

Brunswicks' Healthcare Review

Volume 5 Issue 27
11 August 2010



refreshingly modern, reassuringly traditional

This week's article—Focus on Standards

This week we reproduce an item from the health Professions Council's Newsletter about the standards that registrants of the HPC must achieve if they are to become registered.

To read the article now, click here

Parliamentary Business

Parliament in recess.

House of Lords recommences sitting on 05.09.2010.

House of Commons recommences on 06.09.2010.

Abuse/Dignity—page 7

Business news—pages 7-10

Care Homes—pages 10-11

Case reports—pages 11-12

Children—page 12

Conferences & Courses—page 12

Consultations—pages 12-14

Care Quality Commission, CSIW & Scottish
Care Commission—page 15

Dementia—pages 15-16

Ireland, Scotland & Wales—page 16

Learning Disabilities—page 16

Legislation update—page 16

Mental capacity—page 16

Mental health—page 16

Miscellaneous—pages 16-19

NHS—pages 19-21

Nursing—page 21

Older people—page 21

Parliament—page 21

Social Care—pages 21-23

Workforce—page 23

Editorial

It is so obvious that we are now in the summer holiday season, rain, wind and, despite it all, a hosepipe ban in the north west of England!

Even more noticeable is the reduction in press releases from Government and other public bodies, though not of course, from businesses which run 24/7, 365 days a year, and reduced specialist publications which tend not to publish in the summer months.

I'm not going to spout needlessly and will shut up!

Enjoy the sun when it shines.



THIS WEEK WE GIVE PROFILE TO THE CARE PROFESSIONALS BENEVOLENT FUND



06 August 2010 - CPBF Newsletter

Welcome

Greetings all!

And welcome once again to another edition of the CPBF's newsletter. In the last week we have seen the sunshine disappear and the tropical climate we have become accustomed to peter out. But do not panic as the CPBF is here to brighten up your day as we regale you with stories of the past fortnight and inject a little bit of sunshine back in to everyone's summer...

Regional Boards – Update

The North & Midlands regional board enjoyed its first meeting held at Four Seasons Healthcare's HQ in Wilmslow, Cheshire on the 15th July. The 6 member strong team has a good balance to it already and has a mixture of representatives from care home operators to PR and Publishing experts. It is hoped that this strong mix of talent will find it easy to reach its fundraising target of £25k by the end of the year.

One of the main points to come out the meeting was the idea of implementing a membership scheme within the charity. The aim is to encourage people to donate to the charity and to receive something tangible in return for their generosity. Watch this space to

learn how you can become a member of this worthy cause.

We are aiming to set up Regional Boards in all areas and should you wish to get involved please contact Guy Bosanko on 07827 302321.

YOU CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE TO PEOPLE AND WE ARE SURE WE CAN FIND A REWARDING ROLE FOR YOU

The National Care Awards

November will see the National Care Awards, organised by Caring Times Magazine, enter its second decade with organisers confident that the event will be more spectacular than ever.

Last years event raised over £23,000 for the CPBF from just the auction and it was no wonder with prizes like an African Safari, an exclusive Golf Break and a day at the races with J.P. Magnier on display.

There will once again be an auction at this years event in aid of the CPBF and organisers are determined to exceed last years total. If you are able to donate a special prize like this please contact Nick Kershaw on **01625 872811**.

Nominations for this years awards are now being taken. To nominate yourself or someone you know

please visit www.careinfo.org/care-awards.php or call Shital Patel on **020 7720 2108**

CIC is committed to UK carers

CIC has shown its dedication to UK carers by donating a generous sum to the CPBF. CIC (Community Integrated Care) is one of the largest social and health care charities in the UK, supporting thousands of people with a diverse range of care and support needs. Making the donation on behalf of the charity, CIC Chief Executive, Phil Edgington, said:

“As a care organization with over two decades of experience, we know that we could not achieve even a fraction of our good work without the dedication, enthusiasm and loyalty of our staff. Given how much they give to us, we are more than happy to support an organization that will be there to support them, should they ever be in need.”

The CPBF continues to be astounded by the support it receives and the generosity shown by organizations such as CIC. The CPBF would like to sincerely thank Phil Edgington and all the staff at CIC for this very kind donation.

More events planned for 2010

Three more events have been pencilled in to the charity's calendar for 2010. The aim is to make 2010 a truly memorable year for the CPBF by exceeding all expectations on the fundraising front.

THIS WEEK WE GIVE PROFILE TO THE CARE PROFESSION- ALS BENEVOLENT FUND (continued...)



There are plans to hold a national Halloween Party on the 30th October and glitzy fashion show in December at a top London venue. Robin Cheesman of Milkwood Care and chair of the CPBF's South West regional board is already well under way in the planning of a charity dinner to be held at the Old Royal Navy Club in Portsmouth in November.

If you would like to get involved in any of these events then please contact the CPBF on 01625 872811.

Fire Inspire – Charity Firewalk Thursday 18th November 2010 – 15:00 to 20:00 at the Renaissance Hotel, Heathrow, London.

If you can walk across hot coals, just think what else you could achieve!

Fire Inspire charity firewalk will give you the means to step beyond your comfort zone and to overcome obstacles in your life to achieve your goals in this fun packed event.

To register for this event costs just £25 and then we ask each participant to raise a minimum of £100 prior to the event, which will go to the CPBF (through Just Giving).

To register please contact the CPBF on **01625 872811**.

CPBF support lady in Essex

The Charity recently received an application for support from C.L., a 55 year old care professional from Essex.

C.L. lives alone in her own privately owned house with no children and was made redundant recently through no fault of her own. As she was on a very limited income to start with she had no savings to get her through this rough time as she tried to look for work.

To compound her misery one of the windows in C.L.'s homes had rotten so badly that it was leaving her exposed to the elements. This was a particular concern as she suffers from hay fever and has thyroid problems for which she takes medication.

Rightly concerned about the upcoming winter and unable to fix the problem herself, C.L. turned to the CPBF who were only too happy to help. The fund got in contact with a local window supplier and released the funds for the essential work to be carried out. An overwhelmed C.L. had this to say:

“I am extremely grateful for this kind and thoughtful donation. I can now sleep easier at night not having to worry about the cold getting in or the security of my property. Thank you so much”.

CPBF help L.H.

The CPBF is delighted to be able to help L.H., a 51 year old single mother of one, from Midlothian.

L.H.'s problems began back in 2008 when she was made redundant from a brand new role due to a cut in funding. A subsequent chain of unfortunate events meant that L.H. was left with bills for a new boiler, a broken roof, and re-decoration costs due to water damage.

Having found a new job as a Care Manager she soon found that she was unable to work effectively due to the demands of the role and the stress of the bills hanging over her. She therefore had to leave this role and take up part-time work.

Still with a hole in the roof of her home, L.H. turned to the CPBF for support. As the cost of this repair was not covered under her house insurance the CPBF was happy to pick up the bill, alleviating some of the stress the L.H. was under.

Care Professionals Benevolent Fund is a charity – number 1132286

[WWW.cpbenevolentfund.org](http://www.cpbenevolentfund.org)



Great British Care Awards 2010 – Closing dates for nominations as soon as end of August...

Following the success of the Great British Care Awards national finals, the regional events for the Autumn 2010 in partnership with the English Community Care Association and sponsored by HET Software.

Nominations are now invited for the regional 2010 Great British Care Awards details of which can be found at www.care-awards.co.uk or by clicking on the relevant links in this email.

The Great British Care Awards are a series of regional events throughout England and are a celebration of excellence across the care sector. The purpose of the awards are to pay tribute to those individuals who have demonstrated outstanding excellence within their field of work. This year there are 9 regional awards leading to 2 national finals for both the home care and care home sectors, to be held at a prestigious central London venue in London in 2011.

There are around eighteen awards categories available for nomination, which represent all areas of the social care sector, whether it be older people or specialist services, residential or home care. From front-line staff such as care workers and care managers to

people who have made an impact in other ways such as training, IT and innovation.

The awards support a chosen charity, The Maggie's Centre, which has sites across the country supporting people who lives have been impacted upon by cancer. Over £500 was raised for the charity at the national finals.

In addition an auction for the Care Professionals Benevolent Fund will be held at each of the regions. The Care Professionals Benevolent Fund is the registered charity for the Care Sector and are here to support current, former and retired care professionals, by providing assistance to relieve financial hardship or sickness.

John Mayhew, Chief Executive from HET Software said,

"HET Software Ltd are proud to be the principal sponsors of the Great British Care Awards for the second year running. Through sponsorship, HET is supporting the care industry by promoting and acknowledging the commitment and dedication of everyone who works in the care industry."

To download a copy of the 2010 regional nomination forms click on the links below:

Great West Midlands Care Awards, 09.10.2010, National Motorcycle Museum, Solihull
Closing date for entries 06.09.2010
<http://www.care-awards.co.uk/home/awards/the-great-west-midlands-care-awards>

Great London Care Awards, 14.10.2010, Emirates Stadium, London
Closing date for entries 13.09.2010
<http://www.care-awards.co.uk/home/awards/the-great-london-care-awards-2010>

Great East Midlands Care Awards, 16.10.2010, East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham
Closing date for entries 31.08.2010
<http://www.care-awards.co.uk/home/awards/the-great-east-midlands-care-awards-2010>

Great North West Care Awards, 22.10.2010, Manchester United FC
Closing date for entries 06.09.2010
<http://www.care-awards.co.uk/home/awards/the-great-north-west-care-awards-2010>



Great East of England Care Awards, 29.10.2010, Imperial War Museum, Duxford
Closing date for entries 13.09.2010

<http://www.care-awards.co.uk/home/awards/the-great-east-of-england-care-awards-2010>

Great South West Care Awards, 05.11.2010, The Passenger Shed, Bristol
Closing date for entries 20.09.2010

<http://www.care-awards.co.uk/home/awards/the-great-south-west-care-awards-2010>

Great Yorkshire and Humberside Care Awards, 12.11.2010, National Railway Museum, York
Closing date for entries 27.09.2010

<http://www.care-awards.co.uk/home/awards/the-great-north-care-awards-for-yorkshire-and-humber-2010>

Great North East Care Awards, 19.11.2010, The Marriott Hotel, Gosforth Park, Newcastle
Closing date for entries 04.10.2010

<http://www.care-awards.co.uk/home/awards/the-great-north-east-care-awards-2010>

Great South East Care Awards, 27.11.2010, Hilton Hotel, Brighton
Closing date for entries 11.10.2010

<http://www.care-awards.co.uk/home/awards/the-great-south-east-care-awards-2010>

All Inclusive

The awards are all inclusive, bringing together the statutory, independent and voluntary sectors, as well as unpaid carers; promoting joint working. Working in partnership with care partners and local care associations is at the heart of the initiative; working and linking directly with local managers and networks to further promote the event.

National Support

The awards have received support from across the social care sector, including Department of Health, the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS), Ceretas, the English Community Care Association (ECCA), the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE), the National Skills Academy and Skills for Care.

New Categories!

This year we have four new categories:

- The Carer's Award
- Putting People First Award
- The Supported Housing Award (Rural)
- The Supported Housing Award (Urban)
-

Raise your organisational profile

Sponsorship opportunities are available at one, some or all of the regional events. The awards provide a unique opportunity to gain maximum exposure with key influencers from across the sector.

For information on how to nominate, how to book a table or sponsorship opportunities call 0115 959 6133 or email info@care-awards.co.uk

So don't delay and join in celebrating social care and help it get the recognition it deserves.

Details of categories and criteria for the awards can be found at www.care-awards.co.uk

Abuse/Dignity

1. Extension of Sarah's Law 'will be boost for child protection'

02 August 2010 - The Times

The Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme whereby parents/guardians can check with the police if those having regular unsupervised contact with their children has convictions for child-sex offences is underway.

2. Haringey Council campaign highlights risks faced by vulnerable adults

05 August 2010 - Haringey Independent

A campaign highlighting the need to protect vulnerable adults has been launched by Haringey Council. The campaign coincides with the launch of a team of specialists dedicated to tackling the problem of adult abuse which had previously been the responsibility of individual social workers.

The council said all allegations of abuse will be investigated, with immediate action taken if needed to protect the individual. Extra help will be provided or the victim will be housed in a safe place to ensure that they're no longer at risk.

Ed. If the council is going to act immediately to protect those who need to be protected it must also immediately investigate allegations. A laudable aim. One I support. However, I bet the aim is higher than the council could ever hope to meet. I hope that I am wide of the mark.

3. Update on the Vetting and Barring Scheme Issue 30 - August 2010 - In Focus

The Vetting and Barring Scheme is being introduced to ensure that everyone working or volunteering with

children or vulnerable adults is suitable to do so by being checked and registered. There is one Vetting and Barring Scheme to cover England, Wales and Northern Ireland and a separate Scheme for Scotland.

4. Update on the Scheme in England, Northern Ireland and Wales

The previous administration had announced that new entrants to the workforce would be able to start registering with the Scheme for England, Northern Ireland and Wales from 07.2010. However, the Home Office announced on 16.06.2010 that registration with the Scheme will be halted to allow government to review the scope of the Scheme. We are currently awaiting the outcome of this review.

5. Update on the Scheme in Scotland

The Scottish government has recently announced that the Vetting and Barring Scheme for Scotland will commence on 30.11.2010. Further details about the Scheme's implementation will be made available shortly.

Further information

For England, Northern Ireland and Wales:
Telephone: 0300 123 1111
Website: www.isa.gov.org

For Scotland:
Telephone: 0870 609 6006
Website: www.disclosurescotland.co.uk

6. Runcorn care worker abused residents with dementia

06 August 2010 - BBC News

See item 17 below.

Business News

7. 'Emotion over healthcare runs too high' 02 August 2010 - The Times Business Monday Manifesto

Adrian Fawcett, CEO of General Healthcare Group, in an extended interview over a page says why, in his view, the NHS can no longer do everything alone.

8. Care homes firm's Lancashire double 02 August 2010

London care homes operator Krinvest is set to double its presence in the North West with two new facilities in Lancashire.

Construction work on the first of two sites in Blackburn is underway, and the £1.1m care home is opening in October. The home is being built on the site of a former parish hall and will provide residential care for people with dementia, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Disease.

Livesey EMI Care Home, the proposed name of the development, will feature 30 en-suite bedrooms over three levels, eight of which will be large premium rooms. Around 20 jobs will be created when it opens.

Krinvest has also applied for planning permission to build a second care home on Livesey Branch Road. The plans involve transforming the derelict St Andrew's Church, which is opposite the current development, into a 35 bed care home.

Krinvest already owns and operates care homes in Atherton and Middleton, plus three children's day nurseries in the North West.

Managing director Krish Satkunam said: "Before start-

ing the development we undertook research into the local care market which showed there was a need for EMI care facilities in East Lancashire.

"Our aim is to deliver quality care services in a modern environment and we look forward to welcoming our first guests later this year."

John Morgan, senior relationship manager at RBS added: *"When it opens this home will enhance the range of EMI care facilities that are available in the Blackburn area. Krish has an impressive record in this sector and we are happy to support this project."*

8. Orbit Group transfer of Worcestershire care homes

02 August 2010

Trowers & Hamlins advised Orbit Group Limited on the transfer of Heart of England Housing and Care Limited, its wholly owned subsidiary, to the Sanctuary Housing Association.

Heart of England Housing and Care Limited is a not for profit company, operating nine care homes throughout Worcestershire. It provides care services and accommodation to approximately 449 older people and employing about 500 staff.

Anne Turner, Group Finance and Resources Director of Orbit Group, said: *"Sanctuary Care is an established and respected care provider already providing essential services to older people in the Worcestershire area."*

"We felt that Sanctuary was best placed to continue the excellent level of care found at the homes. We are confident that Heart of England is in safe hands"

and for employees and residents alike the future continues to look bright".

9. PROCURE 21+ FRAMEWORK TO SAVE NHS OVER £200M AND SLASH BUREAUCRACY

03 August 2010 - DH

The new Procure 21+ framework, it is claimed, will save the NHS over £200m in procurement costs and will help upgrade hospitals more quickly, Health Minister Simon Burns has announced.

The new framework will streamline and simplify the process for NHS Trusts when procuring a construction company to carry out hospital refurbishments or new builds. It will also usher in a more transparent system, where detailed data on performance outcomes will be provided by each company and published online, so that the NHS can make informed choices about the companies they employ.

Six companies have been approved for the new system to deliver NHS projects, meaning that NHS Trusts do not need to go through the complex European Union procurement process. NHS Trusts can now choose from six approved companies:

- Balfour Beatty Group Limited
- Healthcare Partnership Solutions Ltd
- Integrated Health Projects
- Interserve Project Services Limited
- Kier Regional Ltd
- Willmott Dixon Holdings Ltd

This builds on the existing Procure 21 framework, which, although voluntary, has become the most popular procurement route for NHS capital schemes and has delivered successful projects, with a value of

almost £2 billion.

Health Minister Simon Burns said:

"The benefits of Procure 21+ are clear – a streamlined system will mean that NHS organisations will be able to concentrate on delivering patient care and improving outcomes."

"The new system will cut bureaucratic waste and allow the NHS to reinvest savings directly into services for patients."

"Hospital refurbishments under this system will be quicker and more cost effective, ensuring that patients receive their treatment in a clean, safe and efficient environment – as they would expect."

Under the new framework, work can start on projects within six weeks, saving the NHS at least six months in the pre-construction period.

The appointments will take effect when the new framework commences on 01.10.2010 and will run for a six-year period.

10. Half year results for the six months ended 30.06.2010

05 August - Nestor Healthcare Group plc Results summary

	2010	2009
Revenue	£77.9m	£74.7m
Operating profit	£5.9m	£4.4m
Loss on disposal	-	(£0.3m)
Finance charges, net	(£0.5m)	(£0.5m)
Fair value profit/ (loss) relating to derivative contracts	£0.1m	(£0.6m)
Profit before tax	£5.5m	£3.0m
Basic earnings per share	3.4p	2.4p
Proposed interim dividend per share	1.25p	0.50p

Operating profits increased 35% to £5.9m.

- Social Care profits increased 42% to £6.0m on revenues up 7% at £55.7m. Gross margin increased to 10.9%, compared to 8.2%, resulting from a combination of increased volume, a focus on the quality of earnings, and tight control over costs.
- Primary Care operating profit of £1.5m, on revenues of £22.2m, is slightly down on the previous year but shows a substantial improvement over the second half of 2009 as the earnings from walk-in centres start to have an effect.

- Primary Care has had a strong run of out-of-hours contract wins and extensions over the last 18 months although it is unlikely to keep one contract due for renewal in the fourth quarter. Primecare has also been successful in winning six contracts under the Dental Access Programme and two end of life care contracts with the NHS.
- Cash generated from operations was strong at £6.2m and closing net borrowings at the half year were £11.9m.
- Nestor believes the new direction outlined in the Healthcare White Paper contains a number of initiatives which will in time prove positive. Clinically-led commissioning, through GP consortia, will focus on care nearer home, which plays to the strengths of both our Social Care and Primary Care businesses. In addition the introduction of an 'any willing provider' model will open up more opportunities for independent operators.

Interim dividend has been substantially increased to 1.25p (2009: 0.5p) reflecting improved profitability, strong cash generation and the policy of the Board to establish a progressive approach to shareholder returns.

Commenting on the outlook, John Rennocks, Chairman, said:

"Our Social Care business goes from strength to strength and the Board looks forward to augmenting the business with a small number of carefully selected bolt-on acquisitions. In particular, the continued volume growth at Goldsborough / Medico has had a major impact, at the same time as the efficiency and cost base of the branch network have been well managed. I expect further progress in the

coming months as the business works increasingly in partnership with its customer base on initiatives designed to provide the most cost effective, yet high quality support to our service users.

"Overall, our Primary Care business has made significant progress in the last eighteen months and the tender pipeline remains encouraging. In addition, I am confident that the new services in dentistry and end of life care will deliver attractive returns.

"I am also increasingly enthused by the growing prospect of the two parts of Nestor working more closely together to provide what are critical services outside of the hospital and residential care environment. There are very few organisations in the sector with the necessary skills and resources to provide a full range of services with a management team capable of delivering innovative and cost effective solutions to our customers."

11. Notts confirms home sales

July 2010 - Community Care Market News

Nottinghamshire council will sell off 12 of its care homes – although it may take 18 months to achieve completion. Funds generated will, the council says, be funneled into extra care.

Ed. Potential buyers need to factor in the effect of TUPE and the challenge of 'harmonising' different workforces. Reflect on the claims against Excel-care.

12. Complete sell out

July 2010—Community Care Market News

Housing 21 is reported to be about to place Complete Care Group (CCG) up for sale after a review of activities. CCG was acquired when Housing 21 bought Claimer Care when it was in difficulties in Autumn

2009.

13. Cash injection set to drive Carewatch forward

July 2010—Community Care Market News

Home care business Carewatch has refinanced increasing banking facilities by £25m and has access to £45m. The cash will be used for a new IT platform and to develop services in specialist areas.

Case Reports

Law Reports

Nothing to report

Disciplinary cases

14. Social worker banned for stealing £19k from disabled client

02 August 2010 – Community Care

Peter Tennant, a social worker who stole £19,000 from a severely disabled elderly service user has been struck off the social care register.

He withdrew cash and transferred money from the woman's account, for which he was a signatory, between January 2008 and February 2009.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/02/115029/social-worker-banned-for-stealing-19k-from-disabled-client.htm>

15. Operating department practitioner struck off for misconduct

02 August 2010 - HPC

Operating department practitioner, Samuel P Harris has been struck off the HPC Register after being under the influence of alcohol and drugs whilst on duty at Nuffield Health Tees Hospital.

A panel of the HPC Conduct and Competence Committee heard that the incident arose when the Samuel P Harris was on duty at the Nuffield Health Tees Hospital where he was seen on all fours in the implant room holding a small container with a small amount of clear liquid. Witnesses told the Panel that Samuel P Harris was rambling and being largely incoherent and refusing to let go of the container.

The Panel further heard that Samuel P Harris admitted that he had crushed sleeping tablets and mixed them with gin.

Samuel P Harris was neither present nor represented at the hearing.

Cases in the news

16. Oxford doctor suspended from surgeries

03 August 2010 – BBC News

Dr Mark Huckstep has been suspended from practising in Oxfordshire.

An investigation is being held into the care he provided.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-oxfordshire-10850065>

17. Runcorn care worker abused residents with dementia

06 August 2010 – BBC News

An internal investigation is under way at a CIC care home after Kerry Murphy, 27, a support worker, was convicted of abusing dementia sufferers residents at St Luke's Nursing Home in Runcorn.

Murphy was convicted of neglect and ill treatment under S44 Mental Capacity Act 2005 at Warrington Crown Court.

Det Con Bob Scott, of Cheshire Police, said: "Kerry Murphy abused her position as a carer and exploited the vulnerabilities of the victims for her own ends.

"Her victims were defenceless all suffering from dementia, and not able to tell anyone fully what had happened. I hope now they can have some peace in their lives without being subjected to cruelty."

In a statement, a spokesperson for St Luke's welcomed the conviction and said managers were examining what went wrong and said "We share the distress of residents and relatives on hearing the accounts of ill-treatment and abuse by Ms Murphy and will be providing any support we can to them to deal with the after affects of this.

"We hope the sentence serves a clear message that ill-treatment and abuse of vulnerable people will not be tolerated at our home.

"As soon as we received the allegations we took immediate action by alerting the safeguarding team and suspending her. Now the case is over we shall be carrying out our own internal investigations."

Murphy, of Westwood, Windmill Hill, was released on bail and will be sentenced at Liverpool Crown Court on 09.09.2010.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-merseyside-10895741>

18. Southampton Briars care home bosses sentenced

06 August 2010 – BBC News

Annette Hopkins, the former owner of Briars Retirement Home has avoided jail after she was convicted of ill-treating and neglecting residents.

Annette Hopkins was ordered to pay a total of £52,000 and given a 30-week suspended prison sen-

-tence.

Care home manager Margaret Priest, 56, was ordered to carry out 200 hours community service after also being found guilty of wilful neglect.

The home was closed down in September last year.
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-hampshire-10896606>

19. Ex-Essex staff in Excelcare tribunal hearings

July 2010 - Community Care Market News

After the council outsourced services five years ago to Excelcare there has been litigation by former council staff who objected to Excelcare's attempts to alter their terms and conditions of employment, including 40% reduction in pay. Unison brought claims amounting to some £3m; however, some £1m or so has now been paid in compromise – without admission of liability.

Ed. When considering taking over services from local councils, the NHS, or other businesses careful consideration must be given to the TUPE Regulations and the effect that they might have on the merged business. If ignored, they could de-rail deals or destabilize businesses. To discuss TUPE issues, without charge and without obligation call Chris Smith of Brunswicks on 08544 190694.

Children

20. Many 'fearful of helping children in need' 02 August 2010 – BBC News

A survey undertaken in the UK suggests that many people fear helping a child in need in case witnesses think an attempt is being made to abduct the youngster.

44% of men and 28% of women told researchers they would be wary of helping a child for this reason.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-10820033>

21. The Children's Workforce: A data scoping study

02 August 2010 – Dept for Education

A report exploring and describing data sources on the early years children's workforce, focusing particularly on childcare. It also considers future directions for research in this context.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/index.cfm?type=5&keywordlist1=0&keywordlist2=0&keywordlist3=0&andor=or&keyword=20820101&x=42&y=14>

22. Childcare and Early Years Providers Survey 2009

02 August 2010 – Dept for Education

This survey collected information on the number and characteristics of providers, the characteristics of the children enrolled, workforce composition, qualifications and business operation. It covered both childcare and early years settings in maintained schools.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=16010&type=5&resultsPage=1>

23. Birmingham children's workers 'routinely have 30-40 cases'

03 August 2010 – Community Care

Unison, the branch speaking for Birmingham's children services employees says that it is "not uncommon" for Birmingham children's social workers to have between 30 and 40 cases on at a time.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/03/115035/birmingham-childrens-workers-routinely-have-30-40-cases.htm>

24. Progress at Worcestershire children's services 'limited'

04 August 2010 – Community Care

According to Ofsted's latest unannounced inspection report, Worcestershire Council has made not made sufficient progress in addressing high caseloads and low staff capacity in its children's services department.

The council did not follow the 2008 joint area review recommendation to increase staff capacity and ensure the quality of management.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/04/115045/progress-at-worcestershire-childrens-services-limited.htm>

25. 'More social carers needed' Worcestershire council told

05 August 2010 – BBC News

Progress at Worcestershire children's services 'limited'

05 August 2010 – Community Care

Worcestershire County Council has been told that it must urgently increase social care staffing after an Ofsted inspection.

Ofsted visited the children's services team in July and said the council had made little progress since the issue was first raised in a review in 2008.

The council said it was recruiting and no child had been left at risk.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-hereford-worcester-10883093>
<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/05/115045/progress-at-worcestershire-childrens-services-limited.htm>

26. Care system close to collapse, says Fostering Network

05 August 2010 – Community Care

The Fostering Network has warned that the care sys-

tem will collapse if children's services budgets are slashed and unless more foster carers are recruited.

A survey of 76 fostering services in the UK, carried out by the charity in April and May this year, found the care system was "*bursting at the seams*" as a result of the increased referrals since the Baby P case.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/05/115049/care-system-close-to-collapse-says-fostering-network.htm>

27. Doctors' roles in child protection under spotlight

06 August 2010 – Community Care

Doctors' roles and responsibilities in child protection work will be examined closely by the General Medical Council, which is asking for submissions of evidence about the issue.

The request is being placed with social workers, doctors, other health professionals, police, lawyers, children and young people and their families, and carers.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/06/115056/doctors-roles-in-child-protection-under-spotlight.htm>

28. Child protection database to be switched off

06 August 2010 – BBC News

ContactPoint switched off today

06 August 2010 – Community Care

The Government switched off ContactPoint on 06.08.2010, the £235m information-sharing database.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/06/115051/contactpoint-switched-off-today.htm>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-10887082>

29. Lord Carlile to investigate abuse at private school

06 August 2010 - BBC News

Barrister Lord Carlile has been asked to lead an inquiry into child protection at St Benedict's School, a Roman Catholic in the London borough of Ealing and to review "*past mistakes*" that allowed a paedophile priest to abuse five pupils.

Last year, former St Benedict's head Father David Pearce was jailed for eight years for abusing five students.

He had admitted 10 indecent assaults and one sexual assault on five boys between 1972 and 2007.

Conferences & Courses

To follow next week

Consultations

30. Safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation

Closing Date: 31 August 2010

The Welsh Assembly Government is consulting on guidance which is designed to help practitioners in preventing child sexual exploitation, protecting children and young people who are at risk of abuse or are abused through sexual exploitation, and disrupting and prosecuting those who perpetrate this form of abuse.

<http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/policy/consultations/consultations/13502.html>

31. Consultation on revised enforcement document

08 June 2010 - CQC

Closing Date: 31 August 2010

This consultation looks at changes we have had to make to the enforcement policy to reflect CQC's new enforcement powers.

CQC is revising its enforcement policy because some of its enforcement powers are different from those anticipated when it published its first policy in March 2009.

There are changes to Warning Notice arrangements, and 'Compliance Actions' and 'Improvement Actions' have been added to possible regulatory responses.

CQC's approach and the principles it will follow when responding to suspected failure to comply with the essential standards remains unchanged from existing policy.

This consultation runs until 31.08.2010. It plans to publish our final enforcement policy on 01.10.2010.

To review the consultation: [Download the draft revised enforcement policy](#)

32. Opportunity to help improve care services for adults with autism

29 July 2010 - DH

A consultation to help improve care services and healthcare outcomes for adults with autism in England was launched by Care Services Minister Paul Burstow.

This is the next step to help adults with autism live full

and independent lives as equal and included citizens and follows the publication of the strategy for adults with autism: *Fulfilling and rewarding lives*.

The strategy sets a clear framework for all main-stream public sector services to support adults with autism and is backed up by the Autism Act 2009, the first ever condition specific legislation. The 12-week consultation process seeks views from those with autism, their families, carers, representative organisations and all sectors of society on a number of important issues such as:

- diagnosis of autism
- increasing awareness of autism amongst frontline staff
- provision of training and specialist training for frontline staff
- appropriate assessment of needs for those with autism
- provision of relevant services for young people and adults with autism
- local leadership for NHS and social care in relation to the provision of services for adults with autism

Care Services Minister Paul Burstow said:

"I hope people will take part in this opportunity to influence the direction and progress of our autism programme.

"It is unacceptable when adults with autism do not get the right care and support they need from health and social care services.

"The Government wants the consultation to reach as many people as possible, in line with our goal of giv-

ing people more say in the decisions that affect their lives. These views will help shape our priorities as we seek to help adults with autism live fulfilling and rewarding lives."

Mark Lever, Chief Executive of the National Autistic Society, said:

"This is the vital next step people with autism and their families have been waiting for. During the passage of the Autism Act, Parliament described this statutory guidance as the 'teeth' of the Act, so it is vital that it secures real and lasting change at ground level.

"Now, I'd like to urge as many adults with autism, their parents and carers to take part in the consultation to make sure it is robust and can be used to hold their local services to account. The right support at the right time can make an enormous difference to peoples' lives."

The statutory guidance for health and social care will be published by December 2010.

The strategy will be reviewed in 2013.

33. Scottish Borders care charge consultation begins

02 August 2010 – BBC News

Scottish Borders Council has started consulting over its social work department's new care charging policy.

Among the proposed changes are the introduction of flat-rate charges for day care services and transport to and from such services.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-south-scotland-10837490>

34. Child Minding and Day Care Regulations Consultation

Closing Date: 06 September 2010

The Welsh Assembly Government is consulting on proposed amendments to the existing regulations governing child care for children below the age of 8.

<http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/policy/consultations/consultations/13530.html>

35. Consultation on the Health Social Care and Well-being Strategy Guidance 2010 and Children And Young People's Plans Interim Guidance 2011-14

Closing Date: 14 September 2010

The Welsh Assembly Government is consulting on the Health Social Care and Well-being Strategy Guidance 2010 and Children And Young People's Plans Interim Guidance 2011-14.

<http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/policy/consultations/consultations/13717.html>

36. Consultation on National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland

Closing Date: 17 September 2010

The Scottish Government is now consulting on its revised National Guidance on Child Protection.

<http://www.childpolicyinfo.childreninscotland.org.uk/index/news-app?story=9228&archived=N>

37. Consultation on National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland

Closing Date: 17 September 2010

The Scottish Government is now consulting on its revised National Guidance on Child Protection.

<http://www.childpolicyinfo.childreninscotland.org.uk/index/news-app?story=9228&archived=N>

38. Changes to the allocation formulae for the Learning Disability Commissioning Transfer Grant, Preserved Rights Grant and AIDS Support Grant

Closing Date: 06 October 2010

The Department of Health (DH) is asking for views on options for distributing three DH social care grants from 01.04.2011. This consultation does not pre-judge the outcome of the Spending Review, which will be announced on 20.10.2010.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_117893

39. Consultation on Regulation of Independent Healthcare in Scotland

Closing Date: 08 October 2010

The Scottish Government is consulting on the future arrangements for the regulation of independent healthcare in Scotland and seeking views on the definition and scope of independent healthcare services that should be regulated.

<http://www.childpolicyinfo.childrenscotland.org.uk/index/news-app?story=9418&category=1&archived=N>

40. Liberating the NHS: Increasing democratic legitimacy in health - A consultation

Closing Date: 11 October 2010

A consultation asking for views on proposals to strengthen the role of local government in health and suggests local authorities take on local public health improvement functions, have a new role in promoting integration, and local health watch organisations acting as independent consumer champions, accountable to local authorities.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_117586

41. Liberating the NHS: Commissioning for patients - Consultation on proposals

Closing Date: 11 October 2010

This consultation wants views on how proposals for putting local GP practices in charge of commissioning services, to best meet the needs of local people, should be implemented.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_117587

42. HPC launches consultation to reviews the generic standards of proficiency

28 July 2010 - HPC

The Health Professions Council (HPC) has today launched a three month consultation to invite stakeholders for their views on its review of the generic standards of proficiency.

The consultation follows a lengthy analysis of the standards where feedback was considered from a variety of stakeholders, including a number of comments from individuals and organisations. During the process the HPC set up a group of HPC Council members to review the generic standards and recommend areas of change and development.

The changes are to ensure that the generic standards are applicable to all the professions the HPC regulates. The purpose is to give these standards more user friendly terminology and bring them in line with the HPC standards of proficiency for individual professions.

The generic standards explain the key obligations that the HPC expect of registered health professionals. They are the minimum standards for safe and effective practice, which means they have to be relevant and applicable to prospective registrants applying to come on to the Register for the first time, as well as existing registrants.

Michael Guthrie, Director of Policy and Standards said;

“The HPC is inviting stakeholders to respond to the proposed review of the generic standards”

“The key changes include proposing significant changes to the wording of the current overarching generic standards. This includes adding, removing and modifying the existing standards, to ensure that the generic standards are applicable to all professions the HPC regulate.”

The consultation will put the proposed guidance before a wide range of stakeholders, professional bodies and others with an interest in our work.

The consultation will run until 20.10.2010.

43. Care Council for Wales seeks additional misconduct sanctions

19 July 2010 – Community Care

Proposals made by the Care Council for Wales means that social workers in Wales found guilty of misconduct might be allowed to continue practising under certain conditions.

The regulator wants to extend the sanctions available and streamline the process of dealing with complaints. A 12 week consultation to this effect will start in the autumn.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/07/19/114937/care-council-for-wales-seeks-additional-misconduct-sanctions.htm>

44. NICE: Current consultations

To browse through consultations go to

<http://www.nice.org.uk/page.aspx?=consultations.current>

Care Quality Commission, CSSIW & Scottish Care Commission

45. CQC facing clipped wings, while PCTs face the chop

July 2010 - Community Care Market News

Several pages devoted to the 'Equity and excellence: Liberating the NHS', CQCs upbeat press release in response and what is described as a "extraordinary outburst" from Martin Green (CEO of ECCA) speaking at a Laing & Buisson conference who described CQC as "dysfunctional, incompetent, inconsistent and leaderless" and that he was "absolutely amazed" to read the CQC press statement. CQC rejects Mr Green's view.

Ed. Many may think that Mr Green has correctly encapsulated CQC.

46. The Children's Summit

02 August 2010 – SCC

The Children's Summit 2010 was attended by Jacque Roberts on behalf of the Care Commission focused on what improvements can be made to services for children in light of the emergency Budget and future financial challenges.

The aim of the summit was to develop a joint agenda for the next 12 months.

http://www.carecommission.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=7659&Itemid=152

47. Care Quality Commission staff reduced to tears

03 August 2010 – Community Care

A leaked report to Community Care has revealed

that Care Quality Commission staff were reduced to tears and have "literally pulled their hair out" as a result of the re-registration programme for adult care providers.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/03/115031/care-quality-commission-staff-reduced-to-tears.htm>

48. Acting together service

03 August 2010 – CQC

CQC are looking for experienced organisations to recruit, train and support our network of carers and people who use services, known as Experts by experience.

http://www.cqc.org.uk/newsandevents/newsstories.cfm?cit_id=36525&FAArea1=customWidgets.content_view_1&usecache=false

49. Report shows improvement in safe management of controlled drugs

05 August 2010 – CQC

CQC has published a report showing the continued improvement of health and social care organisations in their management of controlled drugs.

http://www.cqc.org.uk/newsandevents/newsstories.cfm?cit_id=36527&FAArea1=customWidgets.content_view_1&usecache=false

50. Health and social care services are monitoring controlled drugs more effectively, says CQC

05 August 2010 – CQC

CQC said that health and social care organisations are continuing to develop systems and services to manage controlled drugs more effectively and to share information on concerns and best practice at a local and national level.

http://www.cqc.org.uk/newsandevents/pressreleases.cfm?cit_id=36526&FAArea1=customWidgets.content_view_1&usecache=false

51. Reshaping Care for Older People Events

05 August 2010 – SCC

Events on Reshaping Care for Older People are being run by Scottish Government. Click on the link to see dates.

http://www.carecommission.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=7662&Itemid=152

Dementia

52. Fit heart can slow brain ageing, US researchers say

03 August 2010 – BBC News

A Boston University team has found that keeping your heart fit and strong can slow down the ageing of your brain.

The study found healthy people with sluggish hearts that pumped out less blood had "older" brains on scans than others.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-10839021>

53. GPS 'Failing to identify dementia early enough'

06 August 2010 – Mental Health Foundation

Scientists from the Medical Research Council have warned that GPs are failing to spot dementia early enough, leaving patients without access to treatments which could help them.

People diagnosed with dementia by their family doctors also live fewer years than those actively screened for the disease in research studies.

<http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/information/news/?entryid17=81140>

54. Diabetes and literacy key to beat dementia, says study

06 August 2010 – BBC News

A study shows that preventing diabetes and depression could have a dramatic impact on cutting cases of dementia

The British Medical Journal said that boosting levels of education and upping fruit and vegetable consumption would also have a big effect.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-10881685>

Ireland, Scotland & Wales

Ireland

Nothing to report

Scotland

55. Borders General Hospital tackles infection risks

02 August 2010 – BBC News

The Healthcare Environment Inspectorate (HEI) has made two unannounced visits to Borders General Hospital this year and in the first visit it found "poor infection control practices" which raised "significant concerns".

The body's second visit showed improved efforts to protect patients but other areas still "requiring improvement".

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-south-scotland-10838772>

56. Smoking warning for NHS Grampian patients and staff

02 August 2010 – BBC News

New plans being considered by NHS Grampian's board means that patients could be refused treatment - and staff disciplined or sacked - if they smoke on NHS Grampian hospital premises.

The move was first proposed last year and means that staff would be banned from smoking while in uniform or wearing ID badges, even during breaks.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-10835198>

57. Scottish Borders care charge consultation begins

02 August 2010 – BBC News

Scottish Borders Council has started consulting over its social work department's new care charging policy.

Among the proposed changes are the introduction of flat-rate charges for day care services and transport to and from such services.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-south-scotland-10837490>

58. NHS Grampian hospital smoking clampdown delayed

03 August 2010 – BBC News

A decision on whether to ban smoking from all of NHS Grampian's premises by 2012 has now been delayed after concerns were expressed over enforcing the measures.

A decision has been deferred for six months.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-10851431>

59. Hospital superbugs

06 August 2010 – Scottish Government

Fall in number of hospital bug deaths

06 August 2010 – BBC News

Newly released statistics show reduction in deaths related to healthcare associated infections

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2010/08/06123112>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-10896449>

Wales

60. National Roll-out of Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme

02 August 2010 – CIW

The Home Secretary has announced the national roll-out of a scheme that lets parents to ask police whether people with access to their family are sex offenders.

<http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/policy/news/13773.html>

61. Council's 'lack of action' over abuse fears

03 August 2010 – BBC News

The public services ombudsman for Wales has found that a lack of action from the council meant police did not investigate a case of suspected abuse

Merthyr Tydfil council has been criticised for its failure to investigate suspicions that two children were being abused by their father.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-south-east-wales-10845443>

61. Consultation on the Health Social Care and Well-being Strategy Guidance 2010 and Children And Young People's Plans Interim Guidance 2011-14

August 2010 – CIW

The Welsh Assembly Government is now consulting on the Health Social Care and Well-being Strategy Guidance 2010 and Children And Young People's Plans Interim Guidance 2011-14. Consultation ends: 14/09/2010

<http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/policy/consultations/consultations/13717.html>

Learning Disabilities

62. Disabled daughter starved after death of carer who refused help

04 August 2010 - The Times

Stephina Wolf, 67, is thought to have died suddenly and her disabled daughter, Samantha, 29, died of starvation. It is said that the mother had refused help from social services four years ago.

Legislation Update

Nothing to report

Mental Capacity

Nothing to report

Mental Health

Nothing to report

Miscellaneous

61. Jersey States approves Rosewood House upgrade cash

01 August 2010 – BBC News

Money to refurbish a hospital ward for dementia patients in Jersey has been given the go ahead by the States.

The £2m project at Rosewood House in St Helier will include modernising the building and upgrading infection control.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-jersey-10832193>

62. NHS research needs radical surgery

02 August 2010 - The Times, Letters to the Editor
Doctors claim red tape is hindering medical advances

02 August 2010 - The Times

In a letter to The Times from Professorial researchers from University of Cambridge they assert a single research proposal “proliferated into almost 100 R&D submissions” – they claim millions of quid from charities and others are being wasted. And due to PCT creating their own R&D departments it is little more than a job creation scheme which does little to contribute to R&D and much to frustrate it.

63. Medicine vending machine trialled at Sussex supermarket

03 August 2010 – BBC News

Two Sainsbury's supermarkets have started a year-long trial of vending machines to dispense prescriptions.

The machines, at Sainsbury's in Haywards Heath and West Green, allow patients to collect medicines without speaking to a pharmacist and is the first trial of such machines in the UK.

Customers must register for a unique ID and Pin number and can deposit NHS prescriptions using a special envelope.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-sussex-10850444>

64. Medical care number trial starts in County Durham

03 August 2010 – BBC News

Patients wanting urgent medical care in County Durham will now be able to call a new three-digit telephone number.

Trials of the free 111 service have started in County Durham and Darlington.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-10849562>

65. Crackdown on genetic test services

04 August 2010 - DH

Consumers who are given false reassurances about their future health from genetic testing services will, it is claimed, receive better protection under new guidelines for this booming industry.

The rapidly growing market for ‘direct-to-consumer’ services, that offer testing for conditions like Huntington's and Breast Cancer, is currently unregulated and can raise unnecessary concerns or offer false hope to patients without clinical support.

A new framework, published by the Human Genetics Commission (HGC), aims to ensure that the public have confidence in genetic testing kits. It will require companies to follow basic principles of consent, data protection, truth in marketing, scientific rigour and balanced interpretation.

Key principles include:

- Tests for serious hereditary diseases – like Huntington's and Breast Cancer – should only be provided with the offer of counselling both before and after testing.
- Companies must make clear what the possible outcomes of taking a test are and what patients can do about it.
- Simple, easy to understand information on how genetic testing works should be provided.
- Claims made about tests should be supported by evidence, which is published in scientific journals.

The Principles were developed with representatives from the international genetic testing industry and represent a high level of consensus about what constitutes good practice. They offer a guide to consumers, as well as service providers and regulators, about the elements that should make up a good quality direct genetic testing service.

They cover all aspects of direct-to-consumer genetic testing services including the marketing and advertising of tests, information for consumers, consent, the laboratory analysis of biological samples and the levels of support that should accompany the genetic test results.

66. Closing GP surgeries over weekends unacceptable'

04 August 2010 - Health Service Journal

The NHS medical director has told GPs that having continuity of care as a "holy grail" while denying patients access to services over weekends is "unacceptable".

67. National Care Association welcomes transfer of General Social Care Council responsibilities

04 August 2010 - NCA

National Care Association Chairman, Nadra Ahmed OBE, commenting on the DH announcement that the functions of the General Social Care Council (GSCC) are to be transferred to the Health Professions Council, said

"The world of Social Care is very different from when the GSCC was founded.

"When the GSCC codes of practice for social care workers and employers were originally established they were welcomed throughout the sector. How-

ever, since then, the GSCC has done little that has had any relevance to the more than one million workers in the independent Social Care Sector and recently appears to have "forgotten" about the independent sector altogether to concentrate on the Social Worker Register.

"The independent sector had hoped that the GSCC would register managers of care homes with the relevant qualification to further safeguard users of social care services but this has not happened."

For more information

www.nationalcareassociation.org.uk

68. Select Committee Announcement 05 August 2010 - House of Commons

Arrangements for recruitment of Specialist Advisers

Following its appointment after the General Election, the Health Committee is seeking to improve the way in which it identifies specialist advisers to assist in its work.

Specialist advisers perform an invaluable task for select committees. The role of an adviser is formally 'to supply information which is not readily available or to elucidate matters of complexity within the committee's order of reference'. In practice, this usually means explaining policy and practice and helping to interpret the evidence gathered during inquiries. Advisers may be appointed to help a committee on a particular inquiry or to advise on a particular policy issue over a longer period. Advisers are paid only for the days on which they do work for a committee. There are currently three daily rates, depending on levels of experience and knowledge.

The new Health Committee is anxious to ensure that

the process by which these appointments are made is more open than has previously been the case.

The Committee is therefore seeking to appoint an adviser who would act as a "talent scout" in its search for the most appropriate people to provide it with policy advice. The Committee's objective is to secure advice from people who are well-informed and active in the health field but do not necessarily have a public profile and who might not otherwise come to the Committee's attention. People who have previously advised the Committee are welcome to apply.

Anyone who is interested in taking on this role is asked to set out in a statement of no more than 750 words why they consider they would be an appropriate candidate and to send that statement, along with a copy their cv, to the Health Committee at health-com@parliament.uk by noon on **06.09.2010**. The Committee expects to hold interviews for those short-listed shortly after that date.

If you have any questions please contact David Lloyd, the Clerk of the Committee, on 020 7219 6244 or at lloyddr@parliament.uk.

69. Dropped Coventry care agency owner speaks

05 August 2010 – BBC News

The owner of care agency, My Care UK, originally dropped by a council after a serious case review into an elderly woman's death, has spoken about the case.

The Coventry woman, 91, died after being admitted to hospital with bed sores, but Martin Carey, owner of the care agency My Care UK, said others were also at fault over her care.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-coventry-warwickshire-10878181>

70. Health Professions Council comments on assuming functions of the GSCC

06 August 2010 – NCF

The Government published a report on 26.07.2010 that said that the HPC will take on the regulation of social workers in England from GSCC.

'Liberating the NHS: Report of the arms-length bodies review' has called for the General Social Care Council (GSCC) in England to be abolished and the transfer of its regulatory function to the Health Professions Council (HPC).

http://www.nationalcareforum.org.uk/forums/forum_posts.asp?TID=3785&PN=1

71. Record number of dietitians renew their HPC registration

Issue 30 - August 2010 - In Focus

From April 2010 to the end of June 2010 HPC invited all dietitians to renew their registration for the next two years. This year 95.7% successfully renewed. This is excellent news and, compared to last time, the improvement is clear; 91.3% of dietitians renewed two years ago.

We have been working closely with a number of stakeholders to remind registrants about the importance of renewing their registration and distributed letters, information and posters via the British Dietetic Association (BDA). We also promoted renewal dates online and in print.

This collaborative working has made a real difference and has prevented many registrants from lapsing off our Register unnecessarily.

72. Killer cuts or opportunity knocking?

July 2010 - Community Care Market News

CCMN asked 15 of the social care commentators to express their views on Government's proposed cuts

in public spending and how that might translate into social services provision. Unsurprisingly, perhaps, many saw opportunities and said that the key to success would be quality of care provision and the need for commissioners to have closer working relationship with suppliers.

NHS

73. Procurement Guide for Commissioners of NHS-funded Services

30 July 2010 – DH

This guide sets out expectations of commissioners on the use of procurement to improve services for patients.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_118218

74. Ministers to review curb on doctors hours

02 August 2010 – BBC News

Ministers have announced their intention to review European rules currently restricting the number of hours that doctors are able to work. Surgeons have been challenging the 48-hour limit on their working week saying it puts patients' lives at risk.

Around 80% of 980 NHS surgeons and surgical trainees surveyed said that they thought care had worsened since the European Working Time Directive started last August.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-10831736>

75. Appeal after £3m medicine waste in Cumbria

02 August 2010 – BBC News

Patients in Cumbria are being asked to think twice about whether they need prescriptions after £3m of unused medicine was destroyed.

The NHS in the county said 13.6 metric tonnes of medicines were returned last year to be safely disposed of.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cumbria-10836500>

76. Big society boost for NHS enterprises

02 August 2010 - DH

A scheme that puts NHS staff in the driving seat of innovative projects to transform patient care was given a boost by Care Services Minister Paul Burstow.

15 projects will form the second wave of NHS organisations that want to set up social enterprises, a scheme that gives public sector workers the ability to take over the services they deliver.

The NHS arm of the scheme, known as 'Right to Request', gives all Primary Care Trust staff the right to request setting up social enterprises.

The new projects span two thirds of Strategic Health Authorities and include cities like London, Bristol, Leeds and Birmingham. Projects include a wide range of services like increasing access to psychological therapies, improving end of life care and a wider range of children services.

They build on the first wave of Right to Request projects that are already putting their plans into action. These include a specialist health-visiting programme in Derby that is already improving the health and well-being of some the community's most disadvantaged children and families by offering parenting support

and skills. And, a one-stop-shop for homeless people in Leicester that offers vulnerable people medical and outreach services and access to night shelters.

Care Services Minister Paul Burstow said:

“The Eden Project and the Big Issue show us what we can achieve through social enterprises.

“Instead of reaping rewards for shareholders they plough resources back into the community. NHS staff have the local know-how on how resources can best be used and I want to put them in the driving seat - and Right to Request combines NHS values with business principles in an effective way.

“Already we are seeing projects that are making a real difference. In Leicester, a GP and nurse led project has helped tailor services for the homeless and those with substance misuse problems.

“We want to empower millions of public sector workers to become their own boss and help them to deliver better services. There is still an opportunity for frontline PCT workers to be part of the next wave of the scheme in the autumn.”

Frontline PCT staff who wish to put forward proposals to deliver services through social enterprise should contact the Department of Health Social Enterprise Unit at social.enterprise@dh.gsi.gov.uk

77. King's Mill Hospital halves infection rates **03 August 2010 – BBC News**

King's Mill Hospital in Sutton-in-Ashfield said that its cases of MRSA had gone from 31 in 2008/9 to 14 the year after and over the same period, cases of clostridium difficile (C. diff) fell from 144 to 63.

Managers said they had looked at all aspects of cleanliness to bring rates down.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-nottinghamshire-10860295>

78. Blackpool hospital starts MSSA superbug screening

03 August 2010 – BBC News

Patients at Blackpool Victoria Hospital are now being routinely screened for a superbug in a bid to cut infections.

Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust started to test for the Meticillin-Sensitive Staphylococcus aureus (MSSA) bacteria on 02.08.2010.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lancashire-10856827>

79. NHS 'silences' 170 whistleblowers

03 August 2010 - Health Service Journal

According to information passed to Channel 4 News and Bureau of Investigative Journalism, 170 doctors who have engaged in whistleblowing were made to sign a confidentiality agreements in the last decade.

80. Diagnostics waiting times & activity data, month ending 30.6.2010

04 August 2010 - DH

The monthly data published today gives the waiting times for 15 key diagnostic tests carried out in the NHS.

More information, including a diagnostic data Q&A, is available on the DH website.

Main findings this month

- The number of patients, for whom English commissioners are responsible, waiting over 6 weeks for any one of the 15 key diagnostics tests at the end of June

2010 was 3,500, the same number as May 2010, and a decrease of 400 (9.7%) from June 2009.

- Of the patients waiting at the end of May 2010, 99.3% had been waiting under 6 weeks, the same figure as May 2010 and an increase of 0.1% from June 2009.

Diagnostic data: <http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Statistics/Perfomancedataandstatistics/HospitalWaitingTimesandListStatistics/Diagnostics/index.htm>

Imaging and Radiodiagnostic activity, financial year 2009/10

This data shows the number of Imaging and Radiodiagnostic examinations or tests carried out in the financial year 2009/10 in NHS providers in England, split by imaging modality.

The key points from the latest release are:

- The total number of imaging examinations or tests, covering the period 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010 was 37,742,000 compared to 35,944,000 in the period April 1 2008 to 31 March 2009. This is an increase of 5.0%.
- Of these imaging examinations or tests, 21.9 million were X-Rays (radiographs), 3.7 million were Computed Tomography (CT), 2.0 million were Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), 8.2 million were Ultrasound, 0.6 million for Radio isotopes and 1.3 million for Fluoroscopy.

Full tables are available at

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Statistics/Perfomancedataandstatistics/HospitalActivityStatistics/DH_077487

81. Personal health budget pilots raise concerns

04 August 2010 - Health Service Journal

Managers involved in the pilots for personal health budgets have expressed concerns over equity and increased cost, a report commissioned by the Department of Health says.

82. £400m NHS funds may go to social care

05 August 2010 - Health Service Journal

DH is reported to be considering transferring about £400m of NHS funding to councils next financial year to partially close the gap in their social care budgets.

The DH had been asked to put aside £470m to pay for the last government's pledge to provide free care at home for an extra 350,000 people. But it is unclear whether the new Government will implement that.

Ed. Wonder if it will be used to pay for care? In the last Government's spending review much more money was made available for social care, as it is not ring-fenced it was used to pay for other stuff, libraries, swimming pools, five portions a day officers etc. I guess care providers could do worse than spend their time lobbying for some ring fencing.

83. Union threatens judicial review over pace of NHS change

05 August 2010 - Health Service Journal

Unison has threatened to take the government to judicial review if the white paper reforms are implemented without proper consultation.

84. NHS brand undermined by online confusion

05 August 2010 - Health Service Journal

According to a Government report - Digital Commu-

nications Review - HS spends almost £100m a year on thousands of websites many of which are hard to find, poorly designed and not wanted by the public.

Ed. Well, that must be an easy £75m of savings. But a large number of website designers will have to look for alternative employment.

85. PCTs begin planning to reinvent their business

05 August 2010 - Health Service Journal

Primary care trust chief executives have begun planning how they can transform themselves into organisations providing support to GP commissioning consortia.

86. Royal Berkshire Hospital to axe up to 600 jobs

05 August 2010 - BBC News

Up to 600 jobs are to be axed at Reading's Royal Berkshire Hospital (RBH) by 2015 to save £60m.

Chief executive Edward Donald said the hospital still needed to save millions even though funding for the NHS as a whole was being ring-fenced.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-berkshire-10874362>

87. Nurses are suspended by Stafford Hospital

06 August 2010 - BBC News

Health officials have confirmed that some nurses at Stafford Hospital have been suspended by managers in the last six months.

Managers said the suspensions were as a result of reviews of working practices and patient complaints.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-stoke-staffordshire-10890504>

88. NHS sheds 11,000 jobs with many more at risk

06 August 2010 The Times

Confirmed job losses in the NHS this year will reach 11,000; union leaders threaten to take the Government to judicial review over the pace of reform.

Nursing

Nothing to report

Older People

Nothing to report

Parliament

Parliament in recess.

House of Lords recommences sitting on 05.09.2010.

House of Commons recommences on 06.09.2010.

Social Care

89. Social workers imposing direct payments on users

02 August 2010 - Community Care

A study undertaken in Essex has found that some social workers are foisting direct payments on to adult social care users.

The report found that nearly one in four direct payment users had not been offered the option of a council-managed personal budget by social workers and had been told direct payments was the new way to deliver adult care in the county.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/02/115034/social-workers-imposing-direct-payments-on-users.htm>

90. Are social care functions safe in a health body?

03 August 2010 – Community Care

Leading social care figures ponder the pros and cons of the transfer of GSCC functions to the Health Professions Council

The coalition's decision to abolish the General Social Care Council and transfer its functions to the Health Professions Council is the latest move in the Government's plan to give health bodies responsibility for social care functions.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/03/115037/Are-social-care-functions-safe-in-a-health-body.htm>

91. Leicestershire to cut social work jobs and set up call centre

03 August 2010 – Community Care

Leicestershire Council might be slashing dozens of social work jobs and move some social care staff to a call centre in a bid to save money.

The council is currently consulting staff on a proposed restructure of the adults and communities department.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/03/115032/leicestershire-to-cut-social-work-jobs-and-set-up-call-centre.htm>

92. Cafcass faces questions about its future

03 August 2010 – Community Care

Cafcass faces being questioned over its future after an alliance of 18 organisations called for the Government to consider alternative models.

The family court body is also under review by the House of Commons public accounts committee.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/03/115030/cafcass-faces-questions-about-its-future.htm>

93. Social Care Bulletin, Issue 14, July 2010

03 August 2010 – DH

A bulletin for all colleagues working in social care
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Bulletins/Socialcarebulletin/DH_118316

94. Counsel and Care launches an offer to support local authorities

03 August 2010 – NCF

Counsel and Care has launched an offer to support local authorities with implementing the milestones requirements of *Putting People First* and the personalisation agenda.

http://www.nationalcareforum.org.uk/forums/forum_posts.asp?TID=3777&PN=1

95. Four in 10 councils miss personalisation target

04 August 2010 – Community Care

A survey by advice provider, Opportunity Links has found that four in ten councils have missed a key target for the roll-out of personalisation.

They were expected to have in place by April an information and advice strategy to support clients to make choices on care and support, but 40% did not have one even by June.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/04/115047/four-in-10-councils-miss-personalisation-target.htm>

96. Older tenants need better incentives to move, finds report

04 August 2010 – Community Care

A report by the Mobility Taskforce says that older people living in under-occupied social housing must be given attractive alternatives if they are to make way for families in overcrowded accommodation or on waiting lists.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/04/115044/older-tenants-need-better-incentives-to-move-finds-report.htm>

97. LAC (DH)(2010)4: Carers Strategy Demonstrator Sites Project Funding Allocations 2010/11

04 August 2010 – DH

The purpose of this circular is to provide information on the administration of the 2010-11 allocation for local authorities taking part in the Carers Strategy Demonstrator Sites (CSDS) project.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/LocalAuthorityCirculars/AllLocalAuthority/DH_118378

98. Third Sector Investment Programme: Innovation Excellence and Service Development Fund 2011-12 - information pack for third sector organisations

04 August 2010 – DH

This document gives third sector organisations with information about the Third Sector Investment Programme's Innovation Excellence and Service Development Fund.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_118373

99. Better access to advocates urged for adult placement users

06 August 2010 – Community Care

Greater access to independent advocates for adult placement users has been urged to prevent "deplorable" decisions such as the one in which Manchester Council removed a teenager from his family. Alex Fox, chief executive of Naaps, which represents adult placement (known as Shared Lives) providers, said advocates would provide an independent view on the best interests of service users in cases where carers were being investigated for alleged abuse. He spoke out after the High Court case of E, a 19-year-old with complex learning and physical disabilities. Manchester Council removed E to a residential unit from his placement with F, after it was alleged that he had been locked in a cupboard to manage

behaviour.

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/08/06/115061/better-access-to-advocates-urged-for-adult-placement-users.htm>

Workforce

100. Ex-Essex staff in Excelcare tribunal hearings

July 2010 - Community Care Market News

See item 19 above.

Focus on standards

We set standards which our registrants ('you') must meet, both to gain entry to the Register and to stay on the Register. This article provides information for registrants about those standards and is the first in a planned series that will cover some of the areas that we are frequently asked about. Next time we will look at whistleblowing and raising concerns.

Standards of proficiency

The standards of proficiency describe what registrants should know, understand and be able to do at the time they join our Register. There are separate standards of proficiency for each of the professions we regulate. Your practice will develop over time and you may find that you no longer meet all the standards of proficiency for your profession. This is not a problem, so long as you make sure that you do not practice in any areas where you are not proficient to do so, and you continue to meet those standards relevant to your practice. You may move into a new area, such as management or research. Again, you would only need to meet the standards of proficiency relevant to your practice.

Standards of conduct, performance and ethics

These standards explain the conduct and ethical behaviour that we expect of you. In addition, as a professional, your service users will expect you to meet high standards of personal conduct. These standards apply across all the professions we regulate and are intentionally broad.

Standards for continuing professional development

These standards explain our requirements for continuing professional development (CPD). CPD is the

way you continue to learn and develop throughout your career so that you keep your skills and knowledge up-to-date and are able to work safely, legally and effectively. There is one set of standards for CPD which applies across the professions we regulate. You must meet our standards for CPD to stay registered with us.

Every time your profession renews its registration, we will audit a sample of your profession to check that the standards are being met. To find out more see www.hpc-uk.org/registrants/cpd

How does the HPC use the standards?

We use the standards we set whenever we make a decision about an applicant or registrant. For example, when applicants who have qualified overseas apply for registration, we assess their application against the standards of proficiency. When we receive a complaint about a registrant's behaviour, we would look at that complaint against the standards of conduct, performance and ethics and then decide whether we need to take any action.

The standards and practice

The standards we set do not dictate how you should practice or stipulate particular models of practice that you should follow. Instead, you can meet the standards in a variety of different ways and the ways in which you meet the standards can change over time. This might be because of changes in your practice, in levels of responsibility or changes in technology.

The standards are not intended to address every situation which you may face. Instead, they provide broad principles. As an autonomous and accountable professional, you are responsible for the decisions

that you make and must be able to explain them. Flexible standards give you the opportunity to grow and develop within your scope of practice. They also allow you the opportunity to make your own decisions based on circumstances.

You may be placed in a situation where you are worried that something you have been asked to do, or a policy you have been asked to follow, may mean you cannot meet our standards. You may also worry that this will affect your registration. We cannot give guarantees about the outcome of every situation. However, if you make informed, reasonable and professional judgements about your practice, in the best interests of your service users and you can explain the decisions that you made if asked to, it is very unlikely that you would not meet our standards or that your registration would be affected.

You can find copies of all our standards on our website at www.hpc-uk.org/publications/standards. We would welcome any comments you may have about this article or any suggestions of topics for the future. You can contact us by emailing policy@hpc-uk.org

The above article is from the Health Professions Council Newsletter for August 2010. To contact HPC. To request a copy of this newsletter in an alternative format, or in Welsh, please email newsletter@hpc-uk.org or call +44 (0)20 7840 9806.

Editor

Keith M Lewin



08455 190 695



08455 190 699



keith.lewin@brunswicks.eu

Publications Manager

Linda Mason



08455 190 690



08455 190 699



linda.mason@brunswicks.eu

Switchboard

08455 190 690

**Crisis Intervention Line
Available 24 hours, 365 days**

07855 855 588

Podcasts

<http://www.brunswicks.libsyn.com>

Brunswicks LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England & Wales.
Registered Office Suite 3, 56 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead CH41 5AS. Registered Number OC311095.
Members: Andrew W Dawson; Keith M Lewin. Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority.

Warnings

Brunswicks' Healthcare Review contains news summaries from a variety of third party providers. It is not a comprehensive guide from all potential sources. Whilst we try to ensure that the content of Brunswicks' Healthcare Review are correct, we do not check third party sources and we cannot guarantee total accuracy. You must not treat anything in this publication as constituting legal advice.

We cannot guarantee all hypertext links will always be in working order.

This newsletter is intended for health and social care businesses based and carried on in England and/or Wales.

Brunswicks LLP accepts no liability whatsoever for any act done or not done in reliance upon anything read in this publication. Liability is excluded to the fullest extent permitted. Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority.

Data Protection Act

Brunswicks LLP will process (gather, use, store etc.) your personal information in our email database in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. The information may be disclosed to other Brunswicks' associated businesses to, for example, update you on new products or provide updates and briefings which we think might be of relevance to you. The information will not be disclosed to any other organisation, unless we have an obligation to do so.

If you want your details removed from our database please click [here](#) and type "Remove".

Subscription

If you no longer wish to receive this publication please click [here](#) and type "Stop".