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The Central Line

Welcome to the new financial year and finally some warmer and brighter weather. As we enter exam season I would like to issue a final and timely reminder relating to RPA and recording. As you know following numerous reminders from us centrally, Mark Cowdell and your line managers, recording on Aspire remains mandatory and is essential to ensure the service meets its statutory requirements of RPA to government. Practitioners must be accessing Aspire regularly to ensure baseline data including contact details, aspirations, intended destination, situations and individual circumstances are updated. Client Researchers have spent significant time researching data that was already known to the case holder. This is not acceptable practice and colleagues not working with established processes will be challenged in supervision as a performance issue.

The National Citizens Service Summer 2018 programme is oversubscribed already in some areas. If you have a year 11 on your caseload please ensure they are aware on the programme and refer them to [Kim Jeffries](#) if they have not signed up to their school provider.

Finally do make sure you get in touch if you are looking for funding to support group work or to develop effective partnerships that benefit young people. Currently there are some exciting opportunities for funding several of which are detailed in this newsletter.

Liz Morris, Youth & Community Manager

Issue number 76

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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 March 2018

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

Measure	Result Mar 2018	Result Mar 2017
16-18 yr olds NEET	2.6%	3.0%
16-18 yr olds Not Known	0.6%	1.0%
16/18 yr olds NEET and Not Known	3.2%	4.0%
Year 12 In Learning	95.3%	94.3%
Year 13 In Learning	91.0%	91.0%

The performance for March 2018 shows the continuation of excellent performance. We continue to do better than this time last year.

Latest Comparison Data with East of England Region – March 2018

The comparison table below shows that we continue to do well against our East of England Region Neighbours with this data.

	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	4040	3.2%	2052	1.6%	6092	4.8%	
Thurrock	80	2.1%	0	0.0%	80	2.1%	1
Cambridgeshire	323	2.6%	77	0.6%	400	3.2%	1
Hertfordshire	657	2.6%	269	1.1%	926	3.7%	1
Essex	935	3.0%	330	1.0%	1265	4.0%	2
Norfolk	695	4.1%	178	1.0%	873	5.1%	2
Bedford	158	4.2%	47	1.3%	205	5.5%	4
Central Bedfordshire	154	2.7%	164	2.9%	318	5.6%	4
Peterborough	207	4.5%	80	1.7%	287	6.3%	4
Luton	171	3.3%	163	3.2%	334	6.5%	4
Suffolk	582	3.9%	512	3.5%	1094	7.4%	5
Southend-on-Sea	78	2.0%	232	6.0%	310	8.0%	5

Vulnerable Groups NEET Data – March 2018

SEND

	Mar 2018	Dec 2017	Mar 2017
SEND 16-19 NEET %	7.6%	6.9%	11.0%
SEND 16-19 Not Known %	4.8%	5.6%	3.4%
SEND 16-19 NEET and Not Known %	12.4%	12.4%	14.4%

The Quarter 4 result for SEND young people continues to be good, although there is certainly room for improvement here. The NEET % has increased since last quarter, however the Not Known % has decreased and the overall NEET and Not Known % has stayed the same as previous quarter. In comparison to same time last year, it is a slightly improved situation. In comparison to our East of England Colleagues, we are sitting in 3rd place for SEND young people which is fantastic.

Teenage Mothers

	Mar 2018	Dec 2017	Mar 2017
Teenage Mothers 16-19 NEET %	63.3%	60.0%	58.9%
Teenage Mothers 16-19 Not Known %	7.8%	9.3%	0.8%
Teenage Mothers 16-19 NEET & Not Known %	71.1%	69.3%	59.7%

The results for Teenage mothers is not good as the above data shows, the direction of travel for performance is deteriorating. This will need to

be addressed. A paper has been shared with Early Help District teams and Romsey Mill in Cambridge outlining what constitutes engaging in Education or Training for a Teenage Mother. Please contact Mark Cowdell if you have any queries about this. It is hoped that this paper will give more clarity around recording NEET data for Teenage Mothers.

Although these results are deteriorating, Cambridgeshire is still doing incredibly well compared to East of England Colleagues.

Mark Cowdell, Targeted NEET Manager

Policy and Information

Youthoria Facebook

Youthoria has a Facebook page! It is hoped that we will be able to use it to keep young people up-to-date with news, events and other topics which they might miss on Youthoria and the CCC website (e.g. if they are not looking at Youthoria regularly).

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/YouthoriaCCC>

Moving On Into Work

The Moving On Into Work document (April 2018) can now be used and shared with young people, parents/carers and professionals to help guide and advice into the world of work for young people aged 14-25 with Additional Needs. The document has been saved to the [YSS Portal](#).

Chathealth

ChatHealth is a new confidential text messaging service for young people age 13-19 in Cambridgeshire.

This is a new platform for teenagers to engage with experienced school nurses on a range of topics including healthy eating, relationship advice, smoking, drugs & bullying.

Texts will be answered from 9.30am-4pm Mon-Fri and can be sent anonymously.

Text 07480 635 443. To find out more, watch a short video on [YouTube](#).

Launch of Keep Your Head Website – Adults

Adults in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough now have access to a mental health support website www.keep-your-head.com. The site, which has been successful in signposting children and young people to sources of support for their mental health, has been expanded to now provide local residents of all ages with a 'one-stop shop' for information on wellbeing and mental health.

The site provides a range of local and national information on looking after your mental health, self-help resources, and services that can help when you need more support. There are also dedicated pages for professionals which hold information on referral options and key contact information for services.

The site has been developed by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group, Cambridgeshire County Council,

Peterborough City Council, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust and the SUN Network. The SUN Network will be maintaining the site, on behalf of all the partners, ensuring content remains up-to-date and engaging.

Violence Against Women and Girls – Newsletter

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

LSCB Neglect Strategy Survey

The LSCB are currently undertaking some follow up work around neglect to assess the impact that it has had on practice. They would be grateful if you could complete the following survey <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CPLSCBNeglect>. It should take a maximum of 2-3 minutes to complete.

Getting Help to Overcome Abuse

The [quick guide for young people receiving support](#) has been written by young people who have all experienced abuse or neglect and is available on the Against Violence and Abuse website.

Support for People who are Experiencing Domestic Abuse

The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership has produced some short films, explaining support in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are now available in alternative languages with voiceovers in Urdu, Punjabi, Polish, Russian and Lithuanian. Cambridgeshire Deaf Association have also recorded the films in British Sign Language.

The IDVA film explains how they work with other services to help keep high risk victims and their children safe. The Outreach film gives information about community outreach support and explains how to contact the services directly.

Please click [here](#) to see the films on YouTube, and please spread the word that these resources exist.

Please visit the [website](#) for more information.

Domestic Abuse Champions Network

The Domestic Abuse Champions Network is an opportunity for those at practitioner level to become involved in Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence related issues and be the link between their organisation and the work of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership. Champions will promote discussion and best practice around the issue of domestic abuse affecting users of the service, help address local barriers and identify improvements and provide support to peers when working with adults, children and young people and families affected by domestic abuse.

Quarterly Networking events will be held in each district, which will include bitesize training in a range of specialisms.

To book, please email Lorraine.hogg@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

DA Champions can attend a networking event in any district if they can't make the one in the district they usually work.

July 2018- Children and Domestic Abuse, speakers from Embrace and Children's Social Care

Cambridge	South Cambs	East Cambs	Fenland	Huntingdon	Peterborough
9 th July	18 th July	12 th July	16 th July	4 th July	25 th July
10.00-12.30	10.00–12.30	14.00–16.30	11.00–13.30	10.00-12.30	10.00–12.30
Arbury Community Centre	Sackville House	Ely Library	March Community Centre	Medway Centre	Peterborough Town Hall

October 2018 – Substance misuse, speakers from Inclusion and Aspire

Cambridge	South Cambs	East Cambs	Fenland	Huntingdon	Peterborough
8 th October	17 th October	11 th October	15 th October	3 rd October	23 rd October
10.00–12.30	10.00–12.30	14.00–16.30	11.00–13.30	10.00–12.30	10.00–12.30
Arbury Community Centre	Sackville House	Ely Library	March Community Centre	Medway Centre	Peterborough Town Hall

January 2019 – Mental Health					
Cambridge	South Cambs	East Cambs	Fenland	Huntingdon	Peterborough
TBC	23 rd Jan 2019 10.00 – 12.30 Sackville House	TBC	14 th Jan 2019 11.00 – 13.30 March Community Centre	TBC	TBC

April 2019 – Vulnerabilities and Adults at Risk					
Cambridge	South Cambs	East Cambs	Fenland	Huntingdon	Peterborough
TBC	17 th April 2019 10.00 – 12.30 Sackville House	TBC	15 th April 2019 11.00 – 13.30 March Community Centre	TBC	TBC

C&YP Now Awards

The 2018 Children & Young People Now Awards are open for entries to organisations, individuals and teams from across the UK.

Now in their thirteenth year, there are 23 categories from which to choose, and entry is free. Full details are on the dedicated awards website - www.cypnowards.com - through which all entries must be submitted.

The awards are judged by an expert panel of professionals as well as a panel of young people, and the winners will be unveiled at an evening ceremony in central London on 21 November.

Take some the time to reflect on the best things you have done during the past year and submit your entries by the deadline of Friday 29 June.

Opportunities for Young People

Make art with the Royal Academy

UK Youth and the Royal Academy are working together to deliver two free workshops for 30 young people to look at art, talk about art and make art in London this summer. [Get in touch](#) to find out more and register your young people to get involved.

DHIVERSE – SLIP (Sex, Law, Internet and Porn) Programme

Following a very successful pilot in 2017, the Diverse SLIP Programme is now funded by 'Children In Need'. The programme will launch mid-May 2018 (referrals can be made before then) and will run for 3 years.

SLIP aims to support young people who couldn't fully engage with relationships and sex education at school, and who are negatively impacted by this. This includes e.g. young offenders, looked after children; children who missed out because of poor health; home educated children; children who have been victims of child sexual exploitation (CSE) or are at risk of CSE

The programme is made up of 6 sessions, usually delivered on consecutive weeks but with flexibility. It is provided free of charge to 11-18 year olds living in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and can be tailored to meet the needs of participants.

Young people age 19 – 25 can access the programme but there will be a charge.

For further information on SLIP or to make a referral please contact Meg Veit, Young People's Services Manager by [email](#) or call 01223 508805.

DHIVERSE - ABC (Awareness, Balance & Choice) Programme

Although ABC is not new it is very much in demand, therefore we'd like to remind you that to help you get the dates you need you should refer/contact Diverse as early as possible.

Funded by the Big Lottery the ABC programme aims to support people with learning disabilities and autism to find out and understand about relationships and sexual health.

The programme is available to people living or working in Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and areas of some bordering counties.

For further information or to refer please contact Liz MacKenzie, ABC Manager by [email](#) or phone 01223 508805.

Funding

Arts Council England Announces New Grant Scheme

The Arts Council England has announced the launch of the [National Lottery Project Grants scheme](#). This will replace the current Grant for the Arts Scheme.

Under the new scheme grants of £1,000 - £100,000 will be available to individuals, organisations, museums and libraries to support a wide range of arts projects as well as creative and digital media projects. The new grant scheme will have an annual budget of £97.3 million.

Once the grant scheme opens, applications can be submitted at any time. Individuals and organisations applying for £15,000 or under will receive a decision in 6 weeks. For those applying for over £15,000 a decision will take 12 weeks.

Funding for LGBT Projects Run by Young People

vInspired, the Volunteering Charity, has announced that its [Cashpoint](#) grants scheme is has announced that its Loud and Proud grants programme is open for applications. These grants are accepting applications for LGBT+ projects.

The Cashpoint grants scheme offers grants of up to £500 to give young people (aged 14-25) the opportunity to bring their ideas to life. The funding is available to individual young people (or small groups) who have developed a project idea and will run the project themselves. Projects must be run on a volunteer only basis and funded projects must create at least 2 new volunteering opportunities for 14-30 year olds (in addition to the applicant). vInspired cashpoint must be the only funder for the project.

There are no closing dates for applications and grants will be awarded on a continuous basis until all available monies are exhausted.

Funding for Remote Rural Communities

Communities that are not connected to the Mains Gas Grid can now apply for grants of up to £5,000 through the [Calor Rural Community](#)

[Fund](#). Projects that can apply for funding could be anything from redecorating community centres or village halls; to new equipment for youth clubs, sports teams or scout groups; etc.

Projects will be subject to a popular vote. Projects that receive the most votes on Calor Rural Community Fund website will be shortlisted then reviewed by a panel of judges, who will select the winning projects for funding.

In 2018 Calor is offering three levels of funding to suit projects of different sizes:

- Up to £1,000
- Up to £2,500
- Up to £5,000

The 20 projects in the £1,000 category and the 10 projects in both the £2,500 and £5,000 with the most votes will go through to the finals.

The closing date for applications will be the 21st May 2018.

Funding for Football Equipment and Facilities

Grants of up to £10,000 are available to schools, grass roots football clubs, local authorities and professional and semi-professional football clubs and their associated community organisations that are looking to refurbish their existing or develop new football facilities.

The funding is available through the [Football Foundation's Premier League & the FA Facilities Fund Small Grants Scheme](#) and can be used to buy capital items such as portable floodlights, storage

containers and other equipment; or to refurbish/improve existing facilities. The aims of this scheme are to:

- Support the growth of football clubs and activity
- Prevent a decline in football participation
- Make improvements to facilities to address any health and safety issues.

The grants awarded cannot exceed 50% of the total project cost. The Football Foundation strongly recommend that applicants use the pre-application advice offered on our behalf by The FA and the network of County FAs around England. This will normally involve completing the FA's Football Facilities Enquiry Form (FEF) first, which will help The FA to learn more about a project and determine the best way to support the applicant organisation. Applications can be submitted at any time.

Reaching Communities Programme Re-opens for Applications

The Big Lottery Fund has announced that its [Reaching Communities Programme](#) has re-opened for applications. Reaching Communities provide grants of over £10,000 to help improve local communities and the lives of people most in need, including hard to reach communities.

You can apply if you are a:

- Voluntary and community organisation
- Social enterprise

- Group of organisations, as long as they are led by a voluntary and community organisations or social enterprise
- School
- Statutory body (including town, parish or community council)
- Community interest company.

During this financial £190 million will be available for projects that address one or more of the following outcomes:

Bring people together and build strong relationships in and across communities;

Improve the places and spaces that matter to communities;

Enable more people to fulfil their potential by working to address issues at the earliest possible stage.

The UK Community Foundations Announces £3.4 Million Programme to Support Women and Girls

The UK Community Foundations has been awarded £3.4million from the Tampon Tax Fund to support women and girls in local communities.

UK Community Foundations will lead a programme called '[TribeWomen](#)' with all 46 Community Foundations across the UK to fund projects which will help women and girls have the best future possible.

TribeWomen will focus on three core areas of funding: building skills and confidence, improving health and wellbeing, and building social networks. Further specific priorities will be determined by each Community Foundation depending on local needs.

The projects will be responding to need, helping women and girls get into or back into work, raising awareness about health issues and will create and develop peer networks. A key focus will be funding preventative work to reduce the risk of crisis at different life stages. Community Foundations will work with local charities and groups in their area, building capacity in the sector to deliver meaningful projects through the fund.

The Tampon Tax Fund allocates funds generated from the VAT on sanitary products to projects that improve the lives of disadvantaged women and girls.

Interested organisations should contact their local Community Foundation.

The Summer Play Scheme Programme 2018

The [Hilden Charitable Funds Summer Play Scheme](#) is now open for applications.

The Fund supports community groups and voluntary agencies with an income of less than £150,000 that run summer play schemes for children between the ages of 5 and 18 in disadvantaged communities. Supported schemes should be:

- Locally based
- Last between two and six weeks

- Have strong volunteer support.

Some priority will be given to projects which show that they are inclusive of children from refugee families and have BME involvement.

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

[Application Form](#)

Greggs Foundation: environmental grants

We believe that looking after our neighbourhoods can have a real impact on the quality of life of the people who live there. Our [Environmental Grant fund](#) is therefore dedicated to improving the local environment - whether that means turning a piece of wasteland into a garden or organising litter picking days on the beach. We look to fund projects that improve the physical environment in a way that also benefits the wider community.

Grants of up to £2,000 are available for existing not for profit organisations to deliver new projects. Organisations may only apply once per calendar year for this grant.

[Please read the guidelines before starting an application](#)

Any not for profit organisation can apply, preference will be given to small, locally based and community led organisations with a turnover not in excess of £300,000 per annum. Schools are also encouraged to apply providing the project is accessible to the community outside of school hours. Schools are given the same level of priority as small locally based organisations.

We are interested in projects that improve the physical environment in a way that will improve people's lives. This can include purchase of equipment, sessional salary costs, purchase of trees/plants, small capital projects and learning activities. We are also interested in new approaches and innovative ideas as well as sustainable approaches to supporting your local environment.

Round 2 is now open and closes on 22 June (midnight) with decisions being announced by 17 August 2018.

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

LGSS Learning and Development courses, including all the Social Care Workforce Development and Children's Early Help, are now listed on [iLearn](#).

Please find below a list of courses which are due to take place in April, May & June 2018 and still have several spaces available. To view course information, check availability and make bookings please select the relevant link from the list below which will take you directly to the log-in screen followed by the course page.

01 May 2018	Looked After Children	CPDC, Trumpington, Cambridge
08 May 2018	The Role of the Lead Professional	Hunts FA, Huntingdon

16 May 2018	Graded Care Profile: Assessing and Responding to Neglect	CPDC, Trumpington, Cambridge
16 May 2018	Safeguarding Children and Young People	Stanton House, Huntingdon
17 May 2018	Engagement, Assertiveness & Challenge	CPDC, Trumpington, Cambridge
18 May 2018	Back to Basics Briefing – Smart Plans	Awdry House, Wisbech
23 May 2018	Back to Basics Briefing – Smart Plans	Babbage House, Cambridge
23 May 2018	Back to Basics Briefing – Smart Plans	Noble House, Ely
24 May 2018	Back to Basics Briefing – Smart Plans	Hereward Hall, March
25 May 2018	Back to Basics Briefing – Smart Plans	Butts Grove Centre, Oxmoor, Huntingdon
06 Jun 2018	Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment	Stanton House, Huntingdon
07 Jun 2018	Chairing Meetings in Children's Services	Young People March, March
07 Jun 2018	Graded Care Profile: Assessing and Responding to Neglect	Young People March, March
07 Jun 2018	Introduction to Systemic Ideas and Practice	Cambs FA, Impington, Cambridge

LSCB Courses

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

DHIVERSE

Understanding ABC (Awareness, Balance & Choice) workshop

Funded by the Big Lottery 'Understanding ABC' is a support workshop for parents, partners, carers and other professionals. If you are supporting someone with a learning difficulty and would like to feel more confident about discussing sex and relationships with them you may be interested in attending the 'Understanding ABC' workshop.

The workshop is available to people living or working in Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and areas of some bordering counties.

For further information or to book please contact Liz MacKenzie, ABC Manager by [email](#) or phone 01223 508805.

Other News and Information

CCVS Annual Survey

CCVS are compiling their annual review of the voluntary and community sector in Cambridgeshire by completing our annual survey.

This [survey](#) gives them a picture of the community and voluntary sector across the county enabling them to identify the issues and concerns that affect CCVS members and other community groups in their area.

Your views and information are important! They help CCVS to shape their services for the coming year and give them valuable insights and statistics on the state of the sector to use in discussions with statutory partners, funders and other stakeholders.

Help tackle youth loneliness

UK Youth are working in partnership with the Co-op Foundation to gain vital insight into youth loneliness and explore how youth organisations can better be supported to identify and combat the issue. [Take part in their short survey](#) to help tackle the issue.

Patient Advice & Liaison Service

Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust provides a range of community based health services for children and adults in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Luton, Norfolk, Peterborough and Suffolk.

They aim to:

- advise and support patients, their families and carers
- provide information on NHS services
- listen and respond to your concerns, suggestions or queries
- help sort out problems quickly on your behalf

Tel: 0300 131 1000

E-mail: ccs-tr.pals@nhs.net

CCG Spring Newsletter

The Cambs & Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group Spring Newsletter can be read on the [CCG website](#).

Statement of intent for the dormant accounts youth programme

The new £90 million dormant accounts youth fund will be invested in programmes which help young people facing barriers to work to reach their full potential. It is being designed by Big Lottery Fund, in collaboration with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), the Department for Education (DfE) and the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), and with input from young people.

Young people will have a chance to work with employers, educators, youth and community organisations to create programmes that work for them, their local communities and the businesses who will benefit from their talents.

The design of the programme will be informed by learning from the government's Race Disparity Audit and evidence of the barriers, which hold young people back and what works to overcome them, including the Big Lottery Fund's current 'Talent Match' programme.

The programme is not open for applications at this stage, but young people are being asked to be at the heart of its design, as they are best-placed to say what needs to change so they can access more opportunities and be supported into employment.

If you are aged 16-24, you can be part of this process by taking part in this [survey](#).

If you are a youth organisation or work with young people who have experience of barriers into employment then please encourage them to take part in the survey.

An engagement survey for stakeholders, including delivery organisations and employers, is available online. This survey is focused on stakeholders with an interest in this area, such as delivery

organisations, charities, employers, academic institutions or indeed any other interested parties. If you would like to feed into the engagement then please complete the [survey](#).

YCMA Respect Project Raises Awareness of Domestic Abuse

Respect is a counselling service aimed at young people aged 13 – 24 years who may have emerging or moderate domestic abuse behaviours. Counsellors will deliver seven weekly solution-focused sessions to individuals on your premises. This is not a domestic abuse intervention. The focus will be on working on solutions rather than understanding problems. Working on symptoms of adolescent depression and generalised anxiety disorders can contribute to reducing the risk of domestic abuse presently and in the future.

If you wish to refer your client, or yourself, please contact Claire Taylor by [email](#) or phone 07799 901502. More information can be found on the [YMCA website](#).

YMCA research shows half of young people are bullied about their looks

YMCA Trinity Group has thrown its support behind the Be Real Campaign after new YMCA research revealed today that half of young people have been bullied about the way they look, with two fifths of those experiencing this bullying at least once a week.

Read more on the [YMCA website](#), along with the [full report](#) and the [Body Confidence Campaign Toolkit for Schools](#) which is part of the Be Real Campaign's mission to tackle body image anxiety in young people to enable them to grow up into body confident adults

Government promises action to combat negative body image

The government has pledged action to improve access to help and information for young people and professionals on combating negative body image.

In its response to a [youth select committee](#) report on body dissatisfaction, the government's equalities office has promised to carry out an audit of available information and resources.

The committee, which is run by the [British Youth Council](#), wants to see better access to body image information among young men, those with disabilities and LGBT young people.

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

Peers praise NCS success at attracting disadvantaged young people

The National Citizen Service is proving more successful than traditional youth organisations such as the Scouts and the Duke of

Edinburgh's Award at attracting disadvantaged young people, according to a House of Lords report.

A report by the House of Lords select committee on citizenship and civic engagement found that the government's flagship youth participation scheme, for 15- to 17-year-olds, compares well against more established youth programmes in ensuring young people from hard to reach communities are involved.

Peers said they were impressed with data presented from the NCS that 17 per cent of attendees are eligible for free school meals. This is more than double the eight per cent of the population that are eligible for the benefit.

In addition, 28 per cent of participants are from non-white communities and 15 per cent are from minority religions, compared with 18 per cent and 10 per cent of the overall population respectively.

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

National Minimum Wage and National Living Wage Rates from 1 April

For pay reference periods starting on or after 1 April 2018, the hourly rates for national minimum wage (NMW) and national living wage (NLW) are:

- NLW for workers aged 25 and over: £7.83 (4.4% increase from £7.50).
- NMW for workers aged 21 and over: £7.38 (4.68% increase from £7.05).

- NMW youth development rate for workers aged 18 and not yet 21: £5.90 (5.36% increase from £5.60).
- NMW young workers rate for 16 and 17 year olds who are above school leaving age and are not apprentices: £4.20 (3.7% increase from £4.05).
- NMW for apprentices aged under 19, or 19 or over and in the first year of their apprenticeship: £3.70 (5.7% increase from £3.50).

Personal budgets to be extended

Young people with mental health conditions will be given a greater say over the treatment they receive as part of plans to extend personal budgets to more groups.

Personal health budgets involve a sum of money being allocated to those in receipt of support so that they can have greater control over the care they receive.

Currently, the only people who have a specific right to a personal health budget are adults in receipt of NHS continuing healthcare or children receiving continuing care.

But under plans put out to consultation the government is proposing to extend its reach to include five more groups, including "people of all ages with ongoing mental health needs who make regular and ongoing use of community-based NHS mental health services".

The [consultation document](#) contains full details and the [online survey](#) ends on 8th June.

Youth homelessness exacerbated by welfare reforms

Welfare reforms are contributing to homelessness among young people aged 16 to 24 by affecting their ability to access and sustain housing according to Homeless Link's Young & Homeless 2018 report, published on Monday 16th April.

The article and report can be read in full on the [Homeless Link](#) website.

Study finds Jobcentre Plus for schools needs more resources

A programme bringing Jobcentre Plus advisers into schools is making a positive difference to young people but will need additional funding if it is to meet demand, an [evaluation](#) commissioned by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has found.

First announced in 2014, the Support for Schools programme sees Jobcentre Plus advisers provide careers guidance and support to 12- to 18-year-olds in secondary schools across England.

The evaluation found the programme is popular with schools and works best when targeting young people at risk of NEET.

Schools liked the flexibility of the programme, which is tailored to meet local needs, and Jobcentre Plus advisers' knowledge of local labour markets and understanding of non-academic career paths was noted as a benefit. The fact that schools do not have to pay for the programme was also seen as a key attraction.

But since Support for Schools' expansion is led by demand from schools, the evaluation warned that the initiative could become a victim of its own success unless the DWP provides additional resources or tightens the programme's remit.

The evaluation also found that Jobcentre Plus advisers would benefit from more training on how to work with young people and in a school environment. It recommended giving advisers more training on how to engage with young people who are "opposed to adults" or have high needs.

Jobcentre Plus advisers also told the evaluation that they felt "under-resourced" and lacked access to professionally-printed materials to use in sessions with pupils. The evaluation said the DWP should produce a bank of materials for advisers to use along with marketing materials to help them expand the programme to more schools.

Local Government Association: Youth Strategy

The Local Government Association has released a [strategy](#) for future youth services, which states that services should "ideally operate within a framework established by a clear and ambitious national vision for young people". The LGA is calling for the Government to promote six principles to create effective youth services, including young people's role in the community and empowering young people to participate in employment and education training.

Home Office: Serious Violence Strategy

The Home Office have launched a [Serious Violence Strategy](#) covering new ways to respond to knife crime and gun crime. This includes a new £11m Early Intervention Youth Fund for community projects and a task force comprised of cross-party MPs and the charity sector to implement the strategy.

Careers strategy: making the most of everyone's skills and talents

The government has stated that every school and college will be expected to appoint a "career leader" in place by September 2018 and has set aside £4m to provide training and support for at least 500 schools that are in most need of support. The [strategy](#) also states that career leaders will be expected to: "*prioritise careers support for disadvantaged young people who have fewer opportunities to get the right advice, guidance and experiences*".

Civil Society Strategy: have your say

Do you want to help shape government's upcoming Civil Society Strategy? [Click here](#) to have your say on how government can work with and for civil society to build a stronger society now and in the future.

Report: A Habit of Service

The Jubilee Center for Character and Virtues at the University of Birmingham, have launched a report A [Habit of Service: The Factors that sustain service in young people](#). Some of the key findings include that young people more involved in youth services are more likely to participate in a wider range of services and recognise the double benefit that youth services provide.

Report: State of Children's Life

The Children's Rights Alliance for England has released their annual report, [State of Children's Life in 2017](#) which details how some of England's most vulnerable children are having their safety and wellbeing ignored whilst the Government is focusing on Brexit.

Report: Turning the Tide

Ambition, alongside U.K. Youth, have co-produced a report with Action for Children and the National Children's Bureau titled [Turning the Tide](#). The report finds that between 2010 and 2015 there has been £2.4 billion cuts to central Government funding for local children's services. These cuts have pushed local councils to reduce spending on early help services by 40%, whilst the demand is increasing.

Report: The State of the Nation

The Social Mobility Commission released the State of the Nation 2017. Overall, the report's finding showed that social mobility for young

people is getting worse. It was also found that high cost housing is a major barrier to social mobility especially when considering residential location. Read the full report and findings [here](#).

Report: Life in 'likes'

Children's Commissioner of England, Anne Longfield, has published a [report](#) finding that children's use of social media increases drastically during secondary school. Specifically, the report researched 8-12 year olds, and found that while this age group uses social media to stay in touch with peers, social media also has an impact on self-confidence and influences young people to need validation from others.

Vacancies

Waterbeach & Landbeach Action for Youth

Waterbeach and Landbeach Action for Youth has been running a very successful youth club for 15 years, providing opportunities for fun & recreation; encouragement & support for young people aged 11 to 19.

Due to some exciting new funding we wish to appoint Senior Youth Workers, Assistant Youth Workers and a sports coach to join our team.

OUR SESSIONS ARE MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY
7-9pm at The Tillage Hall, Waterbeach.

Staff are paid for three hours per session to include setting up and clearing away.

Are you passionate about activities for young people?

Do you have experience in this or a similar field?

Can you professionally deliver fun activities to our members?

Senior Youth Worker (£10 - £13 per hour)

Our Senior Youth Workers lead the pre-planned sessions. They will supervise all other staff members and volunteers; take responsibility for completing all paperwork for the session and ensure the building is left secured and in a clean manner.

Senior Youth Workers are required for both the Monday and Thursday sessions.

Assistant Youth Workers (£7.50 - £8.50 per hour)

Our Assistant Youth Workers work at least one regular evening per week.

Their role is to support the Senior Youth Worker to ensure activities are appropriately delivered.

Sports Coaches (£30 per session)

We require sports coach to plan and deliver a weekly session between January – April for our sports projects. Successful candidates will need to have appropriate qualifications or experience in their field and plan their sessions to meet specific outcomes for our funders.

If you think you could be the right person for one of these posts, please take a look at the application pack including application forms on our website: www.waterbeachway.org.uk or email or call [Caroline](#) / 07749738870 for more information.

WAY is committed to safeguarding young people and these posts (paid & unpaid) are subject to enhanced DBS checks which WAY will administer.

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

