

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 209, 3 May 2016

Events

Events have been added to the Courses & Events pages on The Network website – see: <http://www.seapn.org.uk/courses>.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

Danger zones and stepping stones: young people’s experiences of hidden homelessness

<https://uk.depaulcharity.org/sites/default/files/Depaul-UK-Report-Danger-Zones-and-Stepping-Stones-April-2016.pdf>

(Source: Children & Young People Now *Daily*, 22 Apr 2016)

Important new report which looks at the experiences of young homeless people (and proposes a new model for identifying ‘danger signs’).

NB Fuller assessment to appear in *The Network Newsletter*.

Destitution in the UK

https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/destitution-uk?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=JRF%20weekly%20round-up%20wc%2025th%20April%202016&utm_content=JRF%20weekly%20round-up%20wc%2025th%20April%202016+CID_5be2cb903d3067962947ca037f3b7348&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=latest%20research

(Source: JRF *Weekly round-up*, 29 Apr 2016)

New research from JRF, which:

“[...] defines destitution in the UK, looking at how many people are affected, who they are, and the main pathways in and out of destitution. It looks at the impact and experience of those people directly affected.”

Full report and “Findings” available from the above weblink.

NB Fuller assessment to appear in *The Network Newsletter*.

“Why our attitude to technology in prisons needs an upgrade”

http://www.prisonerseducation.org.uk/news/why-our-attitude-to-technology-in-prisons-needs-an-upgrade?utm_source=Learning+Matters+e-news+subscribers&utm_campaign=609280e0ba-Learning+Matters+e+news+April+2016+27+2016&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_829b0b7853-609280e0ba-373377

(Source: Prisoners’ Education Trust *Learning Matters e-news*, Apr 2016)

“Is it too risky to let prisoners use computers or access the internet? Following from her discussion on Radio 4’s *Today* programme last week, PET’s Head of Policy Nina Champion argues that particularly when it comes to education, the real danger is allowing the digital divide to grow.”

“PLA [Prisoner Learning Alliance] case study #1: Prison Reading Groups”

http://www.prisonerseducation.org.uk/case-studies/pla-case-study-1-sarah-turvey-director-prison-reading-groups-?utm_source=Learning+Matters+enews+subscribers&utm_campaign=609280e0ba-Learning+Matters+e+news+April+2016+27+2016&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_829b0b7853-609280e0ba-373377

(Source: Prisoners' Education Trust *Learning Matters e-news*, Apr 2016)

Case study by Sarah Turvey, Director of PRG, on their work in prisons.

Also links to *The Guardian* article, “Inside stories from a prison book group”,

http://www.theguardian.com/books/2016/apr/27/inside-stories-from-a-prison-book-group?utm_source=Learning+Matters+enews+subscribers&utm_campaign=609280e0ba-Learning+Matters+e+news+April+2016+27+2016&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_829b0b7853-609280e0ba-373377.

“Prisoners are allowed to receive books again – but why are literacy rates in prison so poor?”

http://www.newstatesman.com/politics/education/2016/04/prisoners-are-allowed-receive-books-again-why-are-literacy-rates-prison?utm_source=Learning+Matters+enews+subscribers&utm_campaign=609280e0ba-Learning+Matters+e+news+April+2016+27+2016&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_829b0b7853-609280e0ba-373377

(Source: Prisoners' Education Trust *Learning Matters e-news*, Apr 2016)

Brief article on literacy in prisons by Frances Crook of The Howard League for Prison Reform.

Buttle UK crisis points report

<http://www.buttleuk.org/research/crisis-points-report>

(Source: NCB *Policy & Parliamentary Information Digest*, 3 May 2016)

The charity Buttle UK has been analysing “10 years worth of data from our database. This represents 125,000 grant applications made to us from 10,000 referral agencies.”

The report:

“[...] illustrates the many families and children currently at crisis point; people who have exhausted all other routes to help. Moreover, it also highlights those who are potentially falling under the radar, living in unreported poverty.”

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

“Loneliness maps published by Age UK”

<https://khub.net/web/p-lynch/blog/-/blogs/loneliness-maps-published-by-age-uk>

(Source: Ageing Well update from Knowledge Hub, 19 Apr 2016)

Links to a new report from Age UK, *Predicting the prevalence of loneliness at older ages*, and interactive maps which show the risk of loneliness for people

aged 65+ at the local level (see: <http://data.ageuk.org.uk/loneliness-maps/england-2016/>).

NB Fuller assessment to appear in *The Network Newsletter*.

Disability issues – Other Agencies

“Making the most of iPads: Part One”

http://www.rnib.org.uk/insight-online/making-the-most-ipad-part-one?utm_medium=email&utm_source=April-Insight-2016&utm_campaign=Part%20One%20of%20our%20two%20part%20series%20on%20Making%20the%20most%20of%20iPads

(Source: RNIB *Insight enews*, Apr 2016)

Part one of new guidance from RNIB's Children and young people team:

“If you are considering getting an iPad for a child with vision impairment, or already have one, do you know how to make the most of all of the accessibility features?”

“Facebook and Twitter new accessibility features for people with vision impairment”

http://www.rnib.org.uk/insight-online/facebook-twitter-accessibility-features?utm_medium=email&utm_source=April-Insight-2016&utm_campaign=Learn%20about%20the%20features

(Source: RNIB *Insight enews*, Apr 2016)

Intro to new accessibility features on Facebook and Twitter.

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

"Call for clarity over funding of asylum dispersal schemes"

http://www.cypnow.co.uk/cyp/news/1156951/call-for-clarity-over-funding-of-asylum-dispersal-schemes?utm_content=&utm_campaign=220416%20Daily%20Bulletin&utm_source=Children%20%26%20Young%20People%20Now&utm_medium=adestra_email&utm_term=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cypnow.co.uk%2Fcyp%2Fnews%2F1156951%2Fcall-for-clarity-over-funding-of-asylum-dispersal-schemes

(Source: *Children & Young People Now* 21 Apr 2016)

“Local government and children’s services leaders have called on ministers to clarify funding arrangements for dispersing unaccompanied asylum-seeking children across the country.

In 2015, a total of 3,043 unaccompanied children applied for asylum in the UK. Immigration minister James Brokenshire confirmed yesterday (Wednesday) that a new scheme for resettling unaccompanied children across the country will be introduced from July to relieve pressure on the so-called “gateway authorities” such as Kent County Council.

In addition, he announced today (Thursday) plans to resettle a further 3,000 children from the [Middle East and Africa](#), who are at risk of abuse and exploitation, over the next four years.

Full details of both schemes are still to be confirmed, and the Local

Government Association has warned that councils are concerned over the lack of details. It is particularly worried that [enhanced Home Office funding](#) of £41,610 per year for under-16s and £33,215 for 16- and 17-year-olds – given to councils that take unaccompanied children that arrive in Kent – will end in July.”

“British Nationality”

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-questions-answers/?page=1&max=20&questiontype=AllQuestions&house=commons%2cords&member=4433&dept=1&keywords=learning%2cdisability>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 480, 2 May 2016)

In response to a series of questions in the House of Commons by Thangam Debbonaire MP, regarding exemptions from the language requirements and other issues, James Brokenshire responded with the following written answer:

“The Secretary of State may waive the Knowledge of Language and Life in the UK requirement for British citizenship on the basis of a person’s age, physical or mental condition.

A person will normally be exempted from this requirement if they provide evidence from an appropriate medical practitioner that their condition is so severe that it prevents them from being able to learn English or prepare for or sit an English test or the Life in the UK test. Each application is considered on its own merits.”

Migration issues – Other Agencies

“Bridging Refugee Talent and Opportunity Refugee Career Jumpstart Project (RCJP)”

http://citiesofmigration.ca/good_idea/bridging-refugee-talent-and-opportunity/

(Source: *Cities of Migration Newsletter*, 61, Apr 2016)

“A start-up bridges the gap between refugee arrival and employment by shifting talent and career development to the front-end of refugee resettlement.”

The aim of the RCJP in Toronto is to:

“[...] build an individual skills profile for each working-age Syrian refugee and match them to education or employment opportunities; whether it’s a job, a scholarship, a language course, or a host of other employment and career development services in Toronto’s settlement sector. Those who are job-ready get connected with jobs, or with training or education bridging programs. Everyone else gets a basic but personal career map to begin the planning process.”

Global migration trends factsheet 2015

<http://iomgmdac.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Global-Migration-Trends-2015-Factsheet.pdf>

(Source: *Cities of Migration Newsletter*, 61, Apr 2016)

Important up-to-date source of data:

“The IOM’s Global Migration Trends 2015 Factsheet presents a snapshot of the major migration trends worldwide for the year 2015, based on statistics from a variety of sources.”

Managing religious difference in North America and Europe in an era of mass migration

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/managing-religious-difference-north-america-and-europe-era-mass-migration>

(Source: *Cities of Migration Newsletter*, 61, Apr 2016)

Interesting briefing from the Migration Policy Institute, “which focuses on the different policy frameworks and practices governing Muslim integration in North America and Europe, to offer a window into how receiving governments and societies manage fundamental change in an era of large-scale, and at times massive, immigration.”

It concludes:

“[...] policymakers can take two initial steps to positively influence how host communities relate to those of immigrant origin in their schools, workplaces and neighborhoods. The first is to listen carefully and respectfully to concerns and fears; ignoring them (or dismissing those who articulate them) and failing to respond appropriately will further entrench anxieties. The second is to slowly and gradually build a new narrative that threads together the desires and aspirations of both immigrants and natives, giving all members of the community and society a sense of ownership in the integration process, and an equal stake in defining the new ‘we’.” [p12]

“It’s time for supporters of refugees to talk about integration”

<http://politics.co.uk/comment-analysis/2016/04/18/supporters-of-refugees-need-to-talk-about-integration>

(Source: EoE AS&R/MW *Newsflash* Apr 2016)

Think-piece by Stephen Hale, Chief Executive of Refugee Action, that argues:

“[...] the success of Britain’s refugee policy should not be measured only by the number of refugees arriving here. We also need to be clear what we aim to achieve after their arrival, both for refugees and for Britain.

The current system often fails asylum seekers and the communities in which they settle. It’s in all our interests to enable asylum seekers and refugees to rapidly build links with the communities around them and contribute to our economy and our society.”

A safe haven? Britain’s role in protecting people on the move

<http://policy-practice.oxfam.org.uk/publications/a-safe-haven-britains-role-in-protecting-people-on-the-move-605192>

(Source: EoE AS&R/MW *Newsflash* Apr 2016)

“This briefing, published by Oxfam GB in partnership with 12 other agencies, provides an overview of what the UK should do to deliver on its responsibility to respond to global displacement.”

LGBTQ issues – Other Agencies

LGBT History Month 2017

<http://lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/>

(Source: LGBT History Month *Get the Knowledge*, Apr 2016)

The theme for 2017 is “PHSE, Citizenship and Law”:

“In 2017 we will look at Citizenship, PSHE and Law as we mark the 50th anniversary of the partial decriminalisation of male homosexuality in England and Wales.”

Broader issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“Cuts Too Deep? England’s Public Libraries in Trouble”

<http://publiclibrariesonline.org/2016/04/cuts-too-deep-englands-public-libraries-in-trouble/>

(Source: email from Elizabeth Ash to lis-pub-libs, 29 Apr 2016)

Interesting – if sad – article from *Public Libraries Online*, which cites Briony Birdi from Sheffield Information School.