



Vulnerability Knowledge
& Practice Programme

Stakeholder Bulletin



June 2022

The VKPP - Improving and coordinating the police service response to vulnerability.

Welcome to the first edition of The Stakeholder Bulletin from the VKPP – a brand new bulletin from the Vulnerability Knowledge and Practice Programme (VKPP) designed to keep stakeholders and partners updated with our work.

We are a multi-disciplinary team, working to understand current approaches and characteristics of vulnerability demand, identify gaps and innovation, to shape evidence-based practice improvements across policing in England and Wales.

Working with the National Police Chiefs' Council's (NPCC), the Violence and Public Protection (VPP) lead and funded by the Home Office, the VKPP undertake a range of direct engagement with forces and key partners to understand current practice, identify promising practice, gaps and share knowledge and shape future responses with emphasis on the 14 strands of public protection. Our work also directly supports critical workstreams within policing, such as Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG).

It's been a very busy first quarter of 2022 – we have just held our annual VKPP conference and have launched a new website and Twitter account and are now expanding the team.



New VKPP and Violence Against Women (VAWG) Vacancies

The VKPP have secured Home Office funding to significantly expand our research and analyst teams, from practitioners to managers, and we now have a number of exciting opportunities for skilled candidates to join us.

Our expanding team consists of a range of professionals: people from the charity sector, academics, police officers, a mix of backgrounds, genders and abilities. To learn more about us please visit the 'meet the team' section of the VKPP website – www.vkpp.org.uk or click on this link, [Meet The VKPP Team](#)

At the heart of the VKPP Programme we endeavour to constantly lead with our ideals and beliefs that empower our team to develop their potential and bring their authentic self to the workplace and engage in the world of inclusion.

We work across England and Wales so our roles are national roles and working from home or any other location are options which can be discussed with us.

The VKPP is supporting and informing the national policing response to **Violence Against Women and Girls** (VAWG), directed by National Police Chiefs' Council lead, DCC Maggie Blythe. A national VAWG delivery framework has been developed to deliver collaborative, positive change in policing. The VKPP team will be leading the performance and insight work needed here.

We are seeking committed, passionate people who want to use their experience and skills to make a meaningful difference to the lives of women and girls - including **performance and intelligence analysts** at varying grades, **senior research fellows**, **research assistants**, as well as **senior practice advisors**.

Some vacancies are available as short term secondments and others are offered on a fixed term basis. The VKPP is a great, passionate and supportive team. To find out more about the roles available please visit the Join Us section of the VKPP's website www.vkpp.org.uk



Recruitment – Cadre Subject Matters Experts

The VKPP peer review team are recruiting a cadre of subject matter experts who are currently working in, or have experience of working within, vulnerability, either with children or adults. Subject matter experts play a key role in informing and influencing the response to vulnerability. Being a member of the VKPP cadre offers a great opportunity to engage face to face or remotely with police forces across England and Wales to review and support the current policing response

across all strands of vulnerability. You will bring both your insight from your own organisation into the review, as well as knowledge sharing across other organisations.

We are keen to hear from individuals with experience of working with vulnerability, particularly in **a partner or third sector organisation.**

At the heart of the VKPP Programme we endeavour to constantly lead with our ideals and beliefs that empower our team to develop their potential and bring their authentic self to the workplace and engage in the world of inclusion. We seek diversity amongst our people, our stakeholders, and our partners. To learn more on VKPP equality, diversity and inclusion please visit our website www.vkpp.org.uk or click on the link [VKPP EDI](#)

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact the VKPP by email vkpp@norfolk.police.uk



Learning Events

PIER22: Child Sexual Abuse: Instigating change in practice, partnership and protection

Join the [Policing Institute for the Eastern Region](#) (PIER)'s annual conference online on 14 June (9.30am-5pm) and 15 June (9.30am-4pm). It's free to attend!

PIER's annual conference is an important event that brings together national leads in areas including violence against women and girls, the voice of the victim and multi-agency safeguarding arrangements

Confirmed speakers include:

- Sajid Javid, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
- DCC Maggie Blyth, NPCC Lead for Violence against Women and Girls
- DCC Ian Critchley, NPCC Lead for Child Protection
- Lorraine Parker, VKPP – National Facilitator Safeguarding Children Reform
- Gareth Edwards, VKPP Director

You'll hear the latest updates and strategic thinking on the crucial issues surrounding child sexual abuse and will have the opportunity to discuss key themes on how changes of approach

are being driven by prominent strategic leaders, research in practice, frontline practitioners and practice reviews.

If you have any questions, email PIER@aru.ac.uk
[Find out about PIER's previous annual conferences.](#)

The Independent Review of Children's Social Care - Webinar

Sign up for a discussion with Josh MacAlister, chair of the independent review of children's social care, on the review's final report and recommendations. Webinars are scheduled on 8 June at 5.30pm and 9 June at 1pm.

For more information and to so sign up please follow the link [Webinar - Independent Review of Children's Social Care](#)
[@reviewCSC](#)



Stakeholder/Partner News

The Police Race Action Plan - 24 May 2022

The Police Race Action Plan released by National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) and the College of Policing on 24 May 2022 sets out the commitment of Chief Constables in England and Wales to become an anti-racist police service and to explain or reform race disparities. The plan will now be subject to further independent scrutiny with the public, police officers and staff and experts invited to share their views before it is finalised in December 2022.

Read the press release [Police action plan released to address race disparities affecting Black people, changing a legacy of distrust \(npcc.police.uk\)](#)

- The link to the feedback survey: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/PlanFeedback/>

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel - 26 May 2022

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (National Panel) have published their review examining the circumstances leading up to the deaths of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson, making recommendations for both local and national learning. Arriving the same week

as the Independent Review of Children's Social Care it's crucial to maintain a focus on your current responsibilities as adoption of any recommendations will take some time.

The report highlights leadership and practice issues which all Safeguarding Partners across England should immediately assure themselves are being dealt with effectively in their area:

- Robust multi-agency strategy discussions always being held whenever it is suspected a child may be at risk of suffering significant harm and that escalation routes are understood and monitored to enable professional challenge where threshold decisions for intervention are not believed to match risk and/or harm seen.
- Sufficient resources are in place from across all agencies to allow partners to meet their statutory multi-agency engagement requirements in child protection processes e.g., strategy discussions, section 47 enquiries and Initial Child Protection Conferences.
- There are robust information sharing and seeking arrangements and protocols in place across the Partnership.
- Referrals are not deemed 'malicious' without a full and thorough multi-agency assessment, including talking with the referrer, and agreement with the appropriate manager. Indeed, the Panel believes that the use of such language has many risks and would therefore discourage a professional conclusion that a referral is 'malicious'

Other areas requiring attention;

- Are you drawing a distinction between your strategic and operational arrangements?
- Have you secured effective involvement across your education sector?
- Does cross agency case work demonstrate an understanding of what daily life is like for children and is that informing your strategic decision making?
- How well do you investigate concerns raised by wider family members?
- Does your local coordination address weaknesses in information sharing and seeking between agencies that might impact decision making?
- Might you consider using independent scrutiny to provide you with objective critical analysis of your performance in this area?

Lorraine Parker, the national police facilitator for safeguarding reform at the VKPP, is working across policing and partnerships to develop and strengthen practice. To learn more please visit our website, www.vkpp.org.uk or follow this link [Local Safeguarding Children's Partnerships](#)

Read the report: [Child protection in England](#)

It's important to consider the National panel's report alongside;

[Final Report - The Independent Review of Children's Social Care \(independent-review.uk\)](#)

[Joint targeted area inspection of the multi-agency response to identification of initial need and risk - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/108422/Child-Q-PUBLISHED-14-March-22.pdf)

[Joint targeted area inspection \(JTAI\) of Solihull published - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/108422/Child-Q-PUBLISHED-14-March-22.pdf)

[Child-Q-PUBLISHED-14-March-22.pdf \(chscp.org.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/108422/Child-Q-PUBLISHED-14-March-22.pdf)

Review of Children’s Social Care - 23 May 2022

The government is setting out initial new measures in response to recommendations set out in Josh MacAlister’s [independent review of children’s social care](#) published today which looked at how children and their families interact with the care system and how it can be improved.

Read the report: [The independent review of children’s social care: final report](#)

Recommendations include: introducing one category of “Family Help” replacing “targeted early help” and “child in need” work; an “Expert Child Protection Practitioner”, who is an experienced social worker, should co-work alongside the Family Help Team where concerns regarding significant harm of a child emerge; and families should be invited to come up with a family led plan to care for a child before a decision is made about whether or not to place them in the care system.

Missing children and young people

The NWG Network and Missing People charity, together with the National Police Chief’s Council (NPCC), have launched a survey to find out what the transition to adulthood for young people who regularly go missing looks like in different local areas.

Going missing can be a warning sign of serious harm including exploitation, mental health issues and abuse. It’s known that Looked After Children are at higher risk of going missing than others and that some will go missing repeatedly.

The survey is looking for information about what is happening in local areas, challenges faced in the response for young adults who continue to go missing, and any good practices around the transition age.

This survey should only take up to 10 minutes to fill out and will help NWG/Missing People to encourage good practice nationally.

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/NWGandMP/>

Read the press release: [NWG, Missing People and NPCC Survey 2022](#)

Home Office Domestic Homicide Review Survey

The Home Office are aiming on centralising all Domestic Homicide Reviews across England and Wales that are publishable onto one publicly accessible Home Office site.

The Home Office would appreciate your help in finalising the “Find Domestic Homicide Review (DHRs)” site. They are currently looking to understand the users that come to view the DHRs and understand what they aim to do when accessing them.

They'd like to invite you to take part in a 5-minute survey to help them understand how you currently access Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) and to understand your needs for accessing DHRs.

Please follow this link to the Home Office website to take part [| Domestic Homicide Review \(DHR\) feedback survey \(homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk\)](https://homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk)

Please pass this message onto relevant colleagues.

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse – Truth Project

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) in England and Wales has published an anthology of the accounts of more than 1,100 victims and survivors of child sexual abuse. They were gathered as part of the Inquiry's Truth Project, which provided an opportunity for victims and survivors to both share their experiences and make suggestions as to how to children can be better protected.

To read the anthology please visit the IICSA website www.iicsa.org.uk or follow this link to the page [Experiences shared](#)



Contact Us

We always welcome enquiries regarding our work. Do get in touch!



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vkpp@norfolk.police.uk



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