### Attendees:

*Programme Development Group (PDG) Members:* Dennis Simpson, Sue Wressell, Janet Rich, Sophie Boswell (10th July), Helen Mason, Efén Johnson, Carol Green, Helen Chambers, Caroline Cuckston, Harriet Ward, Jade Blake, Gina Gardiner, Geoffrey Skinner, Sarah Byford, Douglas Simkiss, Delma Hughes, Sue Revell, Mandy de Waal, Kim Golding, Colin Thompson, Valerie King, Rhian Stone, Kim Bown, Jayne Ludlam, Susan Lane, Paula Conway, Mandy de Waal.

*Cooptees:*

*Expert witnesses:* Jenny Sprince

*SCIE:* Mary Sainsbury, Sheila Fish.

*NICE:* Simon Ellis, Catherine Swann, Sarah Dunsdon, Alastair Fischer, Peter Shearn, Linda Sheppard, Jane Cowl.

*Review teams and contractors:* SCARR - Roy Jones (9th July), Emma Everson (9th July), Alejandra Duenas (10th July), Lisa Hewitt-Craft (9th July), David Derbyshire (9th July), Juliet Rammage (9th July).

### Apologies:

*PDG Members:*

*SCIE:* Amanda Edwards

*Review teams:* Liddy Goyder (ScHARR).

### Authors

Sarah Dunsdon, Simon Ellis

### File Ref

Final minutes LAC 6 & 7

### Version

Final Minutes LAC 6 & 7

### Audience

PDG members, NICE team, the public (via web publication)
PDG 6 – Thursday 9th July

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Action</th>
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</table>
| **1. Welcome, Introductions and focus of the Meeting** | The Chair welcomed the group to the 6th and 7th meetings and outlined the objectives of the day:  
- To consider the evidence from Effectiveness Review 3 on ‘The effectiveness of interventions aimed at improving access to health and mental health services for looked after children and young people’  
- To hear presentations from PDG members and expert witnesses related to the theme of ‘systems’  
- To develop draft recommendations based on Effectiveness Review 3 and evidence about systems  
- To consider the evidence from the first stage of the practice survey (practitioners)  
The Chair also welcomed the expert witness Jenny Sprince who joined the group for the day. |
| **2. Declarations of interests** | The following interests were declared:  
**Personal pecuniary interest**  
Susan Lane  
Kim Golding  
Paula Conway  
Jane Asquith  
Jenny Sprince (expert witness) - obtains income from the provision of consultation to an organisation (therapeutic community) which works with looked-after children. In addition is director of an organisation, Placement Support, which provides consultancy to organisations (residential homes and agencies) as well as individual carers. Also, provides supervision to colleagues working as consultants to organisations.  
**Personal family interest**  
None  
Jenny Sprince (expert witness) - husband is a co-director of Placement Support  
**Non-personal pecuniary interest**  
Harriet Ward  
Paula Conway  
Roy Jones (review team)  
Gillian Schofield (expert witness)  
**Personal non-pecuniary interest**  
Sarah Byford  
Kim Golding  
Paula Conway |
Janet Rich  
Jenny Sprince (expert witness) - *advocate of consultancy in the field of child and adolescent mental health, has attended conferences and given papers on the subject.*

Paula Conway highlighted that she works with Jenny Sprince in another context.

The Chair judged that none of these represented a conflict of interest and so everyone could take full part in the meeting.

### 3. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes were agreed with no amendments.

**Matters arising:**
- It was noted that a family court judge will not be attending a future PDG meeting as preventing entry to care is outwith the scope. All other action points were completed except for the points listed below.

**Actions outstanding:**
- The two additional draft recommendations to be discussed during the two day meeting.
- PDG members to email Simon Ellis if they are interested in any of the PDG lead roles.

### 4. Effectiveness review 3: The effectiveness of interventions aimed at improving access to services

The ScHARR team presented the key findings from their third effectiveness review.

### 5. Effectiveness review 3: Questions of clarification

The PDG asked for clarification around the services in the general findings section and queried the applicability of the US studies.

### 6. Conceptual model and discussion – shaping the guidance

The Chair presented a framework for assisting with the development of recommendations.

The PDG made comments around:
- Representation on Children’s Trusts
- Promotion of best practice
- Events de-stabilising the system
- Relationships and contact between birth parents and children / foster carers
- Quality of service to be provided / quality of health assessments / quality of care provided
- Applicability in Wales
- Multi-agency working
- Regulation
- Positioning of NICE / SCIE guidance and related products
The following additions to the conceptual model were suggested:

- Pre-adoption
- Private fostering, pre-adoption and care leavers
- Supportive housing providers
- DH / DCSF
- CAMHS
- Youth Justice
- Voluntary / charitable organisations
- Senior managers
- Schools
- Birth families

**Action point:** Gina Gardner to identify other school guidance in development and liaise with Catherine Swann.

**Action point:** Conceptual model to be amended.

### 7. Systems: Presentations and discussion

**Working with complex systems**

Jenny Sprince gave a presentation on working with complex systems:

- Normal emotional development
- Impact of family breakdown on emotional development
- Impact on the carers and network: the importance of the consultant's intervention
- Holding the network together
- Some evidence of the effectiveness of specialist consultancy intervention and what the children say
- Organisational consultancy as an intervention

**Multiagency team for Looked After Children and Young People**

Sue Wressell gave a presentation on Aspire multiagency team for Looked After Children and Young People:

- Team members
- Context
- Functions of the team

**Care Planning**

Sue Lane gave a presentation on Care Planning:

- Legislation and guidance
- Care Plan requirements
- An effective care plan will
- Key role of Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO)
- Guiding Principles for Reviews
The PDG made the following comments:

- Memories and a personal narrative/history are key
- Contact is important
- Working with the birth family is critical
- Plans / templates are variable across authorities – a common template for care plans would be useful
- Reviewing - it would be good to make the reviews more child friendly
- IRO experience – corporate parent should be present for the child
- Care planning – importance of having a good plan early on
- Support and understanding are critical
- Length of time in care to be considered
- Outcomes are not adequately analysed


Chris Skelcher gave a presentation on making sense of performance problems in public organisations:

- Performance trajectories
- Cognition, capability, capacity
- Knowledge processes – absorptive capacity
- Analysing knowledge problems
- Policy and practice questions

The PDG asked questions and focused discussions around:

- Using the matrix to build detail into the recommendations.
- Using the model for talking about knowledge acquisition
- Influencing and impacting on the Children’s Trusts
- Applying the model to virtual organisations
- Focusing on the objectives of the guidance.

9. Developing recommendations: Systems

The PDG made preliminary recommendations in small groups, based on the evidence from the morning session.

10. Practice survey – interim report

Lisa Hewitt-Craft gave an update on part one of the practice survey about practitioners views:

- Structures
- Delivery of care
- Activities and Interventions

The second part of the practice survey (with children and young people) is ongoing. The findings from will be reported back to the PDG in September 2009.
The PDG raised questions around:
- Asylum seekers and education
- Access to dentistry
- Children with disabilities
- Out of area placements
- Education and health provision
- Access to services
- Dedicated resources for LAC
- Timescales for accessing services
- Importance / status of life story
- Access to universal services
- Design of dedicated resources / services for LAC – importance of continuity
- Models of good practice should be considered
# PDG 7 – Friday 10th July

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Welcome, Introductions and focus of the meeting</th>
<th>The Chair welcomed the group to the second day of the meeting.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Declaration of Interests</td>
<td>No new declaration of interests were made.</td>
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<td>3. Plenary report back from previous day - systems</td>
<td>Feedback from groups</td>
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<td>Each group presented their recommendations. Key areas were:</td>
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<td>• Promoting emotional resilience</td>
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<td>• Consistency and stability in the workplace</td>
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<td>• Resource provision for LAC</td>
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<td>• Changing culture / time to build relationships</td>
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<td>• Training – relationship based</td>
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<td>• Language for framing guidance</td>
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<td>• Appropriate policies in place</td>
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<td>• Reflection of human dynamics of relationships played out in care</td>
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<td>• Impact of exposure of trauma</td>
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<td>• Reviews – child centred, role of SWOs and IROs</td>
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<td>• Record keeping</td>
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<td>• Shared responsibility</td>
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<td>• Support for relationships to work through difficulties</td>
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<td>• Multi-agency approach</td>
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<td>• Leadership &amp; dynamics with teams</td>
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<td>4. Discussion and consensus</td>
<td>The PDG discussed the following possible areas for recommendations:</td>
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<tr>
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<td>• Integrated children’s system</td>
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<td><strong>Action point:</strong> NICE / SCIE to contact the DCSF to find out the timelines for revising the Integrated Children’s System review.</td>
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<td>• Mechanisms to capture the child’s story</td>
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<td>• Educational outcomes / interpretation of data</td>
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<td><strong>Action point:</strong> Harriet Ward, Geoffrey Skinner and Sue Lane to look at issue of LAC data for building into considerations / research recommendations.</td>
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<td><strong>Action point:</strong> Colin Thompson to submit draft recommendations on leaving care to NICE / SCIE team.</td>
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<td>Additional comments were made on:</td>
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<td>• Corporate parenting</td>
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<td>• Age appropriate responsibilities</td>
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<td>• Risk taking / engagement</td>
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<td>• Health &amp; safety</td>
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<td>NICE / SCIE</td>
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<td>Harriet Ward, Geoffrey Skinner, Sue Lane</td>
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<td>Colin Thompson</td>
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</table>
Final minutes LAC 6 & 7 (9th and 10th July)

- Young people as facilitators of recommendations
- Ensuring outcome focused recommendations
- Monitoring the uptake of the NICE/SCIE guidance

The PDG discussed the room set up and arrangements for the next two day meeting.

**Action point:** NICE / SCIE to consider the arrangements for the next two day meeting.

### 5. Health economics

Alejandra Duenas updated the group on progress with the health economics work.

The PDG were asked to feedback on the assumptions in the model.

The PDG made the following comments:

- Lack of data a concern
- Population group used not appropriate
- Applicability of data questioned

**Action point:** Health economics to be discussed at September PDG meeting.

### 6. Review of experiences views and preferences

David Gough from EPPI presented their review of qualitative research about the experiences, views and preferences of children and young people who are/have been looked after.

The key findings covered:

- LACYP views
- Carers views
- Birth parents views

The strengths and limitations of the review were highlighted.

The PDG made the following comments:

- Focus on raising the profile of young people in care
- Child being able to make sense of past
- Motivations of people becoming involved in foster care / perceptions to children
- Attachment styles / theory
- Matching foster carers and children
- Recruitment problems with carers
- Contact with birth parents / negotiating conflict
- Consultation with children re their experiences of placements
- Foster care homes and regulation
- Creating the conditions for attachment / bonding
- Characteristics of feedback for carers and children /
<table>
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<tr>
<th>delivery of feedback</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Developing recommendations: Qualitative review</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The PDG made preliminary recommendations in small groups.</td>
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<td><strong>Summary of the day</strong></td>
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<td>The Chair summarised the two days.</td>
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<td><strong>Action point:</strong> NICE / SCIE to update the draft recommendations.</td>
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<td>NICE / SCIE</td>
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