

## **#NCASC24 – Programme**

(as of 17 October 2024)

Spotlight – Spotlight sessions bring a particular focus on good practice taking place in Councils

Wednesday 27 November				
8.30am	Registrati	Registration, exhibition opening and refreshments		
9.05 – 9.50am Exhibition Hall	Big Chat session – Stockport Council and Social Care Future – Co- Production in Practice			
		: Richard Currie and Hannah Cummins, Co-production leads at : Council; Martin Routledge, Social Care Future		
10.00 – 11.00am	Plenary	session		
Auditorium	WP1	Conference opening		
		<b>Melanie Williams</b> , President, Association of Directors of Adult Social Services		
		<b>Andy Smith</b> , President, Association of Directors of Children's Services		
		Cllr Arooj Shah, Chair, LGA Children & Young People's Board		
		Cllr David Fothergill, Chairman, LGA Community Wellbeing Board		
11.05am – 12.05pm	Worksho	p sessions		
	WW1	Spotlight NCAG		
		Session details TBC		
	WW2	Working with the Care Act when under financial pressure		
		Principal Social Workers have a key role within social care around promoting and maintaining quality care and support within their area - but how do you do that when resources are scarce? This session will launch guidance developed by the PSW network on this topic and aim to use the session to discuss with audience members the advice the guidance contains, and how to put it into practice. Our speakers include someone with lived expertise of caring and will speak about the impact of scarce social care resources on carers.		
		Hannah Scaife, PSW South Gloucestershire Council and Cochair of the PSW Adult Network		
		<b>Amy Hurst</b> , PSW Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council and Co-chair of the South West Regional PSW Network		
		Amanda Threlfall, a carer with lived experience.		
		Chair: Lyn Romeo, former Chief Social Worker for Adults.		
	WW3	In Their Own Words: Key messages on 5 priority areas for action from care experienced young people		







		In this session, speakers share local and national asks on 5 topics that have been selected as priority areas for action for care leavers by the Young People's Benchmarking Forum:
		1) Cost of Living
		2) Safe and affordable accommodation
		3) Access to health and mental health
		4) Support post 21 and 25
		5) Creating communities of support for care leavers
		The session will include a discussion which will focus on what action audience members can take in their roles.
		Victoria Odude - Young People's Benchmarking Forum Representative, NLCBF, Catch22
		Rosia McCusker
		Harley Crolla
		Chair: <b>Hannah McCowen</b> , National Leaving Care Benchmarking Forum Manager, Catch22
W	/W4	40% of victims of sexual offences are children: Closing the gap between the sexual abuse of children and the identification and protection response
		A significant gap remains between the number of children suffering sexual abuse and the much smaller number who receive a response from services. The CSA Centre is the only organisation collating multi-agency data to build a picture of identification and response to sexual abuse and understand the changing trends. In this collaborative workshop, they will share the Data Insights Hub, providing more ways to interrogate and understand local practice in the identification of and response to child sexual abuse. It empowers professionals and commissioners to ask better questions and, ultimately, make better decisions about how to help children and families.
		lan Dean, Director, Centre of expertise on child sexual abuse
		<b>Kairika Karsna</b> , Principal Research and Evaluation Officer, Centre of expertise on child sexual abuse
		<b>Lisa McCrindle</b> , Assistant Director, Policy, Communications & Strategic Influence, Centre of expertise on child sexual abuse
		Chair: <b>April Bald</b> , Director of Operations Children's Care and Support, London Borough of Barking and Dagenham
W	/W5	No recourse to public funds - meeting need in a challenging funding and policy environment
		This workshop provides leaders in Adult Social Care and Children's Services with an opportunity to consider how to safeguard the welfare and promote the well-being of families and adults with care needs who have no recourse to public funds when resources are scarce and immigration restrictions create destitution risks.
		The workshop will cover:
		<ul> <li>Why a targeted response is necessary</li> <li>Working with the Home Office to expedite case resolution through NRPF Connect</li> </ul>

		<ul><li>Best practice in service delivery</li><li>Achieving policy and funding change</li></ul>
		The workshop will include short presentations and space to reflect and discuss key practice questions.
		<b>Henry St Clair Miller -</b> Head of NRPF, Refugee and Migrant Services, Islington Council
		<b>Catherine Houlcroft</b> – Service Lead, NRPF Network, hosted by Islington Council
		Chair: <b>Ian Swift</b> - Director of Housing Operations and Deputy Corporate Director, Islington Council
	WW6	Improving transitions for carers from Children's to Adult Services
		This session will help attendees better understand how they can improve transitions for young carers and parent carers from Children's to Adult Services, and ensure compliance with their duties in this area under the Care Act and Children Act.
		The session will provide:
		<ul> <li>An overview of common challenges and barriers being faced by councils in relation to transitions</li> <li>Insight into the experiences of carers during transition</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>and practice examples from councils</li> <li>Information on the resources available to help local authorities improve transitions</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>An extended forum for councils to share experiences/ideas and identify future support needs</li> </ul>
		Andy McGowan - Policy and Practice Manager, Carers Trust
		Freya Gray - Young Adult Carer
		David Brooks - Young Carers Team Manager, Children, Young People and Learning Team, West Sussex County Council
		Chair: TBC
12.15 – 1.15pm	Sub-plen	ary sessions
	WS1	Implementing the new workforce strategy for adult social care
		Skills for Care led the development of the Adult Social Care Workforce Strategy for England, for the sector, by the sector. Launched in July 2024 we are now 4 months into the implementation phase. At this session, we'll identify local examples of best practice in implementing the strategy and hear from the people leading this good work, to support the audience in implementing the strategy themselves. We'll also hear the important and inspiring perspective of someone who draws on care and support.
		<b>Anna Severwright</b> , co-convener - Social Care Future. Anna has been a member of Workforce Strategy Steering Group, now Oversight Executive.
		<b>Suzanne Westhead</b> , Director of Adult Social Care – Bath and North East Somerset Council. Suzanne has supported the development of the Workforce Strategy and engagement across the South West region

	1	Danielas Tarla
		Beverley Tarka
		Chair: <b>Sir David Pearson</b> - Co-chair of the workforce strategy steering group and former ADASS President, who led the Government taskforce on COVID-19 in the social care sector
	WS2	Spotlight - Families First for Children Pathfinder – learning and reflections
		The session will cover the experience of implementing Families First for Children Pathfinder from the perspective of wave 1 & 2 Local Authorities and partner agencies. There will be a focus on policy of DfE and what this means in practice. The session will aim to cover how the wave 1 and wave 2 experiences has enabled and achieved whole system change across local authority areas and including partner agencies. The session will also look to cover early findings from new ways of working particularly around child protection, family help and family networks. Focussing improved outcomes for children and their families.
		Allison Hinds, Director of Children's Services, City of Wolverhampton Council
		Colleen Male, Director of Children's Services, Walsall Council
		Helen Waite, Deputy Director, Department for Education
		Chair: <b>Nigel Minns</b> , Director of Children's Services, Warwickshire County Council
1.15 – 2.15pm	Lunch an	d exhibition
1.20 – 2.05pm	Big Chat	session – Celebrating co-production in Social Work
	Details TBC	
2.15 – 3.15pm	Plenary session	
Auditorium	WP2	Impower
3.15 – 3.45pm	Refreshm	l nents and exhibition
3.30 – 4.30pm	Worksho	p sessions
	WW7	Spotlight Having an IMPACT on waiting lists in the East Midlands: Coproducing change with people with lived experience and frontline professionals
		ASC waiting lists profoundly affect policy, practice and people. The health and wellbeing of people drawing on care and support deteriorates as needs remain unmet. Carers well-being is increasingly compromised, as is the sustainability of the caring role. Staff report stress and low morale as they balance demand against capacity.
		Through co-production with people with lived experience and frontline staff, IMPACT and EMADASS have developed guidance to enhance well-being and improve partnerships, systems and processes to address the impact of waiting lists.
	1	Project contributors share their experiences, the co-production
		process and the outcomes achieved to inspire improvement across social care.

	Jon Wilson – Director of Adults and Communities – Leicestershire County Council.
	Sarah Morris – Principal Social Worker for Adults – North Northamptonshire Council.
	Chair: <b>Lorraine Mighty</b> – Senior Strategic Improvement Coach – IMPACT (Improving Adult Care Together).
WW8	Mental Health - Future challenges and opportunities
	Mental health services in England received a record 5 million referrals during 2023 (up 33% from 2019), with the number of people in contact with mental health services steadily rising.
	Local authorities are key to delivering mental health care and support in the community. This session will look at how councils can build and maintain partnerships at a time when they are under increasing strain, build community resilience and address the sectors readiness for reform of the Mental Health Act and the move towards Community Mental Health. The session will also discuss how to achieve successful transitions between children and adult mental health services.
	Speakers tbc
WW9	"Some love, man": Perspectives on Adult Safeguarding & Homelessness
	Centring human stories, this session will explore policy, practice and lived experience around adult safeguarding, homelessness and multiple disadvantage. With a commitment to social justice embedded throughout, the session will start with the stark picture painted by the 2nd National SAR Analysis, moving on to outline opportunities for radical safeguarding and integrated care and finishing with insights from lived experience to inspire hopefulness into action. The session will then invite the audience to reflect on and ask questions about the themes outlined by speakers.
	<b>Professor Michael Preston-Shoot</b> , Convenor of the National SAB Chairs Network
	<b>Gill Taylor</b> , ICS Inclusion Health Programme Lead - Pathway UK
	<b>Khosru Miah,</b> Community Member - The People's Recovery Project
	Chair: Melanie Williams, President - ADASS
WW10	What works for children at risk of violence? An overview of evidence based interventions for children's services supporting children involved in, or at risk of violence
	This workshop will provide an overview of the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) and its mission to reduce serious youth violence. It will introduce attendees to the YEF Toolkit, which summaries the evidence of what works to prevent serious youth violence. We will demonstrate how the Toolkit works and how it can support children's services to develop support packages for children at risk of violence. We will provide examples of where interventions have been successfully put into practice, and opportunity for debate and discussion on challenges of using evidence-based interventions and examples of success.
	Gail Gibbons - Head of Change - Children's Services & Health,

		YEF
		Ellisha Coates - Senior Evidence & Engagement Manager, YEF
	WW11	Spotlight - Creating a parenting movement
		We will share our learning from creating a universal parenting service to improve outcomes for children and families, with a focus on early intervention. Exploring creative approaches to funding and shared values across Public Health, Children's Services and NHS services. We will explore how we have created a new service that builds community resilience, creates volunteer opportunities and starting to develop pathways to employment. We will share parents voices in how this approach has improved their parenting but also their perception of early help and statutory services and examples of success.
		<b>Laura Devereux</b> - Chair Early Intervention Service Manager, London Borough of Sutton
		<b>Theresa Cameron</b> - Parenting Co-ordinator London Borough of Sutton
		<b>Keeley Carter</b> Parenting Support Worker London Borough of Sutton
		Nyssa Smith - Parent Group Leader London Borough of Sutton
	WW12	Fosterlink – improving the recruitment of foster carers in your local authority
		Fosterlink is a DfE funded project working with 35 local authorities to help them identify areas for service and practice improvements in foster care recruitment and approvals. The project is delivered by Mott Macdonald in partnership with Coram and runs between January 2024 and April 2025. This session will explore the Fosterlink project, sharing key themes and lessons learnt and explore potential solutions and improvements.
		There will be an in-depth question and answer and a discussion about what else is needed to improve recruitment and approval of foster carers. At the end of the session attendees will be signposted to key resources from the programme that can be used in their local area, including a diagnostic tool to self-assess their own recruitment and approval practices.
		<b>Kevin Yong</b> – Coram-I and lead for the development of diagnostic tool
		Hannah Warwick – Mott Macdonald - Senior Associate / Professional Lead for Social Care
		Chair: <b>Chris Senior</b> – Fostering Lead, Department for Education
4:50pm – 5:35pm	P3 Plenary session - Shadow Ministerial team TBC	
5.40 – 6.40pm	ADCS members meeting – ADCS members only	
5.40 – 6.40pm	LGA Polit	cical group meetings/ closed meetings
	Labour G	Group meeting

	Conserv	ative Group meeting
	Liberal Democrat Group meeting	
	Independent Group meeting	
5:35pm – 7.00pm	Drinks reception sponsored by Channel 3, Lilli and Sentinel Partners	
Thursday 28 Novem	ber	
8.15am	Registrat	ion, exhibition and refreshments
8.25 – 9.25am	Breakfast	t fringe session
	ТВС	
9.30 – 10.30am	Worksho	pp sessions
	TW13	Spotlight - Making direct payments a true vehicle for self directed support (TBC)
		The session will address the barriers to direct payments enabling people to control their own lives and support, and what can be done to overcome them. Speakers will share some guidance based on work done locally, the experience of a direct payments user, and an example where one local authority is putting it into practice,
		Speakers TBC
	TW14	The Prevention Paradigm - using innovation to shift from crisis response to the right support in the community for autistic people and people with a learning disability
		Against a backdrop of increasing need for care and support amongst autistic people and people with a learning disability, commissioning preventative services — which provide early support and can reduce the escalation of need — is now receiving greater attention in national policy. However, it can be hard to see how to achieve this when budgets are under continual pressure. This session aims to create positive energy and ideas for commissioners and practitioners considering their approaches to prevention, by highlighting positive examples of local authorities which have engaged with this issue, encouraging delegates to share their own examples and experiences.
		<b>Simon Froud</b> , Director of Adult Social Services, Telford and Wrekin Council
		<b>Fazeela Hafejee</b> , Assistant Director – Adults with Disabilities, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
		Tom Noon, Chair, Cordis Bright
		Representative from NHS England
		Individual with lived experience of autism and experience of benefitting from local services
	TW15	Supporting Children and Families Returning Home from Care
		NSPCC will look at how both National policy makers and local authorities can better support children and families returning home from care. They will cover the need for National direction on reunification and also showcase examples of effective tools that local authorities can draw on to help kickstart their reunification work, such as the NSPCC Practice Framework.
		Coventry reunification team will also present on how their

	journey for increasing support for families where reunification is possible has improved outcomes and also saved them money. Coventry's reunification team was set up in 2021 to provide better wrap around support for children and families where reunification is a viable option. Through intensive, and sometimes long term, support for families, the reunification team has increased the number of stable reunifications in the local authority and calculated cost avoidance of £2million per year.
	Matt Clayton Strategic Lead at Coventry Council
	<b>Helen Gazola</b> , Associate Head of Development and Impact at the NSPCC
	Michelle Maybury
TW16	Spotlight Embedding a systematic local approach to Inclusive Practice across a local authority's schools and academies
	Within the context of increasingly complex needs and rising exclusions, we cover a town wide creative approach to reducing PEX and supporting local inclusion with appropriate resourcing and capacity building. This includes a major drive on reducing inequalities in provision and outcomes across the diverse nature of the town. Through the National SEND Reform, we explore how the Local Area Inclusion Plan has led to the development of a common understanding and co-created actions across partners so that all children feel they belong and increasing complexity of need is accommodated.
	The workshop input shows the step by step journey. It allows discussion on using the SEND Transformation proactively and applying learning to overcome challenges.
	Janice Altenor, Service Director for Quality & Improvements, Children Families & Education, Luton Borough Council
	Sarah Jackson. Headteacher of Surrey Street Primary School, Luton
	Caroline Dawes, Head of Standards and Effectiveness, Luton Borough Council
	Chair: <b>Paul Wagstaff</b> , Director of Education, Luton Borough Council
TW17	Managing demand in adult and children's social care: Lessons from English local authorities.
	This interactive session will share innovation and good practice from English local authorities in managing rising demand for adult and children's services, building on CIPFA's publication featuring case studies covering market management, transitions, early intervention, and transformation. The first half of session will share headline findings; with DASS and DCS speaking about their featured case studies, good practice and innovation in demand management.
	The second half will open up to the audience to discuss opportunities, barriers, and solutions to demand management: one of the most pressing social care issues today. Applicable lessons will be drawn out for adult and children's leaders.
	William Burns, Social Care Policy Advisor, CIPFA

		John Pearce, Corporate Director Children and Young People, Durham County Council and ADCS Immediate President
		Bernie Enright, Executive Director Adult Social Services, Manchester City Council
		Chair: <b>Vicky Davis</b> , Director, Local Government Value for Money, National Audit Office
	TW18	Addressing workforce challenges across the whole social work profession
		As the regulator of all social workers in England, we understand that workforce challenges in children's and families and adult social services need to be addressed collectively across the whole profession.
		Join leaders from Social Work England and our national workforce roundtable to discuss why social workers are leaving the profession, the impact of unhelpful public portrayals and the disparity of experiences across different ethnic groups.
		We will share our independent research campaign to inform and educate the public on the value of social work, successful recruitment and retention initiatives and the opportunities and obstacles to a whole sector approach.
		<b>Natalie Day</b> , Assistant Director of Policy and Strategy, Social Work England
		Gillian Ruch, Professor of Social Work
		Robert Lewis, Mental Health Social Work Lead, Office of the Chief Social Worker for Adults
		Chair: <b>Sarah Blackmore</b> , Executive Director of Professional Practice and External Engagement, Social Work England
10.30 – 11.00am	Refreshn	nents and exhibition viewing
11.00 – 12.00pm	Sub-Plenary sessions	
	TS3	Where next for adult social care and support?
		This session will reflect on the new government's early indications of their plans for adult social care.
		Speakers TBC
	TS4	Ofsted
		Session details TBC
		Sir Martyn Oliver, HMCI, Ofsted
		Yvette Stanley, National Director, Social Care, Ofsted
		Chair: Rachael Wardell, ADCS Vice President and Executive Director of Children, Families and Lifelong Learning, Surrey County Council
12.10pm – 12.55pm	Plenary	session
Auditorium	P4	Children's Minister - invited
12.55 – 1.55pm	Lunch an	d exhibition viewing
1.05 – 1.45pm	Big Chat session	
1.55 – 2.40pm	Plenary session	
Auditorium	P5	Stephen Kinnock MP Minister of State for Care, Department for

		Health and Social Care
		i lealui aliu oodal Gale
		Cllr Louise Gittins, LGA Chair (Chair)
		Kate Sibthrop – National Co-production Advisory Group
		<b>Melanie Williams,</b> President, Association of Directors of Adult Social Services
2.50 – 3.50pm	Worksho	p sessions
	TW19	Strategic Change and Strengths-Based Approaches: Co- Production Every Step of the Way
		The session will highlight innovation, boldness and person-centred approaches used in South Tyneside and Buckinghamshire, partnering with SCIE, towards achieving ASC practice that embraces strengths-based approaches, driven by lived experience voices throughout. Workshop activities follow, using links between co-production and strengths-based approaches, including strategic co-production and co-production involvement in reviewing and evaluating outcomes.
		Vicky Pattinson, DASS, South Tyneside
		Astrid Hansen
		Chair: <b>Fiona Flowers</b> , Head of Partnerships & Practice Improvement, Social Care Institute for Excellence
	TW20	Taking digital forward in your council- an interactive showcase on practical examples of digital innovation in three councils – TBC  Session details TBC
	TW21	Care Closer to Home - Making a reality of early support
	1	This session will explore early support and prevention in leading to better outcomes for people and more efficient use of resources for systems. We will present compelling research from Alma Economics and Newton Europe that highlights the effectiveness of early support and prevention. Additionally, we will showcase the valuable insights gained from a community of practice, led by Newton Europe in partnership with Partners in Care and Health.
		Speakers TBC
	TW22	Using evidence to transform kinship care practice
		A workshop on the importance of supporting families and preserving family networks to keep children safe within the context of children's services. The session will discuss next steps for the Kinship Practice Guide, in line with the Children's Social Care National Framework, particularly regarding equality, diversity, and the implementation of family-led approaches. The session will utilise insights from national and local leaders to highlight strategies for maintaining family connections and supporting kinship families using the best available evidence. This interactive workshop will foster discussions around inclusive practices, emphasising the vital role of family networks in ensuring positive outcomes for children.
		<b>Donna Molloy</b> , Deputy Chief Executive, Foundations – What

		Works Centre for Children & Families
		Jahnine Davies Kinship Ambassador
		·
		Amanda Perraton, DCS, Warrington and North-West Regional ADCS Chair
		Chair: <b>Jenny Coles</b>
	TW23	A future system for SEND
		Details tbc
	TW24	Pathfinders in practice – regional care cooperatives
		A key pillar of the DfE's children's social care reform programme is the development of regional care cooperatives (RCCs). This is an opportunity for delegates to hear from leaders in Greater Manchester and the South East who are pathfinding RCC arrangements. Speakers will explore both the opportunities and challenges of this new and evolving way of working, while sharing the early learning from two very different areas of the country.
		Colette Dutton, DCS Wigan and Greater Manchester RCC lead
		<b>Lucy Butler</b> , Director for the South East Regional Care Cooperative
		Mark Evans, Project Lead for SE RCC
		Jacob Botham, Children & Young People Lead, Greater Manchester Combined Authority
3.50 – 4.20pm	Refreshm	ents and exhibition
4.20 – 5.20pm	Sub-plen	ary sessions
	TS5	Carers and Inequalities
		Details tbc
	TS6	Race, racism, ethnicity and protecting children: learning
		The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel is undertaking analysis of the impact of race, racism, and ethnicity on multiagency practice where children have suffered serious harm or died. A report is due to be published later this year.
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9.15 – 10.15am	Sub-plen	ary sessions
	FSP5	CQC adult social care assurance: what learning do we take from the initial round of local authority assessments?
		Session details TBC
	FSP6	Children's Social Care Reform – Next Steps
		Session details TBC
10:15 – 10:45am	Refreshm	nents and exhibition viewing – Exhibition Hall
10:15 – 10:45am	Big chat	
Exhibition Hall	IMPOWE	R - Leicester City Council
10.45 – 11.45am	Worksho	p sessions
	FW25	Accelerating Reform Fund (ARF): How to enable scaling innovation in social care
		DHSC's ARF is unique in funding ASC innovation scaling. It is designed to be a learning programme to understand 'what works' when implementing innovation and overcoming barriers.
		This session will look at:
		<ul> <li>How SCIE support is convening and enabling LAs/LA projects including examples, sharing insights</li> <li>LA lead: first six months' learnings, overcoming barriers to innovation in practice, on-the-ground challenges</li> <li>Co-production representative: practical application – what Fund's impact means for ASC and unpaid carers more widely: innovation adoption, scale, spread</li> <li>LSE: latest research into ASC innovation/challenges</li> </ul>
		This interactive workshop will share practical application from LSE, how to sustain innovation in practice, and share best practice using co-production in projects.
		<b>Duc Tran,</b> Transformation Programme Manager, North West London ICS
		Kevin Minier, ARF Co-production delivery team member
		<b>Dr Juliette Malley,</b> London School of Economics, author of 'Supporting Innovation in Adult Social Care'
		Chair: <b>Kathryn Smith</b> , CEO, Social Care Institute for Excellence
	FW26	The Future of Supported Housing
		Session details TBC
	FW27	Reimagining the Local Authority role in food security for 11- 19 year olds - thinking outside the usual boxes
		Session details TBC
	FW28	Empowering Personal Advisers to be the best support for care leavers - Become's PA Learning Programme
		Care leavers tell us they want to End the 'Care Cliff'. They deserve the best start in adult life and Leaving Care Personal Advisors are key to providing them with support and guidance. Become will showcase their PA Training Programme, including evaluation findings from a 4-year pilot. Young Trainers involved in the programme will outline how they shaped and delivered the

		training to PA's, to strengthen their knowledge and practice.
		Become will outline this innovative training model, show how training content links with the framework for inspecting LA Children's Services, and share how other Leaving Care Services can get involved.
		Katy Hudson, Training & Development Manager, Become
		Ira Hapkin, Young Trainer
		Chloe Grant, Director of Services at Become
11.50am – 12.50pm	Plenary session - TBC	
12.50 – 1.45pm	Lunch and exhibition viewing	