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The Central Line

As the countdown to Christmas begins we have been working hard to explore how we can simplify and streamline recording processes. We continue to actively contribute to the Mosaic development but are aware that certain limitations could result in the ongoing use of two systems to satisfy our statutory duty. All YSS practitioners play a key and vital role in the Raising Participation Age strategy. Recording on a client caseload information system that can report to government is part of everyone's role and where another system cannot meet this need we are simply doing our jobs rather than dual recording.

The Early Help Youth Offer forum has been exploring ways to simplify recording processes and to make relevant changes that account for new processes and recent organisational change. This newsletter introduces what action we are taking and some of the initial changes. The process is ongoing and needs to consider several presenting needs including training, so will be staged. Youth Offer EHAM's have been central to proposed changes and our key aims are to streamline/simplify recording where possible and to ensure effective recording that best supports our statutory duty around RPA. Please implement these changes immediately and ensure you are complying with expectations.

Together with YCC and WFD colleagues we are currently exploring how we might increase capacity for the Youth Offer and respond to communities by delivering an "Introduction to Safeguarding" and a "Cambridgeshire Entry to Youth Work" training to volunteers and peer mentors. If you would like to get involved or have resources for inclusion please get in touch. Please also remember the Youth

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Please send your feedback or articles to be included in this newsletter to Central YSS

The [YSS Portal](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/yss-portal) contains information, policies and procedures to help you in your work.

and Community Coordinator if you are aware of community interest in delivering services and positive activity for young people.

The current Youth Counselling contract is coming to an end and Commissioning are finalising a document to go out to key stakeholders outlining the changes. From 1st January 2018 the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service, which is currently part of Centre 33 and the YMCA's open access counselling service, will be provided by another organisation called CHUMS. The key message to practitioners from Commissioning is to continue with 'business as usual' regarding referrals. Referrals should continue to go to YMCA/Centre 33 as appropriate until 10th December 2017. From 11th December they can be sent directly to the new provider CHUMS <http://chums.uk.com/>. There is further information relating to this and the Centre 33 service later in this newsletter.

Wishing you all a happy Christmas time,

Liz

Policy and Information

LAC Outstanding Young Peoples Awards

The Outstanding Young Peoples/Care Leavers Awards will be held on Friday 16th February 2018 at the Burgess Hall, St. Ives starting at 6:30pm.

This is your opportunity to nominate a Looked After young person/care leaver who you feel has achieved something outstanding this year. Please fill in the [nomination form](#) and return to

CSC.participation@cambridgeshire.gov.uk by Monday 8th January 2018 - we will not accept any nominations after this date.

Childcare Voucher Changes

From April 2018 the Childcare voucher scheme will close to new applicants. Employees already in the scheme prior to this date can continue to receive childcare vouchers after April 2018. The government's alternative scheme is called Tax-Free Childcare this is open to all parents (not just those in employment) and does not operate via employers. Further details of these changes are given in a briefing note available here:

<http://sharepoint.lgss.local/Pages/Salary-Childcare-Vouchers.aspx>

Mind Of My Own (MOMO)

MOMO makes it easier for children and young people to express their views.

At MOMO we believe that young people should be able to participate fully in their care and it should be easy for them to speak up anytime they want.

Since January 2013 we've been making this happen by blending tech, social work and children's rights expertise to create apps that they can use on their own 24/7, or with a worker or carer. We're able to do this because of the unique mix of people and skills that make up Team MOMO.

Telling people what you want and need can be difficult. MOMO apps help young people organise their thoughts and make it easier to tell

their worker what they think. Their worker will get a better insight into what's going on, from the young person's point of view.

For more information about MOMO take a look at the [website](#).

Changes at Centre 33

From 1st January 2018 the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service, which is currently part of Centre 33's open access counselling service, will be provided by an organisation called CHUMS.

This will mean that Centre 33 will have a significantly reduced counselling service, and it is recommended that young people are referred to CHUMS. In order to be considered for a service with CHUMS, referrals can be made by professionals, parents or young people via their [website](#). They will provide services for 5-25 year olds in Cambridgeshire and 5-18 year olds in Peterborough.

Whilst Centre 33 will no longer be the lead provider this will only impact on one of their services and they will still be delivering the following:

- Young Carers Support for 8-18 year olds across Cambridgeshire, including schools based services, one-to-one planning and support sessions, small group work, awareness training, advocacy and respite. Referrals can be made directly via their website, phone or drop-in sessions.
- Information and Support services including a helpline, drop-in centres and support with sexual health, mental health, housing and money issues among other things. This works across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough for 13-25 year olds.

- Mental Health Services for ages 13-25. This will consist of a smaller counselling and mental wellbeing service from their hubs in Cambridge and Ely, an outreach counselling service in Wisbech, Fenland, Peterborough and Huntingdon and counselling in secondary schools in East and South Cambridgeshire.

See contact details and opening hours on the [website](#).

Centre 33 Housing and Living Skills Service - Cambridge

[Centre 33](#) can provide support to young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and support them to improve their housing situation.

- They will talk with young people about their housing options and refer them to housing services depending on their circumstances. This may include referrals to supported housing providers.
- Finding housing can be frustrating and confusing, but Centre 33 can support young people to understand their options.
- They provide support via an initial one to one housing consultation and on-going follow-up meetings, telephone conversations and emails. They will maintain contact with the young person and continue to provide support until they are securely housed and tell Centre 33 that they no longer require support.
- They can also offer advice on budgeting and money matters to help young people.

- They can support young people who are sofa surfing, rough sleeping or would like support for a planned move from where they are living.
- Young people can access support during Centre 33's opening times - please see the website for full details.

Counselling support available for young victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence

Are you working with a young person (aged 13 to 19 or 24 with additional needs) affected by domestic abuse or sexual violence who might benefit from one-to-one counselling support?

Thanks to a successful bid to the Home Office a locally-based national charity Embrace (Child Victims of Crime) is offering free trauma-focused CBT and therapeutic counselling for young people.

The counselling is available to young people who have been victims of, or witnessed domestic abuse or sexual violence and those who may be showing low-level potentially harmful behaviours as a result of what they have been exposed to. It can be delivered at locations across the county through a framework of checked and accredited therapists.

The young person must be safe from the offender and willing to engage.

Violence Against Women and Girls – Newsletter

November's VAWG newsletter is available on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership [website](#).

Funding

B&Q Community Re-Use Scheme for Schools and Community Groups

DIY store B&Q operates a [community re-use scheme](#) through all its branches across the UK. The scheme donates unsellable products and materials for re-use by local schools, other educational institutions and community groups, for the benefit of the local community and the environment.

All items are donated on the understanding that they will be re-used or disposed of responsibly if they aren't used. Eligible groups include schools, colleges, community groups and youth groups.

B&Q also works with Community Repaint, a network of schemes that collects any surplus, re-usable paint and redistributes it within their communities to individuals and families on low income, charities and community groups. For more information please contact your local store directly and speak to a duty manager.

Youth Hostel Association Grant Scheme Re-opens in January

The [Youth Hostel Association's \(YHA's\) Educational Breaks Programme](#) re-opens for applications on the 15th January 2018.

Grants of up to 50% of the costs of taking up to 10 students aged between 8 and 18 on an educational break are available where members of the group are eligible for pupil premium and where they face additional social challenges. Schools, registered charities, community and voluntary organisations can apply on the behalf of any individual or group of young people who meet the criteria. Priority will be given to groups that include children who are experiencing exceptionally difficult circumstances.

Funding for Projects that Support the Education and Development of Children and Young People

Schools, colleges and community groups in England can apply for grants to [BlueSpark Foundation](#) to support the education and development of children and young people through educational, cultural, sporting and other projects.

BlueSpark is particularly keen to support projects which will help enhance the self-confidence, team working skills and future employability of children and young people. Many grants will be under £2,000, most will be under £5,000 and only in a few cases will grants exceed £10,000. Funding provided by BlueSpark for a project must be crucial to the project rather than marginally incremental to its funding.

The funding available can be for physical assets (such as iPads, sports equipment, or lighting for stage productions) or for services or facilities (such as sports coaching or music or drama tuition) or simply for the provision of experiences (such as theatre visits). These examples are intended to be illustrative and not restrictive as to the funding which BlueSpark may provide to support projects.

Applications can be submitted at any time and must be made online on BlueSpark Foundation's standard Application Form.

Funding for Projects that Support Disadvantaged Young People

Smaller charities and Special Needs Schools in the UK can apply to the small grants programme of the [St James's Place Charitable Foundation](#) for grants of up to £10,000.

The Foundation will support projects that provide services to young people (under the age of 25) who suffer from physical or mental health difficulties or conditions, a life threatening degenerative illness, or who are disadvantaged (including young people under the age of 25 caring for others). Applicants can expect to receive a visit from a representative of the Foundation who will report back to the Trustees before a decision on awarding a grant is made.

Applications can be submitted at any time.

Sutton Trust Summer School Programme

The [Sutton Trust](#) offers bright, state school students in Year 12 from lower income families (generally, this will mean a household earning £45,000 or less) a taste of life at an American university.

The aim is to help them to make the right decisions about pursuing higher education in America. The programme, delivered in partnership with the US-UK Fulbright Commission, is centred on a one-week summer school featuring a wide range of activities in the US (in previous years this has been at either Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Yale University or Harvard). Introductory events and application support are also offered in the UK before and after the trip.

Applications for the 2018 programme are now open; students who meet the selection criteria may register an interest by completing the online survey via the link on the website.

The application deadline is 11.59pm on the 14th January 2018.

Funding Towards Education, Training or Employment of Young People

Young people facing financial barriers to taking the next step into work, education or training can apply for grants of up to £500 through the [Princes Trust Development Awards](#).

The grants can cover some of the costs involved in accessing education, training or moving into employment. The grants are available to UK residents aged between 14 and 17 who do not have/are not expecting to achieve 5 GCSEs grades A-C-(or

equivalent), or those aged 17-25 who are unemployed or working fewer than 16 hours a week, or in education fewer than 14 hours a week are eligible to apply. Awards can be used to pay for items such as:

- Tools or equipment for a job or qualification (e.g. hairdressing kit, carpentry tools, chef whites)
- Course fees
- Interview clothes
- License fees (e.g. CSCS cards, SIA licenses for the construction or security industries)
- Childcare costs to help single parents access short term education
- Or transport to a new job until first pay cheque.

To apply, first contact the Princes Trust to discuss the type of help needed; eligible applicants will then be assigned a volunteer to assist with the application process.

Support for Environmental Outreach Education

Schools, colleges and youth groups can receive up to 80% towards the costs of providing environmental outreach education for groups of disadvantaged young people through the [Field Studies Council's Kids Fund](#).

The Field Studies Council is an independent educational charity committed to raising awareness about the natural world and works

through a network of residential and day Centres in the UK to provide outreach education and training. The funding is available to help young people aged 14 - 18 (25 for those with special needs) attend a course who may otherwise be excluded due to some form of disadvantage - health, mobility, deprivation or financial. One free staff/adult place is provided for every 12 young people; additional adults pay 20% +VAT. This includes all equipment, tuition and waterproof hire costs. Food and accommodation are included for residential courses.

The next closing date for applications is the 1st March 2018.

Hilden Charitable Fund

Within the UK, the [Hilden Charitable Fund](#) makes grants to projects that address disadvantage and by supporting causes which are less popular. In particular, the Fund wants to support projects that:

- Address homelessness
- Supports asylum seekers and refugees
- Supports community based initiatives for disadvantaged young people

The average grant awarded is £5,000 and preference is given to supporting small community organisations with an income of less than £500,000 per year. The Trust will consider funding project as well as core running costs of organisations.

The next closing date for applications to the Hilden Charitable Fund is the 5th January 2018.

Cole Charitable Trust

The [Cole Charitable Trust](#), which is a small grant-making trust which supports charities in the West Midlands, Kent and Cambridgeshire areas has announced that the next closing date for applications is the 16th March 2018.

The Trust mainly supports small charities for whom the modest grants available can make a significant difference. Grants of between £300 and £1,000 are available to registered charities that focus on projects in the following areas:

- Social welfare, all age groups
- Housing/homelessness
- Community and environmental development
- Opportunities for young people
- Promotion of improved quality of life
- Personal or community empowerment.

Training

Please note staff must check with their line manager before applying to go on a course, whether or not there is a charge.

Workforce Development Team

Please find below dates of the Children's courses available until March 2018. For course information, to check availability and to book directly onto a course please use the website -

<https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/>. Their training offer, resources and course bookings can be found under the 'Social Care Development' tab.

Applying Child Development to Practice

- Mon 18 Dec, 09:30 – 16:30, Hunts FA, Huntingdon

Assessment & Analytical Skills

- Mon 22 Jan 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Stanton House, Huntingdon
- Wed 07 Mar 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Young People March, March

Benefits: Children's Disability Benefits

- Tue 30 Jan 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, CPDC, Cambridge

Chairing Meetings

- Wed 21 Feb 2018, 09:30 – 12:30, Stanton House, Huntingdon

Challenges to Parental Substance Misuse

- Mon 26 Mar 2017, 09:30 – 12:30, Cambs FA, Impington

Child and Young Person Development

- Mon 11 Dec, 09:30 – 16:30, Hunts FA, Huntingdon

- Tue 12 Dec, 09:30 – 16:30, Hunts FA, Huntingdon

Critically Reflective Supervision

- Fri 09 Mar 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Stanton House, Huntingdon

Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment

- Thu 18 Jan 2018, 09:30 – 13:00, Stanton House, Huntingdon
- Thu 01 Mar 2018, 09:30 – 13:00, Stanton House, Huntingdon

Engaging with Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse

- Mon 05 Feb 2018, 10:00 – 16:30, Stanton House, Huntingdon

Facilitating Groups

- Mon 05 Mar 2018, 09:30 – 12:30, CPDC, Cambridge

Graded Care Profile

- Mon 11 Dec 2017, 09:30 – 12:30, Cambs FA, Impington

Impact of Parental Substance Misuse

- Wed 25 April 2018, 09:30 – 12:30, Hartford, Huntingdon

Introduction to Child & Adolescent Development

- Mon 22 Jan 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Stanton House, Huntingdon

Introduction to Domestic Abuse

- Thu 14 & Fri 15 Dec 2017, 09:30 – 16:30 & 09:30 – 13:00, Stanton House, Huntingdon
- Tue 06 & Wed 07 Feb 2018, 10:00 – 16:30 & 10:00 – 12:30, Cambs FA, Impington

Introduction to Systemic Ideas & Practice

- Wed 31 Jan 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Stanton House, Huntingdon
- Fri 23 Mar 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, CPDC, Cambridge

Managing & Supervising Learners (3 days)

- Mon 19, Tues 20 & Tue 26 Feb 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Stanton House, Huntingdon

Prevent

- Wed 21 Feb 2018, 09:30 – 12:30, Stanton House, Huntingdon
- Wed 21 Feb 2018, 13:30 – 16:30, Stanton House, Huntingdon

Preventing Child Sexual Exploitation

- Mon 15 Jan 2018, 09:30 – 12:30, Cambs FA, Impington

Responding to Child Sexual Exploitation

- Tue 13 Mar 2017, 09:30 – 16:30, All Saints Church, Hartford

Safeguarding Adults & Children

- Tue 09 Jan 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Cambs FA, Impington
- Thu 22 Mar 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Young People March, March

Safeguarding Children & Young People

- Wed 10 Jan 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Stanton House, Huntingdon
- Thu 15 Mar 2018, 10:00 – 16:30, Cambs FA, Impington

Safeguarding Update

- Wed 31 Jan 2018, 09:30 – 12:30, Stanton House, Huntingdon

The Role of the Lead Professional

- Wed 17 Jan 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Cambs FA, Impington
- Wed 14 Mar 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Young People March, March

Using Eco Maps

- Mon 4 Dec 2017, 10:30 – 11:30, Bargroves Centre, St Neots
- Wed 6 Dec 2017, 14:30 – 15:30, Bargroves Centre, St Neots

What is Neglect?

- Mon 04 Dec 2017, 09:30 – 12:30, Young People March, March
- Tue 20 Feb 2018, 09:30 – 12:30, All Saints Church, Hartford
- Mon 19 Mar 2017, 09:30 – 12:30, Cambs FA, Impington

Working with Child Sexual Exploitation

- Fri 02 Feb 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, All Saints Church, Hartford

LSCB Courses

Course descriptions and how to book onto LSCB courses can be found on the LSCB [website](#).

Mental Health First Aid training

Following our staff health and wellbeing survey results in March 2017 Cambridgeshire County Council has prioritised support for staff mental health and wellbeing.

Therefore, as part of our staff health and wellbeing programme we will be running a number of Mental Health First Aid training sessions across different council locations.

We would like to challenge the stigma around mental health versus physical health across the organisation and hope that staff who attend the training will be able to use their skills to provide support to their colleagues. We are prioritising staff with high need in the first instance.

Following the training, Mental Health First Aiders will have:

- An in depth understanding of mental health and the factors that can affect wellbeing
- Practical skills to spot the triggers and signs of mental health issues
- Confidence to step in, reassure and support a person in distress
- Enhanced interpersonal skills such as non-judgemental listening
- Knowledge to help someone recover their health by guiding them to further support

The first two day training session will be held on Thursday 15th February from 9.30-16.30 in room 2L1 Octagon Board Room, Shire Hall (day 1) and Thursday 22nd February 9.30-16.30 , same location (day 2).

If you are interested in booking a place on this session or to register your interest in attending future training please email Work.HealthyCambs@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

Other News and Information

Young People's Health Partnership

The Young People's Health Partnership (YPHP) champions young people's health needs whilst providing a conduit for youth organisations, the state and young people to work towards reducing health inequalities. The partnership, which Ambition is proud to be part of, can deliver services to young people and young people's organisations on an unprecedented scale as each partner contributes specialist expertise, resources, volunteers or training programmes.

YPHP hopes to improve the voluntary sector ability to influence health and wellbeing services for young people; give young people a voice and opportunity to participate in health and wellbeing policy; ensure health and wellbeing policy and practice meets the needs of young people; empower young people to be independent users of health services available to them; and act as champions for young people's health and wellbeing.

Find out more about [key health data on young people](#).

Association for Young People's Health report

The Association for Young People's Health (AYPH) has published '[Key Data on Young People 2017](#)', a report detailing the particular health support and special services required for young people in their teens and early 20s as they transition from childhood to adulthood.

Domestic violence 'masks' other threats to children

Domestic abuse can 'mask' other risk factors faced by children, an analysis of serious case reviews (SCRs) by Cafcass has found.

A [report](#) looking at information from 97 serious case reviews that Cafcass contributed to between 2009 and 2016 found that domestic abuse was the most common risk factor, occurring in 71% of the cases examined.

But in 33 of the 69 cases (48%) that involved domestic abuse, the person suspected of killing or seriously harming the child was not the alleged domestic abuser.

In 14 of the 33 cases where the domestic abuser was not responsible, the source of harm was the young person themselves.

Youth select committee calls for action on body image issues

Young politicians are calling on the government to take action to combat the "long-lasting" effect of body dissatisfaction on young people's lives.

Recommendations made by the British Youth Council's [youth select committee](#) include funding for schools to support pupils' emotional wellbeing, including issues related to body dissatisfaction.

Body image issues should also be included in personal, social, health, and economic education (PSHE) classes and the government is also being asked to sponsor an annual "national body confidence week" to

raise issues around body image, health and fitness.

The committee's recommendations follow its body image inquiry, which launched in May and has heard evidence from bloggers, children's mental health experts and young people's organisations.

The committee said that too often young people's negative image of their body is dismissed as a "phase".

It is calling on the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and Government Equalities Office to commission research examining the negative impact of social media on young people's body image.

The committee also wants the forthcoming [digital charter](#) to do more to clamp down on content that is fuelling body dissatisfaction.

Body image was chosen as the topic for the inquiry as it was prioritised by young people answering the 2016 [Make Your Mark](#) ballot.

Two thirds of police forces report issue with 'county lines' child exploitation

Children are being exploited by drugs gangs through so-called "county lines" crime, in at least two thirds of police force areas a National Crime Agency report has found.

The [third annual report](#) on so-called "county lines" crime - which involves gangs from urban areas establishing drug-dealing networks in rural areas - found that vulnerable people and young people and

children continue to be exploited by gangs through coercion and threats of violence.

The report states that some vulnerable individuals are trafficked into remote markets to work while others are falsely imprisoned in their own homes, which have been taken over, or "cuckooed", using force or coercion.

According to the report there is evidence of county lines activity in 38 force areas (88%). It gives a conservative estimate that there are at least 720 lines across England and Wales.

Read more on the [Children & Young People Now website](#).

Rise in number of NEET care leavers

The number of care leavers who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) has increased over the last four years, government figures have revealed.

[Department for Education data](#) released by children's minister Robert Goodwill reveals that between 2014 and 2017 there were around 600 more 19- to 21-year-old care leavers classed as NEET.

The figures show there were 10,870 19- to 21-year-old NEET care leavers at the end of March 2017, compared with 10,250 at the end of March 2014 - a rise of 6%.

There has also been a 7.5% rise in the number of NEET care leavers aged 17 and 18 since 2016.

While at the end of March 2016 there were 3,060 care leavers in this age range classed as NEET, this had risen to 3,290 by the end of March 2017.

According to looked-after children statistics [released last month](#) by the DfE, 31% of 18-year-old care leavers were NEET, compared with 12% of all 18-year-olds.

Call for action over tackling youth NEET rate

Campaigners have called for the government to do more to create job and education opportunities for young people after latest figures show a rise in the rate of 16- to 18-year-olds NEET.

Quarterly [figures](#) from the Department for Education show the proportion of 16- to 18-year-olds classified as NEET was 9% in the third quarter of 2017, compared with 8.7% for the same period in 2016.

In contrast to the rise in 16- to 18-year-olds who are NEET, the overall youth NEET rate remained static, with the proportion of 19- to 24-year-olds classified as NEET falling to 15.2% in July to September 2017, compared with 16.2% a year earlier.

Government drops youth policy statement

Plans for a new three-year youth policy statement have been dropped, although youth work will feature as part of a wider civil society strategy, it has emerged.

The creation of a new youth policy statement to give "a clear narrative and vision" for how to help young people was first announced by

former youth minister Rob Wilson last November but, nearly a year on, is still yet to be published.

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has now confirmed that plans for a standalone youth policy statement have been dropped, with the issue of youth work and social action instead set to feature as part of wider civil society strategy announced by civil society minister Tracey Crouch.

In a written ministerial statement, Tracey Crouch said the strategy will provide an opportunity to explore ways to build new partnerships within and between sectors and communities "so that we can better mobilise resources and expertise and find practical new solutions to the problems we face".

Youth Work Week bigger and better than ever!

This year's Youth Work Week was more successful than ever before, according to data released by the National Youth Agency.

Youth Work Week provides an opportunity for youth organisations, youth workers and young people to celebrate their achievements and the impact of their work. This year it was held from 6-12 November.

NYA indicated that during the profile-raising week nearly 5,000 posts were tweeted to #YWW17, reaching more than 8.5m people.

Read more on the [NYA website](#).

Ministers urged to back full-time youth volunteering programme

Creating a national full-time youth volunteering programme similar to ones in the USA and France could boost the UK economy by up to £119m a year, a report commissioned by youth charity City Year UK has estimated.

The [report](#) by Pro Bono Economics concluded that a programme that supported 10,000 young people to volunteer full-time the UK economy would gain £28m to £119m a year - equal to a return of £1.20 to £1.60 for every pound spent by government on the programme.

On the back of the report, former Labour Education Secretary Lord Blunkett and City Year UK have called for government to fund a year-long programme and a legal status for full-time volunteers.

A government-ordered review of full-time volunteering is currently being conducted and is due to report its findings to government in December.

If you would like this information in an alternative format please contact 01223 715492

