

In this issue

- The Central Line
- NEET and RPA (page 2)
- Policy and Information to help you in your work (page 4)
- Opportunities for young people (page 5)
- Funding (page 6)
- Training (page 8)
- Other news and information (page 10)
- Vacancy (page 12)

The Central Line

The summer holidays are upon us and I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued hard work over the past academic year.

Our NCS Summer programmes are again delivering new learning opportunities for our young people. We are oversubscribed on all of our programmes which is a result of many referrals and colleagues working closely across the organisation. Kim Jeffries and Natalie Taylor are now starting to plan our Autumn NCS programmes.

Please continue to send in your evaluations, photos and feedback so that we can use this to celebrate the achievements of the young people you are working with and to promote the work you are doing with them.

I do hope many of you will enjoy some time off this summer for some well-deserved relaxation.

Liz Morris, Youth & Community Manager



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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.

NEET Performance and RPA

NEET Data for June 2018

The NEET data for June 2018:

Measure	Result June 2018	Result June 2017
16-18 yr olds NEET	2.9%	2.9%
16-18 yr olds Not Known	0.6%	0.9%
16/18 yr olds NEET and Not Known	3.4%	3.8%
Year 12 In Learning	94.3%	93.8%
Year 13 In Learning	90.3%	90.8%

Below is a table to show how we compare with our Eastern Region Neighbours. This shows that we continue to achieve very well compared to other local authorities in the eastern region.

	Academic age 16-17						Quintile
	NEET	NEET % NEET / (cohort - 710 - 720)	Not known	% not known NK / (cohort - 710 - 720)	NEET and NK	% NEET and NK (NEET + NK) / (cohort - 710 - 720)	
EAST OF ENGLAND	4150	3.3%	2638	2.1%	6788	5.3%	
Thurrock	76	2.0%	1	0.0%	77	2.0%	1
Cambs	360	2.9%	69	0.6%	429	3.4%	1
Herts	661	2.6%	379	1.5%	1040	4.1%	2
Essex	968	3.1%	518	1.7%	1486	4.7%	2
Bedford	162	4.4%	44	1.2%	206	5.6%	3
Peterborough	200	4.4%	63	1.4%	263	5.8%	3
Central Beds	140	2.5%	213	3.7%	353	6.2%	4
Luton	161	3.1%	177	3.4%	338	6.6%	4
Norfolk	727	4.3%	412	2.4%	1139	6.7%	4
Suffolk	599	4.1%	553	3.8%	1152	7.8%	5
Southend-on-Sea	96	2.5%	209	5.4%	305	7.9%	5

Vulnerable Groups NEET Data – June 2018

SEND

	June 2018	Mar 2018	June 2017
SEND 16-19 NEET %	8.5%	7.6%	9.4%
SEND 16-19 Not Known %	3.5%	4.8%	5.5%
SEND 16-19 NEET and Not Known %	11.9%	12.4%	14.9%

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%

September Guarantee

The latest report for September Guarantee shows that we continue to do well – however we need everyone to ensure that they are recording correctly, the baseline status on ASPIRE on all Year 11 and Year 12 young people. Also to follow up on all young people that don't have an offer of learning and ensure that as many of them get an offer of learning for September. This is a statutory duty for the local authority and so is

everyone's responsibility. If you need any help with this, please contact Mark Cowdell or one of the Client Researchers.

	26/07/17	11/07/18	25/07/18	Difference to last year	Difference to 2 weeks ago
Year 11	93.9%	91.2%	92.0%	-1.9%	+0.8%
Year 12	84.2%	84.1%	85.8%	+1.6%	+1.7%

ASPIRE Training

We are putting on some more ASPIRE training for Practitioners and Managers on 11th September at Huntingdon Youth Centre.

9:30am – 12:30pm – ASPIRE Workshop for Practitioners (mainly aimed at YPW's)

1:30pm – 4:30pm – ASPIRE workshop for Managers (aimed at Early Help Assistant Managers and District Managers)

More details about these training workshops will be coming out and you will be able to book onto the workshops via iLearn.

Mark Cowdell, County NEET Manager

Policy and Information

JNC cost of living increase

A 2% cost of living increase has been agreed for employees on JNC terms and conditions. This is effective from 1 April 2018.

Child Criminal Exploitation

The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board has published two useful handouts for both parent and young person suspected of child criminal exploitation. These have been added to the [YSS Portal](#).

Violence Against Women and Girls – Newsletter

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

Public Health notification – ‘doki doki’ game

We have been made aware of an email communication regarding a free online game called Doki Doki, with themes related to suicide and self-harm.

One of our regions has been contacted following the death of a teenage boy who it appears had played the game. The inquest is ongoing, and it is important to remember that suicide is complex and rarely the result of one thing.

The game, released in late 2017, is initially presented as a dating game but is described by its creators as a ‘psychological horror’ and is intended for an adult audience. The game contains a variety of alternative endings with one centred on suicide and self-harm. Warnings relating to these are shown to players.

PHE, Samaritans and the NSPCC Online Safety team are aware of the game. Work is being carried out, behind the scenes, to address concerns around any risk posed, particularly to young people.

Samaritans continues to monitor social media and news coverage. Since initial mentions online, at the time of the game’s launch last year, it does not appear to have gained much traction online and there has been no news coverage so far in the UK. We hope that this remains the case.

While it is important to promote online safety to young audiences, parents and adults who work with children and young people, it is safer to approach this with general messages about online safety, without naming specific websites or games. Responding to specific online games is likely to draw further attention to these, as we saw with the ‘Blue Whale Challenge’ online game last year.

If you are forwarded warnings about this game, please think carefully about what you share. It is worth reminding people of the importance of avoiding drawing attention to it and inadvertently advertising it to young people. Some further advice below:

We encourage parents and adults who work with young people to talk to them about their online activity. Let them share what they’re playing or looking at, rather than asking them whether they are playing a specific game, which may draw their interest to it.

We encourage extreme caution on sharing online content with young people that may be distressing or upsetting. If young people express any concern or

worries over material they have seen online, or posts or comments that friends or others have made, it is important to listen to them and offer support. Remember that inappropriate online material, which could be harmful and distressing, can be reported through social media channels for review and potential removal.

Providing information and signposting to sources of support for all young people is important at all times. It may also be useful to provide advice on how young people can support themselves and their friends.

Increasingly people use the internet to express themselves and share their thoughts and feelings, or to participate in online activities. Sometimes online material and activities can be harmful and upsetting and it's important to let people know what to do if this happens, so they can look after themselves.

Samaritans, in partnership with Facebook has produced a [guide](#) on what to do if you are concerned about a friend. This information also applies to helping colleagues and students.

If you have concerns that someone is suicidal, useful information can be found here on the Samaritan's website:

<http://www.samaritans.org/how-we-can-help-you/what-speak-us-about/if-you%E2%80%99re-worried-about-someone-else/what-should-i-do-if-i>

<http://www.samaritans.org/how-we-can-help-you/what-speak-us-about/if-you%E2%80%99re-worried-about-someone-else>

Opportunities for Young People

UK Youth - Money for Life – E-Learning

The Money for Life e-learning videos are a perfect way of helping the young people you work with develop the skills needed to manage their money day to day. They're free to use and can be completed anywhere by anyone.

Short, [interactive videos](#) take you through the key topics including banking, budgeting, borrowing and keeping your money safe. Young people can check their learning through the quiz at the end of the four videos.

The training can be embedded into almost any programme. If you're running employability courses, functional skills, working with newly independent young people or those at risk of financial exclusion, these resources are a great way to support your work.

Once complete, young people will be awarded with a certificate. Just contact moneyforlife@ukyouth.org with a screen shot to show it's been completed.

Youth Voice Census

[Youth Employment UK](#) has launched their [Youth Voice Census](#), a temperature check of how young people aged 14-24 are feeling on a range of issues related to employment. They are looking for a range of voices from young people and the results gathered will be shared to better inform policy and provision within the sector.

Closing date is 27th August 2018.

Funding

Grants available for confidence building activities

The [BlueSpark Foundation](#) offers grants to fund projects in England which aim to improve the education and development of children and young people by means of educational, cultural, sporting, or other activities.

There is no deadline for applications.

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. In most cases grants will be made on a relatively small scale. 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.

[Online Application Form](#)

Welfare Grants to Help Prevent an Immediate Family Crisis

[Family Action's Welfare Grants programme](#) aims to help prevent an immediate crisis from spiralling and threatening the stability of families and individuals.

A broken washing machine for example would for many of us be a financial burden to replace; for a family with three children and a very low income however it may mean taking out a high-street loan and plunging further into debt.

Coupled with emotional and practical support, grants help to create a safety net for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged members of our society.

Applications must be made by a referring agency such as a health or social care provider, housing association, probation service or GP.

Funding to Support Children and Young People

The [Wessex Youth Trust](#) supports projects that provide opportunities to help, support and advance children and young people up to the age of 21.

Supported projects cover a huge cross-section of youth-orientated causes and needs: from hospices, hospital beds and incubators to holiday clubs, sports organisations and outreach programmes; from inner city drop-in centres, child protection training and helplines to drug prevention schemes and sex education; from deaf, blind and speech impaired support groups and special needs libraries, to theatre, dance and music-related groups.

Call Jenny Cannon on 01508 571230 to discuss your application in advance.

Deadline: 1 November 2018

One Stop Carriers for Causes

Not for profit organisations, including schools that are located within 2 miles of a One Stop shop can apply for grants of up to £1,000 for projects that benefit their local community. [One Stop's 'Carriers for Causes'](#) is funded through the money raised from the 5p bag charge in One Stop stores in England, Wales and Scotland.

The grants are available for a wide range of activities and the funding will cover the direct costs needed to deliver the project. Projects eligible for funding include:

- One off community events such as community fun day expenses, summer youth camp, litter picking, sports events, expenses to pay for terminally ill cancer patients on visits to the seaside.
- Purchasing items to run a project such as specialised medical equipment, football/cricket /netball kit for local junior club, arts and craft materials for a workshop, kitchen equipment for a healthy eating project, marketing materials for an event, fishing kit for youth project.

Applications can be submitted at any time and are shortlisted on a quarterly basis for panel decision which will take place every three months. Applicants will generally know the outcome of your application within 16 weeks of applying.

Useful Links: [Store Locator](#) / [Application Guide](#) / [Apply Online](#)

New Fund Launched to Tackle Loneliness

A new £11.5 million [Building Connections Fund](#) has been launched to support projects that prevent or reduce loneliness. The fund is a partnership between Government, Big Lottery Fund and the Co-op Foundation which was set up in response to the Jo Cox Commission on Loneliness to support projects that prevent or reduce loneliness.

The fund aims to:

- Increase social connections, helping people form strong and meaningful relationships and creating a sense of community and belonging, and helping people feel more connected
- Support organisations to build on their existing work, e.g. by reaching more people, or working in a new area or with a different method or group of people
- Encourage organisations to join up with others locally
- Improve the evidence base and use learning to inform longer term policy and funding decisions.

The Youth Strand is made up of £2 million, which will be distributed by the [Co-op Foundation](#), making grants of up to £80,000. It will open for applications in August 2018 – [find out more on the Co-op Foundation blog.](#)

The Youth Strand will be open to organisations with existing youth-focused activities that could be effective at helping young people avoid long-term loneliness. Successful applicants will receive funding to explore youth loneliness in greater depth, test youth-led innovations within their existing provision, and share their learning as part of a national network. You will be supported to evaluate your activities and capture your impact, which will add to the evidence base.

Useful Links: [Apply Online](#)

Funding for Inter Faith Youth Projects

The [Inter Faith Youth Trust](#), the only UK charitable trust solely to fund inter faith projects for young people, has announced that the Inter Faith Week 2018 grant programme is now open and will close to applications on 14 September 2018. The Trust funds projects that bring together young people of different faiths to improve collaboration and understanding.

Grants of up to £500 as part funding for projects or activities are available. Priority is given to projects that:

- Actively involve young people in the planning, running and evaluation of the project.
- Promote positive action i.e. involve young people from different backgrounds coming together to address shared problems, for example, improving green spaces.
- Are run by UK based non-statutory organisations, such as youth clubs, scout or guide groups, local voluntary and community organisations.
- Focus on children and young people aged 11-25

Projects supported will be focused around Inter Faith Week, the 11th to the 18th November 2018. Grants are awarded for proposals for inter-faith activities involving children and young people from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh and other faiths and those of no formal faith in understanding and co-operation. More information, examples of activities and tips on how to make the most of Inter Faith Week can be found in the Toolkit available to download from the website.

The deadline for applications is the 14th September 2018.

Useful Links: [Online grant application form](#)

Training

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

Learning and Development Team

LGSS Learning and Development courses, Children's Early Help, are now listed on [iLearn](#).

Please find below details of a two new Children's Courses being offered by the LGSS Learning & Development Team.

Child and Adolescent Development

Provides practitioners with an overview of child and adolescent development and how a range of factors can affect development

Who it is for - practitioners working directly with children, young people and families including District Family Workers, Young People's Workers, Children Centre staff, Hub Workers and Contact Workers.

By the end of the course you will:

- Be able to outline the stages of child and adolescent development
- Be able to identify factors that affect development
- Be able to explain the impact of these factors on development

Key Theories of Child Development and the application of practice

Provides practitioners with an overview of key theoretical approaches that underpin development and how these can be applied to practice.

Who it is for - practitioners working directly with children, young people and families including District Family Workers, Young People's Workers, Children Centre staff, Hub Workers and Contact Workers.

By the end of the course you will:

- Be able to identify the key theories of child development
- Be able to explain how the key theories can be applied in practice
- Be able to explain the importance of attachment and its effect on development
- Be able to discuss the importance of play

LSCB Courses

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

Aspire

11th September – Huntingdon

- 9.30 – 12.30 for staff in Early Help District Teams – Client Researcher/Young People Workers/Senior Transition Advisers/Transition Advisers/Business Support. It is a half-day session for users to understand the functionality and what the system is used for. Navigate and add essential and accurate data for reporting to DfE.
- 1.30 – 4.30 for This half day Manager's training is designed for staff in Early Help District Teams, for users to understand the functionality and what the system is used for, navigate and add essential and accurate data for reporting to DfE.

Please book via [iLearn](#).

Supporting C&YP Affected by Loss and Bereavement

Arthur Rank Hospice are delivering a half day workshop: [Supporting Children and Young People Affected by Loss and Bereavement](#) on Wednesday 10th October 9.30am–2.30pm for practitioners, primary and secondary school teachers, family support workers, nurses or healthcare staff whose role brings them into contact with children and young people affected by loss or bereavement.

Facilitated by our Patient & Family Support Team, this workshop includes:

- Children and young people's understanding of, and responses to, loss and bereavement

- An introduction to psychological theories of loss and grief and how they can be applied to children and young people
- What adults can do to help children and young people affected by loss and bereavement
- How to support practitioners and resource information

To Register: Online using this [link](#) or contact the Education Team 01223 675801.

The workshop will take place at the Education & Conference Centre, Arthur Rank Hospice, Cherry Hinton Road, Shelford Bottom, Cambridge CB22 3FB

There is ample free car parking at the adjacent Park and Ride.

Other News and Information

BBC Children in Need are looking to appoint Voluntary Committee Members in the central region.

Here is your opportunity to join our team, to be a vital part of the process for allocating funding to those inspiring projects that change disadvantaged children's lives. We are looking for new members for our Regional Advisory Committee in the Central region to help us in making decisions on making the best grants to improve the lives of disadvantaged children. We're looking for individuals with passion and commitment, and who are representative of diverse communities living across the Central region.

As a Regional Advisory Committee member you will be part of an experienced and insightful team that annually allocates over £10million in funding to a wide range of voluntary and community projects in the region. You will be joining one of the UK's most recognised charities, with over 30 years' experience of funding inspiring and brilliant projects that deliver change in the lives of disadvantaged children.

BBC Children in Need exists to make a positive difference to the lives of disadvantaged children and young people across the UK. Our focus is on finding and funding the inspiring ideas that change children's lives. And whilst we know that every child deserves a childhood that is safe, happy and secure, and one that gives them opportunities to realise their potential, we know too that a growing number of children are experiencing ever increasing and more complex levels of disadvantage

Further details can be found on the [Careers Search website](#).

The deadline for applications is 5th August 2018.

NYA Launch Redeveloped Hear by Right Framework

On Monday 2nd July the National Youth Agency (NYA) was joined by over 50 young people and MPs to launch the new look Hear by Right framework in the Houses of Commons.

Hear by Right has been used for over 10 years as an effective tool to measure and improve youth participation in organisations across the sector and in local government. NYA have recently reviewed the model and, to best support the sector and young people, has made the newly developed

framework and materials completely free of charge to all NYA Network members.

As well as a launch of Hear by Right at the #NYACrowdburst event on 2nd, the framework was featured at the Local Government Association annual conference from 3-5 July. The NYA supports local councils to improve the way young people contribute directly to the decisions and services that affect them. The Hear by Right model offers a self-assessment as well as an externally accredited award from the NYA as the National Body for Youth Services.

The NYA is calling on all organisations who work with young people to make a Hear by Right pledge to support young people's meaningful participation in the decisions that impact them.

More information about the [new look Hear by Right can be found here](#).

Older children suffering neglect 'slipping through the cracks'

Older children who are suffering neglect are going "unseen" by services that should be supporting them, inspectors have warned.

A [report](#) based on a series of joint targeted area inspections conducted by Ofsted, which carried out the deep dive alongside inspectors from the Care Quality Commission, HM Probation, and HM Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services has called for greater understanding of the issue and a more co-ordinated approach from local agencies.

Inspectors found that services are less adept at spotting the signs of neglect in seven- to 15-year-olds than in younger children. They also found that while frontline services often work together to tackle youth violence and

gang activity they often did so without considering underlying causes such as neglectful parenting.

The inspectorates said the issue needs to be addressed because neglected older children are more likely to go missing from home, get drawn into crime or be exploited.

Further details can be read on the [Children & Young People Now website](#).

Underachieving boys 'benefit from targeted work experience'

Targeted work experience programmes can boost school attainment levels and opportunities among groups of underachieving boys, an inquiry on the issue has heard.

The inquiry by the [youth select committee](#) is looking into the barriers around work experience and is also hearing evidence from education and academic experts, as well as young people who have taken part in work experience.

Evidence from the work experience pilot, involving 20 year 10 boys, has found that their expected GCSE grades have increased, with some moving up two maths sets after completing the project.

Their aspiration and confidence levels have also risen, according to early evaluation of the project, which took place in Ipswich, Oldham and Bradford. All three areas were selected as they have been designated by the government as social mobility and opportunity areas, where young people need further support to reach their potential.

Those involved in the pilot, which is run by [Barclays Lifeskills](#) programme and the charity [Transformation Trust](#), spent a year taking part in life skills courses and work experience sessions.

"We have just completed a pilot working with 20 white working class boys in year 10 in three areas, Ipswich, Oldham and Bradford," said Barclays Lifeskills senior programme manager Kate McGoey, who was speaking at the youth select committee hearing.

"Over an academic year they have had facilitated life skills sessions and multiple experiences of the world of work and we are evaluating that against a controlled group. The early indications are that already their expected grades at GCSE have gone up, some have gone up two maths sets."

Hospital appoints youth worker

Young people receiving treatment for kidney disease at a south coast hospital will be able to get support from a youth worker thanks to funding from the voluntary sector.

The paediatric nephrology department at Southampton Children's Hospital has appointed Andy Beeson as its first youth worker for patients with chronic kidney disease.

Beeson will work alongside clinical staff to develop new and innovative ways of supporting young patients aged 11 to 18 as they transition from children's to adult services.

This initiative has been funded by Kidney Care UK and the Wessex Kidney Patients' Association, who have been working in partnership with University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust to develop the role.

The new role is part of the trust's wider work to improve support for children as they transition to adult services.

Young People and Brexit

The British Youth Council has produced a [position paper](#) on young people and their role in Brexit. The European Youth Forum is backing their position that young people need to have a role in withdrawal negotiations as they will be most affected by future consequences. You can find out more [here](#).

Vacancy

The Kite Trust is recruiting.....

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join our ever expanding team supporting LGBT+ young people in Cambridgeshire.

We have been working in Cambridgeshire schools for the past 13 years, supporting thousands of pupils each year. Thanks to a grant through the Government Equalities Office, over the past two years, we have been delivering the Rainbow Flag Award to 43 schools through Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. To find out more about the Rainbow Flag Award [click here](#). We are now in our third year of delivery to our partner schools and will be launching the Rainbow Flag as a paid offer to schools across the area. This post will be instrumental in helping us achieve our vision of breaking down HBT bullying in schools, helping to make schools a more inclusive environment for LGBT+ pupils and educating our local communities and ensure the sustainability of our schools programmes into the future.

Senior Project Worker- Schools Lead

Salary: NJC point 29- £26,470 pro rata

22.5 hours per week

- Lead, develop and carry out The Kite Trusts' Schools programmes of work
- Lead on the co-ordination of the Rainbow Flag Award
- Looking for someone who has extensive experience and is confident in delivering training and a good understanding of the education system, LGBT+ communities and experience.
- Must have access to own transport for this role.
- Positively recruiting from within the LGBT+ community.

[Please click here to download the application pack](#) or email lara@thekitetrust.org.uk requesting an application pack.

Closing date 5 pm, 6th August 2018.

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

