have written a response which can be found here:

<http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/networking-discussions/blogs/18158/11/11/30/autumn-statement-cuts-debt-deficits-growth>

For information relating to children and families including:

- **Commissioning**
- **Safeguarding support**
- **Children's Partnership Structures**

Contact Nicola Shanahan at MACC on nicola@macc.org.uk



Youth Contract

Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg has outlined a £1 billion pound Youth Contract to tackle youth unemployment.

The Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg said:

“The aim of the Youth Contract is to get every unemployed young person working or learning again before long term damage is done. This is a £1bn package and what’s different about it is gets young people into proper, lasting jobs in the private sector. But it’s a contract, a two-way street: if you sign up for the job, they’ll be no signing on for the dole. You have to stick with it”

Headline News Youth Contract

- Over three years, the Youth Contract will provide at least 410,000 new work places for 18 to 24 year olds into work. Starting next April.
- Including 160,000 wage subsidies and 250,000 new work experience placements.
- In addition, there will be at least 20,000 more incentive payments to encourage employers to take on young apprentices.

Policy Detail

- All figures refer to the three year period from April 2012 and are in addition to existing support.
- The Youth Contract is open to all businesses, including those that already employ large numbers of young people (like retail and construction) and emerging sectors (like the green economy, creative industries and ICT).
- 160,000 18 to 24 year olds to be taken on by employers using wage incentives
- A work experience place for every unemployed 18 to 24 year old who wants one (after they have been on JSA for 3 months) before they enter the Work Programme.
- More funding to support the growth in apprenticeships for 16 to 24 year olds
- A new £50m programme for persistently NEET 16 and 17 year olds to get them learning, on an apprenticeship or in a job with training.

More information as this develops will be sent out through the Children, Young People and Families Bulletin (CYPF). If you would like to receive this bulletin please contact: cypf.ebulletin@gmail.com

For more information relating to youth please contact Ross Grant at voluntary youth Manchester on: voluntaryyouthmanchester@gmail.com