



## In this issue

- The Central Line
- NEET Performance (page 2)
- Policy and Information to help you in your work (page 3)
- Funding (page 5)
- Training (page 7)
- Other news and information (page 9)

## The Central Line

It has been a really positive start to the year with several opportunities presenting themselves. We are currently exploring new funding streams to develop group work and the wider youth offer and personal development opportunities continue to arise that we hope will better support the workforce to meet the needs of the young people with which we work.

Looking forward to the next professional development day I am pleased that Ashlea Smith will be joining us from the Cambridgeshire charity Living Sport to inform us of the Satellite Clubs Programme. With the potential for us to deliver 10 new clubs across the County Living Sport will fund up to £3500 per initiative that supports groups of inactive 14-19 year olds who are currently disengaged due to the barriers they face. This fund could support the development of a pre-employment programme for our NEET young people to continue our positive outcomes in this area and further develop the new practice we have seen in Fenland led by Cydney Dobbs in her AIYPW role.

The NCS recruitment campaign is underway for Summer 2018. Please ensure you are discussing this fantastic opportunity with any yr 11's on your caseloads and do not hesitate to contact [Kim Jeffries](#) for additional engagement support. Details of this summer's programmes can be found [here](#). National plans for a 3 year youth policy statement have been shelved and the government continue to focus on a broader civil society strategy. It is therefore important we explore any government funded initiatives so that we can use them to the benefit of young people across Cambridgeshire.

Liz Morris, Youth & Community Manager

## Issue number 74

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

The [YSS Portal](#) contains information, policies and procedures to help you in your work.

## NEET Performance and RPA

### NEET Data for December 2017

The NEET data for December with comparison to this time last year:

Measure	Result Dec 2017	Result Dec 2016
16-18 yr olds NEET	2.4%	2.7%
16-18 yr olds Not Known	0.7%	0.9%
16/18 yr olds NEET and Not Known	3.1%	3.7%
Year 12 In Learning	96.1%	95.4%
Year 13 In Learning	91.7%	91.4%

The above data for December 2017 shows that we are performing incredibly well compared to this time last year and meeting most of the targets that were set for this year. All figures are an improvement from last year.

This month's figures are what is used as the performance figure for this year as it is normally taken in December as it is recognised as being the month with the most up to date information. This is a fantastic result and shows what great work the YSS staff have done this year.

The results to the Annual Activity Survey have recently come out in the form of the Destinations booklet. If you have not received this and feel that you should have done, please contact Mark Cowdell – Targeted NEET Manager – who will be happy to provide the information.

### Vulnerable Groups NEET Data

Below is the results for the vulnerable groups, it shows that although the performance is very good for NEET, we do still have some work to do around our vulnerable groups to improve these figures.

SEND 16-19 NEET %	6.9%
SEND 16-19 Not Known %	5.6%
SEND 16-19 NEET and Not Known %	12.4%
Teenage Mothers 16-19 NEET %	60.0%
Teenage Mothers 16-19 Not Known %	9.3%
Teenage Mothers 16-19 NEET & Not Known %	69.3%
YOS – Post 16 NEET %	26.8%
YOS – Post 16 Not Known %	12.7%
YOS – Post 16 NEET & Not Known %	39.5%
LAC/Care Leaver 16+ NEET %	33.9%

These results show that our vulnerable groups should continue to be the focus of most of our work as it is these young people that are more likely to be NEET and have complex needs to be able to engage in education, training or employment.

Comparison Data with our Eastern Region Colleagues shows that we are doing well with regards to Teenage Mothers, as we are sitting top of the table for NEET and Not Known data. Our SEND NEET and Not known is a good result as well, although some of our East of England colleagues are doing slightly better than us and we are sitting in 4th place.

**Latest Comparison Data with Eastern Region – December 2017**

The latest comparison data that has been provided for December 2017 – shows Cambridgeshire are performing incredibly well with our Eastern Region Neighbours with only Thurrock performing better than Cambridgeshire as they have 0% Not Knowns.

	Academic age 16-17						Quintile
	NEET	NEET % (cohort - 710 - 720)	Not known	% not known (cohort - 710 - 720)	NEET and NK	% NEET and NK (NEET + NK) / (cohort - 710 - 720)	
EAST OF ENGLAND	3726	2.9%	2695	2.1%	6421	5.1%	
Thurrock	72	1.9%	0	0.0%	72	1.9%	1
Cambs	295	2.4%	91	0.7%	386	3.1%	1
Herts	606	2.4%	253	1.0%	859	3.5%	1
Essex	837	2.7%	458	1.5%	1295	4.2%	2
Norfolk	647	3.8%	219	1.3%	866	5.1%	2
Bedford	153	4.1%	37	1.0%	190	5.1%	2
Suffolk	560	3.8%	531	3.6%	1091	7.4%	4
Peterborough	203	4.4%	152	3.3%	355	7.7%	4
Southend-on-Sea	57	1.5%	256	6.6%	313	8.0%	4
Central Beds	151	2.7%	314	5.5%	465	8.2%	4
Luton	145	2.8%	384	7.4%	529	10.2%	5

Mark Cowdell, Targeted NEET Manager

## Policy and Information

### Aspire – how to clear cache

Anyone who has had issues with saving client records should clear the browser history as the first fix to ensure your laptop is connecting to the most up-to-date Aspire link.

Although it's hard to know if a record hasn't saved without checking each record, please do flag it to IT & Digital Services as soon as you're aware and include the rough date of when you updated the record. As a further check, please ensure you are accessing Aspire through the One Online Live landing page, <http://oneonline-live/> and not any links previously saved to favourites.

Instructions on how to clear the history can be viewed on the [YSS Portal](#).

### Domestic Abuse in Cambridgeshire - Guidance

This is the first in a set of guidance, resources and plans around how we tackle Domestic Abuse when it affects our families.

This [guidance document](#) (which has been saved to the YSS Portal) explains the national and local context; gives good practice guidance on how to work with domestic abuse in our families; gives the practice tools we are using – the DVRIM, DASH and the AVA Complicated Matters toolkit as well as a list of local and national resources.

E-learning modules can be found on the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership [website](#).

## Violence Against Women and Girls – Newsletter

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

## Emotional Health and Wellbeing Support

From January 2018 there will be a new service called **CHUMS** providing emotional health and wellbeing support to children and young people across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

The information that has been sent out to schools across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough regarding the launch of CHUMS and Emotional Health and Wellbeing Board practitioners is available on the [YSS Portal](#).

To find out about more services that can support children and young people's mental health across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough [Keep Your Head website](#).

## County lines and missing young people project

Exploitation of young people and involving them in criminal activity and county lines drug running is a growing phenomenon in counties on the

main rail routes out of London, and is affecting Cambridgeshire and Peterborough increasingly.

Missing People and St Giles Trust SOS have been jointly funded by the Home Office to deliver a project which scopes and tests new ways of working with young people who are criminally exploited to become drug mules. This project will test a Missing People-led pilot of an intervention – called SafeCall.

SafeCall is a scheduled telephone call to children who are referred to them by professionals working with them. They will be offered a non-judgemental, safe space to talk about their experiences in confidence. Safecall will reassure them that there is a way out, support them to explore their choices, and help them formulate a safety plan.

The SafeCall service will also reach out to the child's parent or carer, offering them a chance to debrief, access emotional support and be guided on how to keep their family safe in the future.

For SafeCall information call 0208 392 5710 or email [SafeCall@missingpeople.org.uk](mailto:SafeCall@missingpeople.org.uk). Further guidance and contact details are also found on the [St Giles website](#).

## Family Action Helpline

Family Action are launching a new helpline for parents and carers providing out of hours practical and emotional support and guidance on all aspects of parenting.

Parent Helpline: 0808 802 0222

Open weekdays 6pm to 10pm, weekends 10am to 1pm

Available for parents and carers across England

## Funding

### Living Sport – Satellite Clubs

#### What is a Satellite Club?

A Satellite Club is an opportunity for those aged 14-19 to take part in physical activity to improve their physical, social and mental well being. Satellite clubs are run weekly and are inclusive and open to all young people in the community. Satellite clubs are designed by the young people and aim to support them during disruptive times in their lives (e.g. school transitions) when they are likely to be inactive or drop out of sport/physical activity.

#### Who can set up a Satellite Club?

Any community provider - this might include a community group such as a youth centre, a self employed instructor, a local authority or a leisure provider.

#### Who are we targeting?

Inactive – fairly active 14-19 year olds... This consists of those young people that don't tend to do more than 30 minutes of exercise a week. Satellite Clubs aim to reach those who are currently disengaged due to barriers they face. This might include; females, disabled young people or those from a low socio economic background.

#### What funds are available? (Average per club)

- Delivery funds (direct activity costs) - £2,500-£3,500
- Workforce development bursary monies (to upskill young leaders/coaches)- £300

- Marketing bursary monies (to access innovative marketing methods) - £300

\*Funding is available October 2017-March 2019 (there is no application deadline)

For more information on Satellite Clubs or if you wish to apply for funding please contact Ashlea Smith by [email](#) or call 01487 849911 / 07921 832548.

### Funding to Support the Core Costs of Youth Organisations

Not for profit youth organisations that support young people (aged 14 - 25) facing disadvantage can apply for grants of between 10,000 and £60,000 through the [Paul Hamlyn Foundation Youth Fund](#).

The funding is available for up to two-years and will support the core operating costs of the applicant organisation. Examples of what can be funded include part-funding the salary of a key individual, whether the Chief Executive or a post such as:

- A Head of Operations/Finance
- Policy work
- Additional fundraising or income generation capacity
- Upgrading IT systems or website to reach young people online; etc.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and up to 30 awards a year will be granted through this fund.

## BBC Children in Need – Small Grants Programme

Not for profit organisations such as schools; registered charities; voluntary organisations; churches; and community interest groups; etc. can apply for [grants](#) of up to £10,000 per year for up to 3 years for projects that help children and young people overcome the effects of:

- Illness, distress, abuse or neglect
- Disability
- Behavioural or psychological difficulties
- Poverty and deprivation.

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

## Holiday Grants for Children

Schools, youth groups, not for profit organisations and charities have until the 28th February 2018 to apply for grants of £500 to £2,500 to support recreational trips or holidays within the UK for groups of children experiencing disadvantage or who have disabilities.

Priority will be given to applications coming from the 20% most deprived areas in the UK. Funded by the [Henry Smith Charity](#), grants can cover up to two-thirds of the cost of a holiday or trip lasting one to seven days. In this round, trips must be taken before the end of April 2018. For more details and to apply, complete the eligibility quiz on the website and submit the application form online at least 6 weeks before the trip is due to take place.

## Zurich Community Trust - Local Grants

Grants of up to £5000 are available for local voluntary organisations and charities that work with disadvantaged young people and help them achieve a more fulfilling and independent lifestyle.

[More information here.](#)

## Grants for Activities that Support National Vegetarian Week 2018

The Vegetarian Society is making grants available to help support [National Vegetarian Week](#) community activities and events.

The grants are available to not for profit organisations in the UK (e.g. community groups, schools, and social housing schemes, etc); vegetarian groups, local network groups and student vegetarian and vegan societies; and informal groups of friends, parents or students. Activities need to take place during National Vegetarian Week (14-20 May 2018) and must promote National Vegetarian Week exclusively as the primary purpose of the funded activity.

The Society is accepting applications for both large and small grants this year. Small grants will be up to £200 and large grants to be up to £2,000. Large grant applications need to demonstrate how their activity will have a bigger impact.

The deadlines for large grants is February 2018 and for small grant applications the 22nd April 2018.

## Funding for Local Environmental Projects

Schools and local community groups can apply for funding of up to £2,000 through the [Greggs Foundation](#) for projects to improve the local environment. The Environmental Grant Scheme is funded by the 5p levy on carrier bag sales in Greggs shops.

The Foundation are more likely to make grants to local organisations based near Greggs shops.

The closing date for applications is the 27th April 2018.

## Youth Hostel Association Grant Scheme

The Youth Hostel Association's (YHA's) [Educational Breaks Programme](#) has re-opened for applications.

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.

## 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.

#### Assessment & Analytical Skills

- Wed 07 Mar 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Young People March, March

#### 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

#### Critically Reflective Supervision

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

#### Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment

- 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

## Impact of Parental Substance Misuse

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

## Inspiring Young People

- Mon 12 Feb 2018, 09:30 – 12:30, YMCA, Cambridge
- Mon 12 Feb 2018, 13:30 – 16:30, YMCA, Cambridge

## Introduction to Domestic Abuse

- Tue 06 & Wed 07 Feb 2018, 10:00 – 16:30 & 10:00 – 12:30, Cambs FA, Impington

## Introduction to Systemic Ideas & Practice

- Wed 7 March 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, CPDC, Cambridge
- 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

## Responding to Child Sexual Exploitation

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

## Safeguarding Adults & Children

- Thu 22 Mar 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Young People March, March

## Safeguarding Children & Young People

- Thu 15 Mar 2018, 10:00 – 16:30, Cambs FA, Impington

## The Role of the Lead Professional

- Wed 14 Mar 2018, 09:30 – 16:30, Young People March, March

## What is Neglect?

- 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](#).

## Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Boards Training

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Boards (Children and Adults) Training Programme for January to December 2018 is now available to view on their [website](#).

## Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Partnership

Please see the [website](#) for details of levels and training available in the joint training offer for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

## Friends Families and Travellers

Charity specialists Friends, Families and Travellers have developed an online learning programme which addresses key themes and questions arising from service providers about Gypsies and Travellers. The course is ideal for members wishing to engage or work more effectively with this community. You can find [more information here](#).

## YMCA

Listed below are the upcoming training courses for Spring/Summer 2018; further details can be found on the [YMCA website](#).

- Train the Trainer: Delivering Early Intervention Programmes
- Train the Trainer: Working with Specialist Mental Health Issues
- Introduction to Mental Health
- Building Resilience
- Anxiety and Depression

- Risk-taking Behaviour
- Self Harm

## Other News and Information

### UK Youth Annual Review

The UK Youth [Annual Report](#) looks into the types of young people in their network, the barriers they face and outlines their 2020 vision, as well as demonstrating the impact of youth work in helping all young people to engage with training, volunteering and employment.

### LGA vision for youth services

The Local Government Association (LGA) has published its long-term vision for youth services and provision, outlining the LGA's aspirations to support local work in this area.

Further information can be found on the [LGA website](#).

### Prince's Trust reveals young people's happiness and confidence is at lowest levels

This year's Princes Trust Macquarie Youth Index report shows that concerns about job prospects are weighing on young minds – almost

half of young people fear that there will be fewer job opportunities for their generation in the next three years, and the unpredictable political climate is making 59% of young people feel anxious about their future.

Young people's wellbeing, which dropped last year to its lowest level since the Index was first commissioned in 2009, has fallen again to a new low this year, and the number of young people who don't feel in control of their lives has increased by more than one third year-on-year.

The ninth Index was based on a survey of 2,194 young people aged 16 to 25. The report can be read on the [Prince's Trust website](#).

## Youth service cuts 'deeper than predicted'

LA and school expenditure: 2016 to 2017 [statistics](#) published by the Department for Education show that total expenditure by local authorities on youth services in 2016/17 came to £447.5m.

This is £41.99m less than the £489.5m councils had told the DfE they were intending to spend and a 15.2 per cent cut on actual spending in 2015/16 of £527.9m.

The statistics for actual spending in 2016/17 show that total spending on children and young people's services increased by £41.3m, from £9.14bn to £9.18bn.

Total expenditure on looked-after children went up by £215.1m from £3.94bn to £4.16bn, and spending on child protection rose by £107.4m from £2.23bn to £2.33bn.

Spending on children's centres and early years services dropped by £69.6m, from £843.9m to £774.3m.

## Youth groups call on government to back Erasmus programme

A campaign has been launched by youth organisations to protect the UK's involvement in the European Union's (EU) Erasmus training and study programme.

Organisations, including the National Youth Agency, National Union of Students and YouthLink Scotland are lobbying the government to continue its commitment to Erasmus+ once the UK leaves the EU in April 2019.

The move follows months of uncertainty over the European exchange programme which has helped around 600,000 UK participants to study, work, volunteer, teach and train abroad since it began 30 years ago.

The National Youth Agency said the aim of the Keep Erasmus+ campaign was for the UK to find its own unique model of participation in the programme such as countries like Iceland, Norway and Turkey - currently not EU members - who still participate as partners.

It added that Erasmus, which was relaunched as Erasmus+ in 2014 after joining together with other European educational programmes, funds various educational activities in different settings, including schools, youth exchanges and cultural projects.

It estimates that the programme will have delivered £800m of benefits to the UK over the six-year period from 2014 to 2020.

## Institute for Youth Work to push for statutory youth services

The Institute for Youth Work (IYW) has outlined plans to get youth work onto a "statutory footing" as part of its new five-year strategy.

The membership organisation said it also hoped to create a "more equitable" relationship between the government and youth workers despite the current "political limitations" the sector faced.

Read more on the [C&YP Now website](#).

## NCS evaluation finds 'positive short-term impact'

A study into the government's National Citizen Service initiative has found that it has a "very positive short-term impact" for young people taking part.

An [evaluation report](#) into 2016 programmes delivered in the summer and autumn found that, overall, NCS participants were positive about the experience and the staff who delivered their programme.

Participants agreed with a range of positive statements about the programme and the majority of participants said they would "definitely" recommend NCS to other 16- and 17-year-olds.

More than 90% of those who took part in both the NCS's summer and autumn programmes gave it an overall score of six or more out of 10.

Meanwhile, 94% of summer participants and 88% of autumn participants said they were proud of what they had achieved by taking part.

The evaluation also reported that young people's confidence, ability to get along with others and their life satisfaction had improved following participation.

There were also indications that the scheme had improved social cohesion, with the proportion of young people who feel comfortable with a friend or relative dating someone from a different race or a person of the same-sex increasing after participation in the programme.

The evaluation estimated that every pound spent on the summer programme delivers economic and volunteering benefits worth £1.79, while every pound spent on the autumn programme generated £2.21 of benefits.

## Government's Careers Strategy

All schools will be expected to appoint a "careers leader" and prioritise support for disadvantaged children and those in, or on the edge of care as part of the government's long-awaited Careers Strategy.

The government has said every school and college will be expected to have a designated careers leader in place by September 2018, and has set aside £4m to provide training and support for at least 500 schools in areas of the country that need the most support.

A further £2m will go on trialling careers activities in primary schools with the aim of allowing children to meet employers from a young age and understand how the subjects they learn at school connect to their future.

Meanwhile, £5m will be spent setting up 20 careers hubs, led by the Careers and Enterprise Company, in disadvantaged parts of the

country to link together schools, colleges, universities and local businesses.

Secondary schools will also be expected to provide pupils with at least one meaningful interaction with businesses every year, with a particular focus on employers from science, technology, engineering and maths - the so called "Stem" industries.

The strategy can be read on the [gov.uk website](http://gov.uk).

## Ofsted 'needs more money' to monitor apprenticeships

Ofsted must be handed more funding if it is to properly monitor the quality of apprenticeships, MPs have been told.

The [education select committee](#), which is conducting an inquiry into how the government proposes to achieve its target of getting three million people into apprenticeships by 2020, heard that the watchdog is struggling to keep up with the growth of the apprenticeships sector.

Joe Dromey, senior research fellow at the Institute for Public Policy Research, told MPs that while numbers of apprenticeships are rising, Ofsted funding is in decline, meaning the inspectorate is struggling to keep up with inspection requirements.

Dromey said: "Someone's got to measure quality. Ofsted needs to be resourced at least commensurate with the increase in apprenticeship numbers and at the moment they seem to be going in opposite directions - a soar in numbers since 2010 and a significant reduction in capacity.

"Ofsted themselves have expressed a concern in their ability to regulate and inspect the growing number of apprenticeships, given that funding gap."

In Ofsted's 2016 report, 37% of apprenticeships were rated as less than "good".

## Government unlocking dormant accounts to build a fairer society

Big Lottery Fund and Big Society Capital will distribute cash to initiatives tackling a number of societal challenges

Up to £330 million from dormant bank and building society accounts will be used to help the homeless, disadvantaged young people, local charities and other good causes in the UK over the next four years, Tracey Crouch, Minister for Sport and Civil Society, announced on 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Around £280 million will be allocated to initiatives across England to help disadvantaged young people into work, provide housing for families and vulnerable people, and tackle problem debt.

Of this, up to £135 million will be used by [Big Society Capital](#) (BSC) to fund stable and long-term accommodation for vulnerable groups such as homeless people and those suffering with mental health issues, as well as to provide support for local charities and social enterprises. This allocation meets existing funding commitments to Big Society Capital, who will use it to leverage substantial private co-investment, to maximise the impact of these funds.

Around £90 million will also be invested in support of projects that help disadvantaged young people into employment. These initiatives will be jointly designed by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and

Sport, the Department for Education and Big Lottery Fund with input from young people.

Read more on the [Gov.uk website](#).

## Education drive for disadvantaged areas

The new Education Secretary, Damian Hinds, has unveiled plans to drive up standards by supporting underperforming schools and increase opportunities in areas most in need.

Alongside the publication of the six more "opportunity area plans", Hinds said £45m will go to successful multi-academy trusts to help tackle underperformance and improve schools in areas that lack capacity.

Meanwhile, a total of 75 projects, many of which are designed to increase pupils' literacy and numeracy skills will share £25m of government money.

Publication of the six opportunity area plans, which cover Bradford, Doncaster, Fenland and East Cambridgeshire, Hastings, Ipswich and Stoke-on-Trent, come [three months after the first six were published](#).

The opportunity areas initiative is seeking to boost children and young people's life chances in 12 English districts that score poorly on social mobility.

As part of the Multi-Academy Trust Development and Improvement Fund, announced in October 2017, more than £45m will support multi-academy trusts to drive improvement.

More than £30m of this will be targeted to around 300 academy trusts in areas facing the greatest challenges across England.

## DfE to revise 'outdated' sex education guidance

The government is asking parents, teachers and young people to help shape a new relationships and sex education curriculum that will help them stay safe and face the challenges of the modern world.

The current statutory guidance for teaching Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) was introduced in 2000. It currently fails to address risks to children which have grown in prevalence in recent years, including online pornography, sexting and staying safe online.

The guidance is being updated after legislation was passed by Parliament earlier this year to make relationships education compulsory in all primary schools and relationships and sex education compulsory in all secondary schools.

As part of that process, an eight week call for evidence will [invite views](#) on age-appropriate content on mental wellbeing, staying safe online and LGBT issues in the updated subjects.

The consultation closes on 12th February 2018.

## CAFCASS Learning from Serious Case Reviews

CAFCASS, representing the voice of children in the family courts, released a [report](#) into commonalities in Serious Case Reviews at the

end of last year. The report highlighted risk factors in its key findings including domestic abuse was the most common risk factor in SCR cases, present at varied risk levels in 71% of the SCRs. Domestic abuse is very 'gendered' in their sample: that is, it is frequently perpetrated by the father or male partner. However, in 48% of cases featuring domestic abuse, the person thought to have killed or harmed the child was not the alleged domestic abuse perpetrator.

## Plan to boost social mobility through education

The Education Secretary, Justine Greening, has unveiled an action plan to provide opportunities on every young person's doorstep and ensure no community is left behind.

In a [speech](#) at the inaugural [Reform social mobility conference](#), the Education Secretary pointed to the success of government reforms in raising school standards and creating more opportunities.

Read more on the [Gov.uk](#) website.

The local plan to deliver opportunities for Fenland and East Cambs can be read on the [Gov.uk](#) website.

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

