

PHOTO REDACTED DUE TO THIRD PARTY RIGHTS OR OTHER LEGAL ISSUES

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: Priorities for action



Foreword



This year, we celebrate 20 years of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This is

a great landmark: the UNCRC is one of the most ratified international treaties in the world, and I am delighted to lead its celebration on behalf of the UK Government.

Over the last two decades, great progress has been made in children's rights internationally. In this country, we have listened to children and young people and put them at the heart of our policies. For the first time, working jointly with the devolved administrations, we have published a UK-wide commitment to implementation of the UNCRC. *Working together, achieving more*, sets out the collaborative approach we will be taking across the United Kingdom.

You can judge a nation by the way it treats its children. Our goal is to make this the best place for children and young people to grow up. Through the creation of the Department for Children, Schools and Families to drive policy for all children and young people from birth to 19, and our delivery of the far-reaching policy commitments in the Government's *Children's Plan*, we are taking huge strides to fulfil our ambitions for children and young people.

This document sets out how our policies for children and young people in England continue to be underpinned by the UNCRC and our desire to make it a reality in children's lives.

At the end of 2008, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child highlighted the progress we have made but said we needed to do more to implement the Convention. Last year, in the *Children's Plan: One year on*, we set out our priorities in addressing the UN Committee's recommendations.

We have demonstrated our commitment to the UNCRC through a mix of legislation and policy. We are proud of what we have achieved, although we recognise that we still have further to go.

This document highlights the progress we have made in our priority areas and sets out our future plans. Alongside this document, the devolved administrations in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are also producing plans, which outline their priorities.

With the support of children, young people, NGOs, delivery partners, the Children's Commissioner and our stakeholders, I am sure we will continue to see significant progress and look forward to the next celebration of the UNCRC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Delyth Morgan'.

Baroness Delyth Morgan

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Introduction

1. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) recognises the rights of all children. It was ratified by the United Nations in September 1989 and came into force in the UK in 1992.¹

2. The UNCRC gives children and young people (under the age of 18) specific rights, through 54 articles. These include the right to: a family life; be protected from violence; have a say and be respected; be healthy; and have an education. It also gives extra rights to children and young people living in difficult circumstances such as young people in trouble with the law, young refugees and asylum seekers.

Commitment to the UNCRC

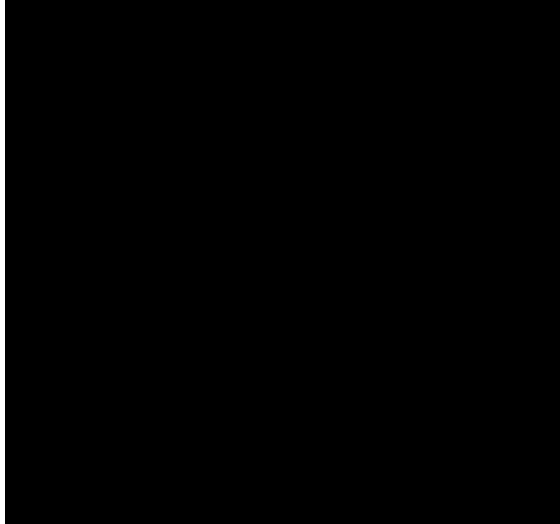
3. September 2008 saw the completion of the UK's most recent five-year reporting period on the implementation of the UNCRC, culminating with a hearing at the United Nations in Geneva. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child then issued to the UK Government its conclusions and recommendations.²

4. The Committee's 'Concluding Observations' welcomed the UK Government's progress in implementing the UNCRC and our ambition to improve the lives of all children and young people. The Committee specifically welcomed the fact that the Government's ambitions for all children and young people, set out in the 2007 *Children's Plan*, are underpinned by the UNCRC and the desire to make the Convention a reality on the ground.³

5. In November 2008, the UK formally removed its final two reservations to the UNCRC, to article 22, which deals with refugee children and 37c which refers to children in custody with adults. Lifting of these is further proof that the Government is delivering on its mission to improve the lives of all children. We have also ratified the optional protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, drawing special attention to these serious violations of children's rights and the steps to combat them.

6. There remain areas where the UK Government and the UN Committee differ in views, such as: the need for legal incorporation of the UNCRC into domestic law; the appropriateness of a legal ban on smacking children; the minimum age of criminal responsibility; and the use of anti-social behaviour orders. However, as set out in this document, the Government is deeply committed to improving children's wellbeing and their chances in life. Our strategy for 0-19 year olds is underpinned by the UNCRC and this document, which sets out our priorities for action in England, directly reflects the recommendations made by the UN Committee.

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Our progress

7. In December we will set out the progress we have made in delivering the ambitions set out in the Government's *Children's Plan*. The *Children's Plan Two Years On* will set out our achievements for children, young people and their families in the last two years, the difference this has made and our priorities for delivering our longer-term vision for children and young people. This will include our commitments to protect all children and young people from harm, to make sure all children have a happy and healthy childhood and fulfil their potential.

8. In order to achieve this we continue to improve support for children, young people and their families, by:

- ensuring more 2, 3 and 4 year olds receive free childcare places, building on the creation of Children's Centres in every neighbourhood;
- increasing support for parents who are struggling to cope – for example, when relationships come under strain;
- bringing services for children and young people in an area together through Children's Trusts;
- raising school standards and providing one to one tuition in schools;
- improving health and mental health services;
- building and refurbishing play areas and places for young people to enjoy;
- providing short breaks for disabled children; and
- offering support for young people during the recession through 'Backing Young Britain'.

Working together, achieving more

9. The UK Government remains responsible for the overall coordination of the UNCRC across the UK, where we work collaboratively through a 'four nations' approach with the devolved administrations in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

10. This year, to mark the 20th anniversary of the UNCRC, we have jointly published a UK-wide commitment to implementing it: *Working together, achieving more*, which also highlights areas of common interest where the four nations will work together.⁴ Each of the devolved administrations is also taking action to reflect their own requirements and priorities.

11. In taking forward the UN Committee's Concluding Observations we will continue to build on our strong links and partnerships across the UK with non-government organisations, delivery partners, children and young people and those who champion their views and interests, including the Children's Commissioner and the Commissioner's office, 11MILLION.

12. In September 2009, we consulted children and young people on the development of this document for England at a conference, 'Putting children's rights into practice', organised in conjunction with the Children's Rights Alliance for England and UNICEF.

Priorities for action

13. The UN Committee's Concluding Observations provide a helpful framework for further action to make children's rights a reality. In the *Children's Plan One Year On*, we set out our priorities for addressing the UN Committee's recommendations.⁵

14. This document summarises the priorities for England to take forward the Concluding Observations. Each of the seven sections gives an overview of the UN Committee's conclusions and recommendations on a cluster of articles in the UNCRC; and sets out the progress we have made since 2008 alongside our priorities for further action. The table below sets out the issues covered in each section.

1 General measures of implementation:

- National and local plans to implement the UNCRC
- Raising awareness of the Convention

2 General principles:

- Children and young people's views and interests
- Protecting children and young people from discrimination and negative portrayal
- The best interests of children and young people
- Keeping children and young people safe from harm

3 Civil rights and freedoms:

- Children and young people's privacy and involvement in the media
- Protecting children and young people from cruel forms of punishment
- The use of restraint to prevent harm

4 Family environment and alternative care:

- Parenting and family support
- Improving outcomes for children in care

5 Basic health and welfare:

- Eradicating child poverty
- Promoting physical and mental health
- Reducing substance misuse and teenage pregnancy
- Supporting disabled children and young people

6 Education, leisure and cultural activities:

- Places to play
- Positive activities
- Raising attainment for all
- Reducing exclusions
- Addressing bullying

7 Special protection measures:

- Addressing anti-social behaviour
- Alternatives to custody
- Tackling sexual exploitation and child trafficking
- Supporting asylum-seeking children

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1 General measures of implementation

1.1 The UN Committee acknowledged the progress made by the Government in implementing the UNCRC, for example by:

- harmonising its legislation with the UNCRC;
- establishing an independent Children's Commissioner;
- raising awareness of the UNCRC; and
- the Department for Children, Schools and Families coordinating the implementation of the UNCRC and its consultation with stakeholders, including non-governmental organisations and children.

1.2 However, the Committee recommended that the Government take further steps to coordinate implementation of the UNCRC nationally and locally, by:

- adopting comprehensive plans of action to implement the UNCRC;
- providing mechanisms for children and young people to complain if their rights are violated;
- raising awareness of children's rights among children and adults; and
- engaging non-governmental organisations and children in the promotion and implementation of the UNCRC.

National and local plans to implement the UNCRC

1.3 As recognised by the UN Committee, the Government has implemented the UNCRC through a mix of legislative provisions and policy initiatives including the Children Act 1989, Children Act 2004 and Every Child Matters. More recently, alongside the *Children's Plan* and the documents to mark one year and two years' progress, we have set out plans for our priority actions to implement the UNCRC and respond to the Committee's conclusions and recommendations.

1.4 The Government takes its commitment to comply with the obligations under the UNCRC very seriously. The UK does not, as a rule, directly incorporate international conventions into domestic law, but this should in no way be taken as any less of a commitment to the rights set out in this, or any other Convention or Treaty that we have ratified. Our approach to delivering the outcomes that the UNCRC requires has been through a mixture of legislative, executive and judicial action and other policy initiatives. We believe this approach to be the most sensible and most likely to achieve the UNCRC's objectives. The Government continues to keep under review the mechanisms for the protection of children's rights in the UK, but it is not persuaded that the incorporation of the UNCRC into domestic law is appropriate or necessary.

1.5 As recommended by the Committee, the 2009 Green Paper, *Rights and responsibilities*, prioritised children's rights and said that a future Bill of Rights and Responsibilities could contain a right for children to achieve wellbeing, whatever their background or circumstances.⁶ We are currently consulting on the Green Paper.

1.6 The UK-wide commitment to implement the UNCRC set out in *Working together, achieving more* also highlights the areas where we will work jointly with the devolved administrations as part of our collaborative ‘four administrations’ approach to implement the Convention. We will continue to review and monitor our progress as part of our preparation for the next reporting stage through annual meetings with the lead Ministers from each of the devolved administrations.

1.7 This document sets out the priorities for England. The Government will work in partnership with NGOs, delivery partners and children and young people to drive progress. We will report progress on all of the priority areas set out in this document by the end of 2010 and review these annually.

1.8 At a local level we have included in draft statutory guidance as part of the Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 an expectation that the preparation and development of the local area’s Children and Young People’s Plan by the Children’s Trust Board will be consistent with the general principles of UNCRC. These plans will set out how the Children’s Trust Board partners will work together to improve children’s wellbeing through the services they provide in a local area.

1.9 The Committee also recommended that the Children’s Commissioner should investigate complaints from children and young people who feel that their rights have been violated. The Children’s Commissioner does not have an ombudsman role to investigate complaints, as this would duplicate the work of other independent complaints procedures (such as the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman and the Local Government Ombudsman) and undermine the role the Commissioner has to champion children’s

views and interests. In addition, whilst the Children’s Commissioner for England (as in Scotland) does not hold a specific casework function, the Commissioner is able to conduct formal inquiries into individual cases if these raise issues of public policy of relevance to other children.

1.10 The Government is committed to improving the way parents’ and young people’s complaints are handled, including those where bullying has been a factor and complaints about matters related to their school (see section 6). During the last year we have extended, via the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009, the Local Government Ombudsman’s role to enable independent investigation of complaints where a young person or parent feels there has been an injustice caused by a school’s action.

1.11 We are also examining the appeals processes for children. Earlier this year, the Government consulted on giving children and young people the right to appeal against school exclusions to independent appeals panels and on appealing local authority decisions on special educational needs assessments and statements and bringing disability discrimination claims to a tribunal.⁷

1.12 Looking ahead, working with 11MILLION, the Department for Children, Schools and Families will look at the appropriateness and accessibility of existing complaints processes for children and young people.

Raising awareness of the UNCRC

1.13 Raising awareness of children's rights and the UNCRC remains a priority across the UK. In England, we continue to support initiatives to ensure children learn about their rights in school through:

- the citizenship curriculum;
- the development of curriculum resources; and
- the Rights Respecting Schools initiative, a project led by UNICEF to encourage schools to embed UNCRC in their ethos and curriculum.

1.14 For adults who work with children and young people, it is equally important to understand children's rights in the context of their own work. Training and development for the children's workforce is underpinned by the 'Common Core', which sets out the skills and knowledge needed by everyone who

works with children, young people and families. The Common Core already references the UNCRC and is currently under review; the Children's Workforce Development Council will produce a refreshed common core in March 2010 to cover the 2.7 million people who work with children and young people. Amongst the issues being considered in this review is whether the Common Core needs to be strengthened further to embed awareness of children's rights.

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2 General principles

2.1 The UN Committee was very positive about the Government's commitment to improving children's lives and in doing so, listening to their views. To build on this, the Committee recommended that more is done to:

- promote respect for the views of children;
- support forums for children's participation in matters affecting their lives; and
- protect children against discrimination, including by addressing intolerance and negative perceptions of children and young people.

2.2 In relation to children and young people who are vulnerable, the Committee recommended that the Government promote the best interests of children who are involved with the youth justice and immigration systems.

2.3 The Committee welcomed the efforts made to tackle the problem of violence, abuse and neglect against children. However, it recommended establishing mechanisms for monitoring cases of violence, abuse and exploitation, together with access to adequate services to help victims recover. It also recommended that the Government introduce automatic, independent and public reviews of any unexpected death or serious injury involving children, whether they are in care or in custody.

Children and young people's views and interests

2.4 Children and young people's views are essential to the development of effective policy and practice at every level. The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) systematically involves children in the development of policies which affect their lives through consultation and structured participation. For example, young people made significant contributions to *The Youth Alcohol Action Plan*⁸ and *Home Education – your views*⁹. The development of the *Play Strategy*¹⁰ was based on over 9,000 consultation responses from children and young people.

2.5 The Children's Commissioner for England is an independent champion of children and young people's views and interests. He and his office, 11MILLION, feed into all significant consultations, such as Lord Laming's recent review into safeguarding, and also raise awareness of children and young people's views on issues, such as the use of 'mosquito' devices against children and young people.

2.6 The DCSF's Children and Youth Board, supported by the National Children's Bureau, continues to advise on policy development at its early stages, and we have introduced innovative approaches for young people to shape services in their local area, such as the design of schools and youth facilities as part of the Building Schools for the Future programme and myplace project.

2.7 Every Children's Trust Board will be required to develop, through its Children and Young People's Plan, a joint strategy showing how local partners will co-operate to improve outcomes for children in the local authority's area and, as part of that process, must consult children and young people. The regulations and statutory guidance on this are currently out for consultation and we expect to lay the regulations and publish the final guidance in spring 2010. Every Children's Trust Board must publish their first jointly-owned Children and Young People's Plan in line with the new regulations and statutory guidance by April 2011.

2.8 The Education and Skills Act 2008 introduced a requirement on governing bodies to invite and consider pupils views. We are keeping this duty under review as the matters on which governing bodies can be mandated to consult have to be based on their existing functions. This has resulted in a limited list of topics for consultation, which are not necessarily those that are of the greatest interest to pupils.

2.9 At the same time we are also developing proposals set out in our recent White Paper, *Your child, your schools, our future: building a 21st century schools system*, to implement a pupil guarantee which includes giving pupils 'a clear say on how their school is doing and how it can be improved'.¹¹ Ofsted inspection considers how effectively a school gives its pupils a voice. Building on this, we plan to produce new statutory guidance in spring 2010 that sets out a range of ways in which schools engage with their pupils and the benefits experienced by the whole school community as a result.

Protecting children and young people from discrimination and negative portrayal

2.10 Through the Equality Bill, which we anticipate will be enacted before the summer of 2010, we will bring together and strengthen existing legislation on discrimination. Children will be protected in the same way as adults against discrimination on grounds of their sex, race, disability, religion or belief, or sexual orientation.

2.11 The Committee's concerns about intolerance of children and young people and their negative portrayal in the media are being addressed through Aiming High for Young People. At the forefront of these measures is the development of a national youth week, Shine, which includes national and local events to celebrate the talents and achievements of all young people. This year, Shine week culminated with young people from all over the country taking over the House of Lords to debate the issues most important to them, including their portrayal in the media. Shine Week 2010 will take place from 12 to 16 July.

2.12 Over £6 million is being invested between 2009 and 2011 in the development of The Youth of Today, a national body for youth leadership to offer a range of opportunities to young people, such as shadowing Ministers and Council leaders. It will also run a youth-led campaign to celebrate the achievements of young people, encouraging society to welcome them as leaders within their communities.

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2.13 The Prime Minister announced in April 2009 a new programme to support opportunities for young people aged 14-16: pilots in five local authorities will look at expanding the number of community service opportunities for this age group and increasing take-up. Our long-term ambition is that every young person should give at least 50 hours of service to their community in their teenage years. The Government has appointed Dawn Butler MP as Minister for Young Citizens and Youth Engagement. One of the priorities of this new ministerial portfolio will be to seek ways to help increase young people's participation in their local communities as well as in local and national politics.

Best interests of children and young people

2.14 We want to make sure that all people working with children and young people, particularly the most vulnerable, consider their best interests. Since November 2009, the UK Border Agency has been subject to a legal duty requiring it to take account of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in carrying out immigration, nationality and general customs functions (Section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009).¹²

2.15 Immigration Officials now have statutory guidance on how to safeguard and promote the welfare of children whilst exercising immigration functions. They also benefit from the UK Border Agency programme of training, which raises their awareness of child protection and welfare issues and relates these issues to their work so that the principles of safeguarding, promoting welfare and considering the best interests of the child can be applied in an appropriate way. Police Officers are now also given child protection training through standards set by the National Policing Improvement Agency.

2.16 We will shortly be publishing a strategy to improve the physical and emotional health of young people at risk of offending or reoffending, to ensure we intervene earlier, swiftly and more effectively to meet the health and wellbeing needs of this group. The Youth Justice Board has developed a Safeguarding Strategy for 2009-2012, focusing on the whole range of safeguarding issues for the secure estate. This follows an investment of £10.5 million in the secure estate through the Youth Justice Board's Child Protection and Safeguarding Programme in 2005-2008.

Keeping children and young people safe from harm

2.17 Keeping children and young people safe is a top priority and the *Staying Safe Action Plan* includes actions from across Government to support a shared commitment to improve children's safety.¹³

2.18 In November 2008, the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families asked Lord Laming to prepare an urgent report into the progress of arrangements to safeguarding children. The Government accepted in full all the recommendations made in this report and has set out in detail how it plans to implement each one to strengthen policy and practice to keep children safe from harm.¹⁴ The action plan published in 2009, *The protection of children in England*, commits to greater public scrutiny of local child protection arrangements, as well as more investment in training and support for front-line social workers.¹⁵

2.19 The Government appointed the first ever Chief Adviser on the Safety of Children in 2009 and will revise its statutory guidance for practitioners and front line managers, *Working Together to Safeguard Children*, to reflect Lord Laming's recommendations.¹⁶ A cross-Government National Safeguarding Delivery Unit will drive reform.

2.20 The UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) brings together over 140 organisations and individuals across Government, industry, charities, parenting groups and law enforcement to help children and young people stay safe on the internet. The Council was set up following a recommendation in Professor Tanya Byron's report, *Safer Children in a Digital World*, which the Government accepted in full.¹⁷ Since its launch, the Council has done many things to improve child internet safety, including putting online safety within the revised primary school curriculum and requiring school inspectors to assess how well it is taught. The Council is also leading the development of industry best practice documents for a range of internet-related services and will be launching a major public awareness campaign at the first UKCCIS Summit in December 2009.

2.21 The UN Committee highlighted the issue of unexpected child deaths and serious injuries involving children and young people. When a child dies unexpectedly in England, it is a core statutory function of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) to collect and analyse information about the death and to put in place procedures for ensuring that there is a co-ordinated response by the local authority, LSCB partners and other relevant persons. LSCBs are also required to consider whether a serious case review should be undertaken in cases where a child dies or is seriously injured, and abuse or neglect is known or suspected to be a factor. In addition, the Prison and Probation Ombudsman investigates the deaths of all prisoners, including those held in young offender institutions.

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3 Civil rights and freedoms

3.1 The UN Committee highlighted concerns about young people's privacy in the media and their participation in reality TV shows.

3.2 Recommendations were made by the UN Committee around children's rights to peaceful assembly, including the impact of anti-social behaviour orders and 'mosquito' devices.

3.3 The Committee highlighted children's right to protection from corporal punishment and cruel or degrading forms of punishment. For children and young people in secure settings, the Committee recommended that restraint only be used as a last resort to prevent harm.

Children and young people's privacy and involvement in the media

3.4 There are extensive legislative provisions that set the framework for children and young people's participation in entertainment, including television programmes. In general, children must be licensed by their local authorities before they take part in broadcast performances and local authorities must be satisfied that the child's health and welfare will not be put at risk before they issue a licence. The Government has been reviewing the regulations on child performance, including participation in reality television shows, and is considering whether the current framework needs to be modernised, bearing in mind the need to strike the right balance between appropriate safeguards for children and opportunities to perform.

3.5 Later this year, the Government will publish and respond to an independent report commissioned from Professor David Buckingham on the impact of the commercial world on children and young people's wellbeing.

Protecting children and young people from cruel forms of punishment

3.6 The Government takes all forms of violence against children extremely seriously and has in place clear frameworks and detailed statutory guidance on how organisations and individuals should work together to promote and safeguard the welfare of all children.

3.7 Corporal punishment has been banned in maintained schools in England since 1987. School staff who supervise pupils have a broad statutory power to use force to prevent injury, damage to property or serious breaches of school discipline. The Department for Children, Schools and Families' guidance helps schools to decide when the use of force is appropriate and the use of de-escalation techniques that will help prevent a need to use physical force.¹⁸ The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 introduces a requirement on governing bodies of schools to have procedures in place for recording significant incidents involving use of force by staff on pupils and for reporting these incidents to parents. This is expected to come into force in September 2010.

3.8 Where parents and others are concerned, section 58 of the Children Act 2004 recognised the vulnerability of children and young people and strengthened the protection of children in relation to smacking by limiting the use of the defence of reasonable punishment, so that it could no longer be used when people are charged with offences against a child such as causing actual bodily harm or cruelty.

3.9 We do not condone smacking, and want to progress to the point where smacking is seen as unacceptable by the vast majority of parents. However, we also do not want to criminalise decent parents who may occasionally administer a mild smack, and we do not believe that changing the law is the right approach. If in the future Parliament did decide to ban smacking, the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) could not ignore Parliament's decision, and it would be bound to apply the law if cases were referred to it. Even if the police decided to administer a caution instead of referring the case to the CPS, the parent would acquire a criminal record.

3.10 Therefore, rather than changing the law, our approach is to provide parents with positive support and guidance to help them manage their children's behaviour more effectively. We are very pleased that parents' attitudes towards smacking are changing, and that it is becoming a less commonly used form of discipline. We are determined to encourage this direction of travel including through parenting classes for parents who need help. Over £300 million will be invested between 2008 and 2011 to fund parenting courses and information, advice and guidance.

Use of restraint to prevent harm

3.11 The Youth Justice Board's code of practice, *Managing the Behaviour of Children and Young People in the Secure Estate* states that restrictive physical interventions must only be used as a last resort, when there is no alternative available or other options have been exhausted.¹⁹ They must not be used as a punishment, or merely to secure compliance with staff instructions.

3.12 The Independent Review of Restraint was published in December 2008, alongside a Government response.^{20,21} Work is now underway to implement the 58 recommendations. £5 million of additional funding has been made available for the period 2009-11 to fund improvements in the secure estate for children and young people. This includes an accelerated programme of training for staff in the skills they need to understand and work with young people. The Youth Justice Board has agreed a package of funding to ensure that Secure Training Centres and privately owned young offender institutions have 'real-time' CCTV in common areas, which will also be used to monitor the use of restraint. In accordance with a key recommendation in the Independent Review of Restraint, we are establishing the Restraint Accreditation Board; a panel of medical experts who from 2010 will assess the safety of, and accredit, all restraint techniques to be used in secure training centres and young offender institutions.

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4 Family environment and alternative care

4.1 The UN Committee recommended that the Government intensifies support provided to families.

4.2 For those children who have been separated from their families, the Committee welcomed the efforts that had been made to improve outcomes for children in care. The Committee recommended regular monitoring and review of children's care and was particularly concerned with the high numbers of children with disabilities in long-term care.

Parenting and family support

4.3 Parents and carers are the biggest influence on children's lives and the Government has put in place a range of support for parents, particularly those who are struggling to cope. For example, in September, DCSF arranged for 1.6 million copies of a new booklet to be distributed in *The Daily Mirror*.²² The Government will shortly be publishing a Green Paper setting out how it can support families, informed by its consultation with children, young people and their parents, including at the 'Putting children's rights into practice' conference in September 2009.

4.4 The Government is providing over £170m in 2009-11 for all local authorities to provide *Think Family* targeted parenting and family interventions, including:

- programmes to improve parenting skills;
- reforms to improve the co-ordination between adult and children's services to support families at risk; and
- Family Intervention Projects to provide support for chaotic and dysfunctional families, in some cases, working alongside social workers with families who may be facing care proceedings.

4.5 Family Intervention Projects are currently supporting or have supported over 3,000 families, and aim to support 10,000 families a year from 2011-12. Children with health or behavioural problems, those who are involved in anti-social or criminal activity, poor school attendance, and parents with mental or physical health problems or drug and alcohol dependence have all been shown to benefit from this approach.

4.6 The White Paper *Your child, your schools, our future* outlines plans to legislate to strengthen Home School Agreements to make clear the specific responsibilities of parents, schools and children, for the behaviour of every child.

Improving outcomes for children in care

4.7 The Government is working with local authorities to monitor and improve outcomes for all children in care, and to narrow the gap between this vulnerable group and their peers outside the care system. Since 2000-01, local authority expenditure on services for looked after children have increased from £1.3 billion to over £2.2 billion in 2007-08.

4.8 In June 2007, the Government published the *Care Matters* White Paper, which set out the reforms needed to transform the life chances of children and young people in care.²³ In March 2008 we published the implementation plan, *Care Matters: Time to deliver for children in care*, in partnership with the Association of Directors of Children's Services and the Local Government Association. It encouraged the systematic planning for service improvement in every local area and set out the support available to assist this action.²⁴ This is supported by the Children and Young Person's Act 2008 and its implementation from 2009 to 2011.

4.9 We have been making steady progress, with more placement stability, an increase in educational attainment and better outcomes for care leavers. Between 2003 and 2008, the proportion of looked after children achieving at least five good GCSEs (or GNVQ equivalent) at grades A* to C has risen from 8.7 per cent to 14 per cent, the proportion of care leavers in suitable accommodation has risen from 79.6 per cent to 88.4 per cent, and the proportion of care leavers in education, employment and training has risen from 55.4 per cent to 64.9 per cent.

4.10 We have also been making steady progress in improving the health of children in care. In 2008, 82 per cent of looked after children's immunisations were up to date, 87 per cent had a dental check, and 87 per cent had an annual health assessment. In November 2009 the Government published revised statutory health guidance, *Promoting the Health and Wellbeing of Looked After Children*, and placed it on a statutory footing for Primary Care Trusts and Strategic Health Authorities, as well as for local authorities.²⁵ However, the Government is not complacent and is working to go further and faster to improve outcomes for all children in care.

4.11 A key commitment of *Care Matters* is to put the voice of the child in care at the heart of the care system. Research shows that when children are involved in the development and operation of services, provision is more likely to be what children want and need, leading to more placement stability and better outcomes for children.

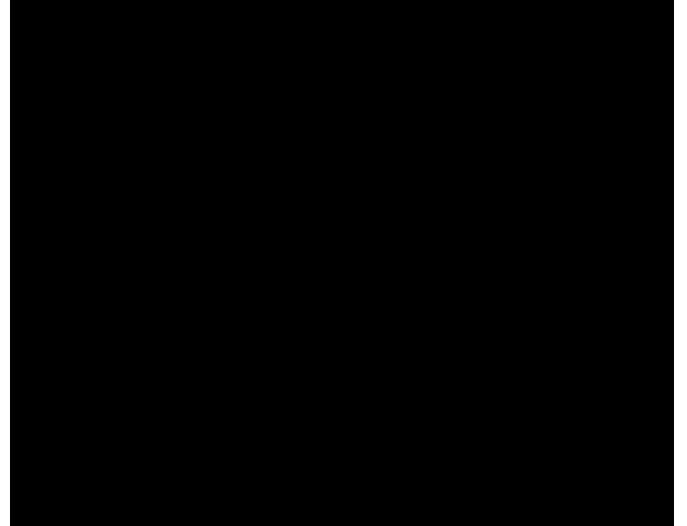
4.12 New approaches to support better outcomes for children in care include extending the entitlement to an Independent Visitor so somebody who is independent from the local authority can provide children in care with advice, encouragement and support. A new employment support programme, From Care2Work, launched in July 2009 provides work opportunities for care leavers across the country.

4.13 Many schools already have a designated teacher for looked after children but the Government has made this a statutory requirement through the Children and Young Persons Act 2008. The designated teacher will be expected to monitor and champion educational outcomes for all children in care on roll at their school. In addition, the Government is:

- strengthening the role of the Independent Reviewing Officer, so that the needs and wishes of the child fully inform their care planning; and
- introducing the role of the Virtual School Head, so that in every local authority a senior manager will have oversight of the educational outcomes of all children in care.

4.14 The first ever Care Matters Stocktake took place on in November 2009. The event highlighted achievements over the last two years, as well as identifying what more needs to be done. The Children's Rights Director also produced a report for the Stocktake, based on the view of children and young people in care and care leavers.²⁶ The *Care Matters Ministerial Stocktake Report 2009* was published, together with a children's version of the report.²⁷ The Secretary of State has written a letter to every child in care, summarising highlights from the report, as well as telling children and young people what more they can expect going forward.

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5 Basic health and welfare

5.1 The UN Committee recommended the Government intensify its efforts to meet the 2020 target to eradicate child poverty.

5.2 The Committee also highlighted inequalities in access to health services and the need for additional resources to meet the needs of children with mental health problems. It made recommendations to support adolescent health, including addressing the issues of substance misuse and the need to intensify efforts to provide appropriate reproductive health services and health education in schools.

5.3 The Committee had a particular interest in disabled children, recognising that the needs of this group of children should be identified early so that they receive appropriate support and protection.

Eradicating child poverty

5.4 The Government's ambition is to eradicate child poverty by 2020, to break the link between socio-economic disadvantage and other child outcomes, as well as to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

5.5 This is why the Government is currently legislating to eradicate child poverty. The Child Poverty Bill making its way through Parliament will enshrine in law the commitment to eradicate child poverty by 2020, giving new impetus to the Government's commitment and ensuring a focus across government on ending child poverty for the long term. The Bill includes targets covering reductions in the number of children who live in relative poverty, absolute poverty, persistent poverty and the numbers experiencing material deprivation, which affect children's living standards. The Bill also puts in place an accountability framework

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to ensure that we stay on course to meet these targets by 2020 and that we take action now to tackle the causes as well as the consequences of poverty.

5.6 The Bill places a duty on the Government to produce a strategy setting out the co-ordinated and sustained action to be taken to meet the 2020 goal, supplemented by local plans. Meeting the needs of the most vulnerable groups of children, including those in severe poverty – or those most at risk of poverty such as children from ethnic minority groups or Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children, as highlighted in the UN Committee's Concluding Observations, will be a crucial part of the strategy.

Promoting physical and mental health

5.7 The Government's priorities for supporting children and young people's health were set out in *Healthy lives, brighter futures: The strategy for children and young people's health*.²⁸ The strategy is a direct response to the views and concerns of children, young people, parents and professionals who work with children. It sets out how the Government will work in partnership with local authorities, Primary Care Trusts and those working across children's health services to improve support for families at key stages in their children's lives.

5.8 In early 2010, Professor Sir Michael Marmot, Chair of the World Health Organisation's Commission for Social Determinants, will submit his review of health inequalities post 2010. The key objective of the review is to focus on the social determinants of health and in particular, the way they influence health inequalities.

5.9 To promote emotional health and wellbeing for all children and young people, the Government has put in place a comprehensive programme of work to take forward the recommendations of the independent review of child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS).²⁹ We have established the National Advisory Council for Children and Young People's Psychological Wellbeing and Mental Health to advise and hold Government to account on the implementation of the independent review's

recommendations. A group of children and young people are working with the Council to inform all aspects of its work.

5.10 We believe that children, young people and their families should be able to access the services they need easily and swiftly and published guidance to support commissioners and providers to reduce waiting times for CAMHS. By the end of 2009, the Government will publish its full response to the independent review, setting out its forward programme of work to promote psychological wellbeing and mental health for children and young people.

5.11 As part of this, in 2008 Government introduced the Targeted Mental Health in Schools (TaMHS) programme, which is enabling clusters of schools to provide early intervention and targeted support to children aged 5 to 13 who are at risk of or are experiencing mental health problems. From April 2010 the TaMHS programme will be in every local authority. TaMHS is being carefully evaluated so that the lessons about effective practice can be shared with all schools.

Reducing substance misuse and teenage pregnancy

5.12 We are making significant progress on reducing substance misuse and teenage pregnancy. The numbers of young people drinking or using drugs have both fallen significantly since 2001. The proportion of 11-15 year olds who have used drugs has dropped to 22 per cent in 2008 from 29 per cent in 2001; and the numbers of young people who had tried alcohol fell from 61 per cent to 52 per cent over the same period.

5.13 The *National Drug Strategy* (2008) prioritised children and families with a particular focus on education, information and support.³⁰ Since its publication, the Government has completed a thorough review of drug and alcohol education, resulting in a commitment to introduce statutory drug and alcohol education in all schools as part Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education. This is supported by ongoing investment

in the highly trusted 'FRANK' campaign and a new national communications campaign from January 2010 aimed at supporting parents to talk to young people about the risks associated with alcohol. For those young people who need it, there are now a record number of treatment places available.

5.14 Further measures to tackle young people's alcohol misuse were set out in the *Youth Alcohol Action Plan* (2008) which committed to further action with industry to tackle underage sales and irresponsible promotions, and to ensuring alcohol support services are in place for young people across the country. More than £55 million is invested in tackling young people's substance misuse each year.

5.15 Since the launch of the *Teenage Pregnancy Strategy* in 1999,³¹ the under-18 conception rate has fallen by nearly 11 per cent. Within that overall decline in teenage conceptions, births to teenage mothers have fallen by nearly 25 per cent to their lowest level for over 15 years. In order to accelerate progress, we have recently announced our intention to make PSHE – which includes Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) – statutory in Key Stages 1-4. This will raise the priority of PSHE in schools and ensure a more consistent offer for all children and young people. As part of making PSHE statutory, we will also be qualifying the right of parents to withdraw their children from SRE. At present, parents are able to withdraw their children up until age 19. When the new legislation comes into effect, the parental right of withdrawal will be limited until the point at which the child reaches age 15.

5.16 We are also taking a range of measures to improve young people's access to contraceptive and sexual health services, supported by £45 million over the last two years. We are working with local providers to ensure that services conform to standards of being 'young people friendly' and are accessible in a wide range of settings, such as secondary schools and further education colleges.

We are also launching a high-profile media campaign promoting the full range of contraceptive methods.

Supporting disabled children and young people

5.17 *Aiming High for Disabled Children* is the Government's programme for transforming services for disabled children and their families, backed by an investment of over £0.75 billion between 2008 and 2011.³²

5.18 Families of disabled children and young people have told us that their main priority was getting access to short breaks. Investment in this area is already seeing positive results: in their first year, 21 pathfinder areas have provided almost 13,000 more overnight breaks for disabled children and young people. The Government has signalled its ongoing priority for services for disabled children through the new duty on local authorities from 2011 to provide short breaks. We believe that through timely short breaks, which provide parents with a break from caring and disabled children and young people with a positive activity, we will reduce stress on families and lessen the need to place disabled children in long-term care due to the family being unable to cope.

5.19 The aim of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 was to end the discrimination that many disabled people face. The Act, as amended in 2005, requires public bodies to promote equality of opportunity for disabled people and DCSF has worked with key partners to raise awareness amongst schools of their duties, including sending a leaflet to all schools in November 2009 to help them understand what they have to do to comply with the legislation.

5.20 From September 2009, Ofsted implemented a new inspection framework which includes a judgement on how well schools promote equality and tackle discrimination; inadequate performance on this may limit the overall assessment of the school.

6 Education, leisure and cultural activities

6.1 The UN Committee recommended that the Government strengthen efforts to provide children, including disabled children, with adequate and accessible spaces to play.

6.2 In terms of education, the Committee recommended that the Government continues with its efforts to reduce the achievement gap and the numbers of school exclusions, ensuring they are used only as a last resort. The Committee called also for further focus on bullying and violence in schools.

Places to play

6.3 The Government's *Play Strategy* was launched in December 2008, as a direct response to over 9,000 consultation responses from children and young people, including over 1,200 from those with disabilities. The Strategy has put children and young people's views at the heart of the design and future development of their local neighbourhoods. Backed by £235 million investment, we are on track to have delivered a total of 2,000 new or refurbished play areas by the end of March 2010 and a total of 3,500 by the end of March 2011.

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6.4 Local children, young people and their families are consulted about where the funding should be used and what the improved play provision in their area will look like. We have introduced a new national indicator requiring local authorities to report on what local children think about play areas and parks in their local area.

6.5 All of the play areas funded by DCSF must be inclusive and accessible to all children and young people, including those from minority ethnic communities and those who are disabled. KIDS, a national charity supporting disabled children, young people and their families, is providing support, advice and guidance to local authorities as they deliver their play strategy commitment of improving local play provision.

6.6 We are working with local authorities to ensure that there is ongoing support for providing safe places to play across the local area, with the full involvement of children, local communities and the voluntary sector. Guidance has been issued to Children's Trusts on developing and adopting an effective play strategy as part of the Children's and Young People's Plan.

Positive activities

6.7 The Government is committed to providing more and better places for young people to go, particularly those who are less advantaged, including those with disabilities. *Aiming high for young people: a ten year strategy for positive activities* set out the Government's vision for new and improved youth facilities in every area.³³ There have been encouraging signs that young people's participation in positive activities is increasing and we have for the first time created a new national indicator to track progress towards meeting the ambition, set out in the *Children's Plan*, that all young people will be participating in positive activities by 2020.

6.8 Through the Youth Opportunity and Capital Funds, which are providing £220 million over three years to 2011, young people are making decisions about what activities and facilities they want in their localities. Almost 2.5 million young people

have been involved in or benefited from additional provision, with over 39,000 grants approved – of which a significant proportion are from disadvantaged backgrounds.

6.9 myplace is increasing young people's access to world-class facilities, investing over £270 million in the most ambitious projects. myplace facilities will offer young people a safe place to go, as well as access to an exciting range of positive leisure time activities and to support services as and when they are needed. myplace is only funding projects where young people, particularly those who are disadvantaged, have been and will be fully involved in the development, design and future running of the project.

Raising attainment for all

6.10 In the 2009 New Opportunities White Paper, *Fair chances for the future*, we set out our plans for ensuring that all pupils, including those in the most deprived areas, benefit from the equalising effect of education.³⁴ The White Paper included plans for:

- a package to attract more of the best teachers into challenging schools;
- an extension of free early learning and childcare to around 23,000 of the most disadvantaged 2 year olds per year;
- a guarantee that every disadvantaged student with potential to benefit from higher education will receive a package of structured support whilst at secondary school;
- an expansion of extended services to disadvantaged families; and
- a full review of school funding to ensure that it meets the needs of disadvantaged pupils.

6.11 In March 2009, we published *Breaking the Link – Everyone's Business*³⁵ and an accompanying evidence report *Deprivation and Education*.³⁶ These two documents show the progress we have made over the past decade in reducing attainment gaps and set out our strategy going forward.

6.12 In June 2009, the DCSF White Paper, *Your child, your schools, our future: building a 21st century schools system*, that set out our vision of schools working in partnership with others to secure the best possible outcomes for every child, based on the expectation that all pupils make good progress. This is underpinned by new guarantees for pupils and parents.

6.13 By the end of 2009, we will publish the implementation plan to set out the framework for the action required by schools, their partners and government. This will drive changes to achieve higher quality teaching and provide the extra support pupils need, including those who are gifted and talented, disadvantaged and those who stall in their progress. In particular, the White Paper promises up to 20 hours of one-to-one tuition in English and mathematics for all children 7-14 years who are behind or struggling to keep up. In addition, the implementation plan will set out the steps we will take to drive greater partnership working; to strengthen our systems of school improvement and accountability; and to increase the quality of the school workforce.

Reducing exclusions

6.14 The Government's focus remains on preventing bad behaviour from degenerating to the point where exclusion – and particularly permanent exclusion – is necessary. We are working with local authorities and schools to encourage a collaborative approach to support pupils at risk of exclusion and those who are already excluded.

6.15 A wide range of alternative educational provision is available for young people who need to be educated out of school and the Government gives high priority to strengthening such provision. The Government plans to bring forward legislation in the Children, Schools and Families Bill to ensure that all pupils in alternative provision receive full time education, apart from where this would not be appropriate due to reasons which relate to their physical and mental health. We are also looking to consult in late 2009 on a suite of guidance covering

information passports, personal learning plans, and the core entitlement for pupils in alternative provision. In 2009, we launched pilots run by local authorities to explore a range of innovative ways of arranging and delivering alternative provision, supported by up to £26.5 million of funding over 2008-11. The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 will also improve the accountability of pupil referral units by conferring on the Secretary of State the power to direct that a failing pupil referral unit is replaced by a specified alternative.

Addressing bullying

6.16 We are not just concerned with preventing and tackling all forms of bullying in the school, but also outside school. That is why the Government published the *Safe from Bullying* suite of guidance to help practitioners tackle bullying, including cyberbullying.³⁷ DCSF is also piloting different approaches to peer mentoring in schools to tackle bullying.

6.17 DCSF intends to introduce a new statutory duty on schools to ensure bullying incidents between pupils, and incidents of verbal and physical abuse against school staff, are recorded. In early 2010, we will consult on whether the duty should include schools reporting all bullying incidents to their local authority, and whether types of bullying incident should be recorded and reported. Once we have worked through the detailed implications of the proposals, we expect regulations to be in force by September 2010.

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7 Special protection measures

7.1 The UN Committee called for the Government to:

- develop a broad range of alternative measures to custody for children in conflict with the law;
- ensure that those children in custody have a statutory right to education; and
- conduct an independent review of the use of anti-social behaviour orders.

7.2 The Committee backed the implementation of the Government's *Anti-Trafficking Action Plan* and called on the Government to collect information in order to monitor the extent of sexual exploitation and abuse, and to provide appropriate support for victims.

7.3 In relation to asylum-seeking children, the Committee welcomed the withdrawal of the reservation on article 22 and the Government's plans to legislate for a safeguarding duty for the UK Border Agency. It made a number of recommendations around the detention of children and training of UK Border Agency staff, and recommended that adequate safeguards are in place for children being returned to their country of origin.

Addressing anti-social behaviour

7.4 Young people are most likely to be the victims of anti-social behaviour by other young people. To address anti-social behaviour, we are driving forward the triple track approach of:

- tough enforcement where behaviour is unacceptable;
- more non-negotiable support to address the underlying causes of poor behaviour; and
- better prevention, to tackle problems before they become serious or entrenched.

As part of this, through the Youth Taskforce we are investing £20 million by 2011 to ensure young people who receive ASBOs and other enforcement measures get the help they need to address the underlying causes of their behaviour.

7.5 In particular, these young people should receive support via Individual Support Orders. Twenty Intensive Intervention Projects have also been set up to work with young people who need assertive and persistent help to address their behaviour. Over the next year, Government will tackle, not tolerate, anti-social behaviour – including alcohol-fuelled disorder – and ensure a proportionate response, applying the full force of the law for serious and persistent offenders and the right range of low-level sanctions, including reparation, for those who offend less seriously.

7.6 The *Youth Crime Action Plan*, backed by £100m investment, also takes forward the triple track approach, delivering an intensive package of measures to help prevent young people from getting involved in crime and anti-social behaviour.³⁸ In 69 targeted areas across the country, over 200,000 young people have been engaged through the approach and nearly 30,000 young people were referred on to other specialist services to address their behaviour.

7.7 The Home Office has commissioned two pieces of work evaluating interventions to tackle antisocial behaviour including anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs). The findings of this study, and an evaluation of the comparative effectiveness of interventions to address anti-social behaviour, are due in 2010.

7.8 The Government plans to legislate for a mandatory parenting needs assessment each time an ASBO is applied for on a young person aged 10 to 15, and mandatory parenting orders when a young person aged 10 to 15 breaches their ASBO. These are to identify and address parenting issues affecting the child's behaviour and to compel parents to take more responsibility for their child's behaviour. As set out above, Family Intervention Projects have been set up to provide intensive and persistent support for chaotic families with children at risk of committing crime and anti-social behaviour.

Alternatives to custody

7.9 The Government's overriding ambition is to prevent children and young people getting into trouble with the law in the first place. A range of early intervention measures to prevent children who are at risk of coming into conflict with the law is set out in the Government's *Youth Crime Action Plan*. We are already making good progress. The number of young people entering the criminal justice system for the first time fell by 10 per cent last year. The number of under-18s in custody population is decreasing: in September 2009, the total number was 14 per cent lower than at the same point in 2008 and 19 per cent lower than the peak in 2002.

7.10 In the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008, the Government legislated for alternatives to custody for under-18s. The Youth Rehabilitation Order (YRO) will be introduced on 30 November 2009 and will provide two alternatives to custody. It will combine nine existing sentences into one enhanced, generic sentence and will be the standard community sentence used for the majority of young offenders.

7.11 Legislation will also come into effect from the end of November that will require courts to consider making a YRO (with an alternative to custody) before they can make a custodial sentence. If they decide to make a custodial sentence, they must explain why a YRO is not appropriate. In addition, we look forward to the publication by the Sentencing Guidelines

Council on the over-arching principles of sentencing for young people. We believe this will provide courts with a significant tool to help them achieve consistency in sentencing.

7.12 Young people under 18 in custody already have a statutory right to education. Measures set out in the *Youth Crime Action Plan* include reforms designed to ensure that children and young people in custody receive education and training that meets their personal needs and is in line with provision in the mainstream education sector.

7.13 The Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 brings young people in custody under primary education legislation for the first time. The legislation places new duties on local authorities to secure suitable education and training for those in juvenile custody. We believe this new framework of legislation will help foster improvements in education and training for young people in custody, including in the consistency and continuity of their education when they enter custody, when they move establishment and when they are released.

Tackling sexual exploitation and trafficking

7.14 The *UK Action Plan on Tackling Human Trafficking* is the UK's comprehensive victim-centred strategy to combat trafficking.³⁹ It was first published in 2007, updated in July 2008, and again most recently in October 2009. Key achievements over the last 12 months include:

- considerable progress in raising awareness of child trafficking;
- the production of guidance for dealing with victims;
- increased efforts to tackle the problem of potentially trafficked children going missing from care; and
- the publication of revised guidance on safeguarding children and young people.

7.15 Plans for the year ahead are focused on improving our efforts to better identify and protect trafficked children. Work will continue with stakeholders to ensure all children who are suspected as being trafficked are safeguarded through the National Referral Mechanism, set up in April 2009, and the process will continue to be monitored, including by a government task force.

7.16 New guidance, *Safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation*, was published in June 2009.⁴⁰ This guidance should inform procedures drawn up by Local Safeguarding Children's Boards to ensure that local agencies work effectively to address this type of abuse. The guidance provides information about different forms of sexual exploitation to help practitioners identify those at risk. It sets out the roles and responsibilities of different organisations

involved in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, identifies action that can be taken to prevent and reduce sexual exploitation and provides advice on how to manage individual cases; and what needs to be done to identify and prosecute perpetrators.

Supporting asylum-seeking children

7.17 We continue to look for ways to avoid the need to subject families with children to detention for immigration purposes, or if we do so to ensure that periods of detention are kept as short as possible and to enhance the facilities available to children. All these cases involve families and the purpose of the detention is to avoid separating the children from their parents.

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7.18 The UK Border Agency is currently running a project in which alternatives to detention are offered to families. Unaccompanied or separated children are only ever detained by the UK Border Agency in the most exceptional circumstances and then normally overnight whilst alternative arrangements can be made for their care. In those few cases involving a young person who has been convicted of a crime and who has served their sentence, they may be detained if it can be shown that a serious risk to the public is posed by their release and a decision to deport or remove has then been taken. Unaccompanied children whose cases are to be considered by another EU Member State may be detained in order to make sure that they are given appropriate escorts to another country. Such detention occurs on the day of removal.

7.19 In August 2009, the Home Office published for the first time, statistics on the number of families with children held in the UK Border Agency estate. These appeared in the *Control of Immigration: Quarterly Statistical Summary 2009*.⁴¹

7.20 Updated guidance on all children missing from care and home was issued in July 2009 to local authorities. This guidance addresses the need to meet the specific safeguarding needs and circumstances of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, as well as responding to concerns around exploitation and trafficking.

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Links to key documents

- 1 About the UNCRC
www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/uncrc/
- Summary of the UNCRC – child friendly version
www.unicef.org.uk/crc
- 2 UN Committee on the Rights of the Child's Concluding Observations
www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/strategy/strategyandgovernance/uncrc/unitednationsreportingprocess/uncrcreportingprocess/
- 3 DCSF (2007) Children's Plan
www.dcsf.gov.uk/childrensplan/
- 4 DCSF (2009) Working together, achieving more
www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/uncrccommit2009
- 5 DCSF (2009) The Children's Plan: One year On
www.dcsf.gov.uk/childrensplan/
- 6 MOJ (2009) Green Paper, Rights and responsibilities
www.justice.gov.uk/publications/rights-responsibilities.htm
- 7 DCSF (2009) Consultation on Giving Children and Young People a Right to Appeal
www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/
- 8 DCSF (2008) The Youth Alcohol Action Plan
www.dcsf.gov.uk/publications/youthalcohol/
- 9 DCSF (2009) Home Education – your views
www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/research/open/consultations/closed/
- 10 DCSF (2008) Play Strategy
www.dcsf.gov.uk/play/
- 11 DCSF (2009) Your child, Your schools, our future: building a 21st century schools system
www.dcsf.gov.uk/21stcenturyschoolssystem
- 12 Home Office (2009) Statutory guidance to the UK Border Agency on making arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/policyandlaw/legislation/bci-act1/
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www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/resources-and-practice/IG00312/
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www.dcsf.gov.uk/byronreview/
- 18 DCSF (2007) The use of force to control or restrain Pupils
www.teachernet.gov.uk/docbank/index.cfm?id=12187

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20 MOJ (2008) Ministry of Justice: Independent review of the use of restraint in juvenile secure settings
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21 MOJ (2008) Government response to the independent review of the use of restraint
www.justice.gov.uk/publications/govt-response-restraint-review.htm

22 DCSF (2009) Being a Parent in the Real World: A Supportive Guide to Being Clear, Staying Calm and Remaining Confident
www.dcsf.gov.uk/parentknowhow/downloads/BeingParentinRealWorldbkt.pdf

23 DCSF (2007) Care Matters
www.dcsf.gov.uk/publications/timeforchange

24 DCSF (2008) Care Matters: Time to deliver for children in care
www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/socialcare/childrenincare

25 DH (2009) Promoting the health and wellbeing of looked after children
www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_108501

26 Ofsted (2009) Children's Rights Director Report
www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/

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28 DCSF (2009) Healthy lives, brighter futures: The strategy for children and young people's health <http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/285374a.pdf>

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35 DCSF (2009) Breaking the link between disadvantage and low attainment <http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/00357-2009.pdf>

36 DCSF (2009) Deprivation and Education – The Evidence on Pupils in England: Foundation Stage to Key Stage 4 www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/RRP/u015672/index.shtml

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38 Home Office (2008) Youth Crime Action Plan www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/youth-crime-action-plan/

39 Home Office (2007) Anti Trafficking Action Plan www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/human-traffick-action-plan

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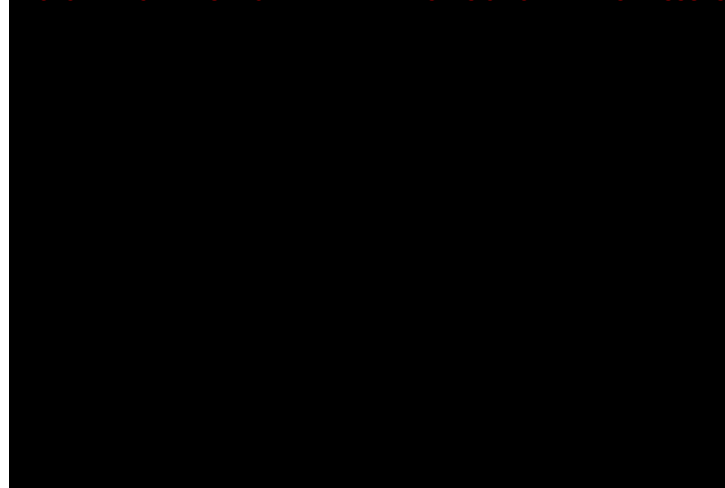


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