Multi-Agency Safeguarding Training
The WMP is organising a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Training Day which aims to inform frontline practitioners of how to identify and address key safeguarding issues.
Date: 20th July 2012, time: 9.30am - 4.30pm, Venue: Welsh Government Offices, Rhydyfard Business Park, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 1UZ
Topics to be covered include:
- Female Genital Mutilation Karen Jewell (Consultant Midwife, Cardiff and Vale UHB) and Cardiff LSCB
- Honour-based violence Shereen Williams, Henna Foundation
- Domestic Abuse Karen Jewell
- Trafficking/promoting SERAF Risk and Harm assessment (speaker to be confirmed)
- Spirit possession Norbert Mbu-Mputu (writer, journalist and former United Nations worker in the Democratic Republic of Congo.)
- Vulnerability to Radicalisation and Extremism Pat Nolan (South Wales Police) and Vince Donovan (South Wales Police)
For further details on the training please contact Zsanett Shashaty on 02920 909542. Further information on this training will be available nearer the time from WMP.

Safeguarding Children: Child exploitation through the use of juju and witchcraft
ECPAT UK provides a range of learning and development events on safeguarding children from all forms of exploitation and trafficking for all practitioners who work with or make decisions about children.
Dates:
10th July - event reference number: 100712
11th September - event reference number: 110912
11th October - event reference number: 111012
Cost: £75 per participant (includes refreshments/light lunch/event materials)
For more information and details on how to book click here

Diary Marker Wales Migration Conference December 11th 2012
Confirmed Speakers; Don Flynn MRN, Professor Heaven Crawley Centre for Migration Policy Research, Jane Farleigh Regional Director UK Border Agency.
Further information on this conference will be available nearer the time from WMP.
Refugee Week Wales - June 18th-24th

To celebrate Refugee Week Wales 2012, Young People Speak Out are hosting a rehearsed reading of Asylum Monologues, followed by a panel discussion on issues affecting refugees and asylum seekers young people. Asylum Monologues is a script about the experiences of young people seeking sanctuary in Britain and will be performed by the London-based theatre company Ice&Fire, as part of their outreach programme Actors for Human Rights. Asylum Monologues will take place on Friday 22nd June 2012, between 6:00pm and 8:00pm, at the Cardiff Story Museum, The Old Library, The Hayes, Cardiff.

For more events taking place in Wales during Refugee Week please visit the link below;

Human Trafficking - Modern Slavery

Wednesday 4th July 5.30 for 6.00pm Forum @ Morgan Cole Lounge, SWALEC STADIUM, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff CF11 9XR

The Children and Young People’s Research Network (CYPRN) call for abstracts for the upcoming joint annual conference

The Children and Young People’s Research Network is pleased to announce the CYPRN’s Annual Conference 2012 to be held in partnership with the Academic Paediatrics Association (GBI). The event will take place at the SWALEC Stadium in Sophia Gardens, Cardiff on Friday 5th October 2012. Together the CYPRN and APA are now accepting submissions of abstracts in any area of research relating to children and/or young people. The conference committee welcomes abstracts from those at all stages of their research career, especially from those in the early stages.

Please complete the abstract form and conference booking form below and submit by email to bartone2@cardiff.ac.uk
Please telephone Emma Barton on 029 2074 3764 with any queries.
The closing date for paper abstracts is 31st July 2012.

Child Poverty Conference - Transforming children’s lives; the role of cultural organisations in tackling child poverty

A one day conference at National Museum Cardiff (sponsored by Welsh Government) 17th July to discuss how cultural organisations can help to tackle child poverty. Amongst the speakers will be Huw Lewis, Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage; Keith Towler, Children’s Commissioner for Wales and David Anderson, Director General of Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales.
The conference will be free to attend - The National Museum will issue further details soon.
http://www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/cardiff/
Commonwealth Migration: learning from the past, anticipating the future
Date: 14th June, Time: 6:30pm - 9pm, Venue: Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS, Thornhaugh Street, London WC1H 0XG. This event is free, to register please visit; http://commonwealthmigration.eventbrite.co.uk/?ebtv=C

Human Trafficking in the 21st Century – Challenges and Opportunities
Date: July 5th 2012 Venue: University of the West of England, Bristol This timely conference addresses various aspects of this global phenomenon, including recent developments and the threat of recent trafficking posed by the London Olympics. For more information, including how to book and how to submit research papers for consideration for inclusion, see the conference website here.

Refugee Council Conference 2012 - booking now
The annual conference 'Working with separated children in the asylum system' will be held on October 10th 2012 in London. Time: 10.00 (registration from 9.30) – 17.00 Venue: KPMG, Canary Wharf, London The conference will include guest speakers and practical expert sessions. Speakers include Lisa Killham, UKBA Children’s Champion & Prof Ravi Kohli, Prof of Child Welfare, University of Bedfordshire. To book a place please visit; http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/eventsandtraining/conferences/2012Conference

UK Border Agency

Work of the UK Border Agency (August-December 2011)
House of Commons Home Affairs Committee, April 2012
The committee urged the UK Border Agency to publish full information regarding the ‘gentleman’s agreement’ between the UK and France and any similar bilateral agreements. View article.

Scraping family visitor appeal rights will save millions
Foreign nationals refused a visa for a short visit to see family members in the UK will lose the full right to appeal the decision in the courts, saving tens of millions of pounds and freeing up tribunals to deal with more serious cases. View article

Removing full right of appeal for family visitors
A clause in the Crime and Courts Bill, will remove the full right of appeal for those applying to enter the UK as a family visitor. View article

Validity of Albanian non-biometric passports for UK visa applications
Due to rule changes recently introduced by the Albanian government, non-biometric Albanian passports are no longer accepted for travel outside Albania. View article
Pre-entry screening for migrants to tackle tuberculosis in the UK
A pre-entry tuberculosis (TB) screening programme for applicants wishing to come to the UK will be extended to 67 high incidence countries over the next 18 months, including Chad. UKBA will not implement the programme in Chad until 2013.
View article

Summer 2011 interns exempt from Tier 2 cooling off period
Students who worked as interns in the UK last summer and want to return to a graduate job with the same company are now temporarily exempt from ‘cooling off’ rules. Cooling off rules, introduced to Tier 2 (General) in February this year, mean those who have left Tier 2 need to wait a year from the end of their last application before they can apply again through that route. This is similar to the arrangements we put in place for intra-company transfers last year.
View article

Processing of visa applications made in Greece from 11 June 2012
From 11 June 2012 visa applications submitted in Athens, Greece will be decided at the UK Border Agency’s regional processing centre in Belgrade.
View article

Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act
The bill received Royal Assent on 1 May and thus became law. The changes contained in the Act will not affect legal aid for asylum cases or detention cases, but the Act will remove legal aid for immigration cases, including children’s immigration cases. Important changes to the original bill were made during its passage through Parliament, including keeping legal aid for victims of trafficking and retaining the ability to bring areas of law back into the scope of legal aid without the need for further primary legislation. A Lords amendment to retain legal aid in all children’s cases was reversed when it returned to the House of Commons on 17 April 2012.
View article.

New Welsh Government Mental Health Strategy Consultation
For info, please see below link:
Children entering detention held solely under Immigration Act powers March 2012
Monthly management information on children entering detention, held solely under Immigration Act powers. The figures are based on management information and are not subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics. For further information Statistics

Home Office: Immigration statistics - January to March 2012
Home Office: Monthly asylum application tables - March 2012

All Change: Preventing Trafficking in the UK
Anti Trafficking Monitoring Group, May 2012
The report is based on an analysis of preventative measures put in place in the UK between April 2009 and June 2011. It finds the absence of a coherent prevention strategy and fragmented coordination of anti-trafficking efforts. Read the report here.

Appeal for more human trafficking prosecutions
Northern Ireland’s public prosecutors must do more to bring successful prosecutions against those involved in human trafficking.
View article

A small fashion company based in South Wales has big ambitions to tackle the issue of slavery with ethical clothing
A few years ago ‘No More Slaves’ founder, Charlie Blake, went to a lecture about human trafficking. By the time he left, Charlie had been made aware of the scale and injustice of what is now the second most prevalent crime in the world.
View article.

Just Enough for the Real World Live
The spectacular ‘Just Enough for the Real World’ live music show at The Arcola Theatre, Dalston was created to highlight the issue of human trafficking and is fully backed by actress Emma Thompson. Just Enough Ltd is a non-profit organisation whose primary aim is to eliminate modern day people trafficking and slavery. They have worked with local authorities, companies, charities, and schools and been involved with many campaigns related to trafficking. Inspiration comes from happiness, not misery. So their goal is to raise awareness of trafficking issues and to deliver their message in a positive and fun way.
View article.
Info 4 Care Kids website launch
SCIE’s new website, Info 4 Care Kids, provides information on how to survive and thrive in care by offering practical tips from life choices, independent living, staying in touch with family and friends, keeping healthy - through to bullying support, job searching, and coping mechanisms.
Website

Munro progress report on child protection
Professor Eileen Munro has reported on the progress made in the last year in implementing her recommendations on child protection. The report calls for an acceleration of reforms but also recognises progress made, including SCIE’s work on learning together.
View report

Annual report 2011 on Harmondsworth Immigration Removal Centre
Independent Monitoring Board, April 2012
The IMB highlighted concerns about ‘the slow response of Hillingdon Social Services to requests for age assessments’ and the holding of age-disputed young people in the prison-style induction wing (Fir), which is an ‘unsatisfactory place for them’. View article.

Projects/research to safeguard BME children
The Race Equality Foundation are currently seeking recent research (from the last 5 years) or projects/organisations working to safeguard BME children. In particular, examples relating to;
- Spirit possession and witchcraft
- Forced Marriage
- Domestic Violence, including Honour-based Violence
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Drugs/substance abuse (including ‘culturally specific’ examples such as khat use)
- Disproportionate use of discipline

Please contact Kat Nower, Information Officer, Race Equality Foundation.
Tel: 01618 399799, Email: katherine@racefound.org.uk Website.

Refugee children missing out on legal advice
Professionals who work with refugee and migrant children are struggling to access legal advice on behalf of young clients, research by the Coram Children’s Legal Centre has found. View article.

Immigration rules leave thousands of children destitute, Oxford University finds
Thousands of children living in the UK without legal immigration status are at risk of destitution and exploitation because of contradictory rules and regulations, a report by the University of Oxford has claimed.
View article.

The Independent - Children held at Heathrow in 'disgraceful' conditions
The UK Border Agency is detaining children in ‘degrading and disgraceful’ conditions at Heathrow airport, according to the Independent Monitoring Board for Heathrow View article
New Scientist - With no paper trail, can science determine age?
Attempts to assess age with x-ray scans of teeth or wrists are doomed to failure, according to work to be published in the British Medical Bulletin
View article

No Way Out, No Way In: Irregular migrant children and families in the UK
COMPAS research report, May 2012
This report, by Dr Nando Sigona and Vanessa Hughes of the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society at the University of Oxford, examines the conflicting government policies governing the protection of children's rights and immigration to the UK. Read the report here.

Other new resources that focus on children include:
- "This article reviews evidence about the impact of immigration detention and other restrictive immigration policies on the mental health of children, young people and the adults who care for them."

"Children and Young People who are Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons or Survivors or Perpetrators of War, Mass Violence and Terrorism," Current Opinion in Psychiatry, Advance Access, 7 May 2012
- "This article draws upon articles published since 2009 to identify research evidence about the psychosocial aspects of children and young people’s responses to their exposure to war, collective violence and terrorism."

"Medical, Statistical, Ethical and Human Rights Considerations in the Assessment of Age in Children and Young People Subject to Immigration Control," British Medical Bulletin, Advance Access, 14 May 2012
- "The article reviews the existing evidence on the reliability of medical and non-medical techniques for the assessment of chronological age."

Not a Minor Offence: Unaccompanied Children Locked Up as Part of the Asylum System (Refugee Council, May 2012)
This report discusses the situation of children detained as part of the asylum process because a decision has been made to treat them as adults. It explains how the Refugee Council Children’s Section helps these young people to get out of these harmful situations and includes examples of young people who have been detained and found to be children. The report makes recommendations for policy and practice to improve the situation for other young people.
http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/policy/briefings/2012/18052012Notaminoroffence

Kent prepares for possible child asylum seeker influx
Kent County Council is preparing for a possible increase in the number of child asylum seekers entering the UK through Dover during the London 2012 Olympics.
It has postponed the closure of a centre for unaccompanied children seeking asylum because of fears more illegal immigrants could attempt to enter the country with the extra visitors for the Games.
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-18123048

The Migrant Children’s Project has published a new report, ‘Navigating the System: Advice provision for young refugees and migrants’. The report looks at the complex administrative and legal processes that separated children have to navigate and the range of professionals who can offer advice and guidance to them. Drawing on
interviews with practitioners and cases from the Coram Children’s Legal Centre’s work with migrant children, the report finds that many legal advice and support services are under strain, facing serious financial challenges and an uncertain future, putting these children and young people at risk. View the Full Report or Report Summary here. 
http://www.seekingsupport.co.uk/images/navigating_the_system_final.pdf

The 'Ground with the Least Clarity': A Comparative Study of Jurisprudential Developments relating to 'Membership of a Particular Social Group' UN High Commissioner for Refugees, April 2012
This paper examines the interpretation of the Refugee Convention ground of ‘particular social group’, including children as a particular social group. View article

Black minority groups more likely to receive extra days in custody
More than 1,800 days of additional punishment have been handed out at Ashfield YOI in Bristol over more than two years, with young people from black minority groups more likely to be reprimanded, statistics released in parliament have revealed. The figures show that between January 2010 and the end of April 2012, 269 cases involving a breach of prison rules were considered by district judges - the independent adjudicators. View article

Crime and Courts Bill aims to reduce immigration appeal rights
The Crime and Courts Bill, announced in the Queen’s Speech last week as a part of the coalition government’s legislative programme for the next Parliament, will be aiming to reduce immigration appeal rights in two areas. The Bill received its first reading in the Commons on 10th May. The first reading in the Lords will take place on 28th May. The text of the Bill can be downloaded from the Parliament website.

When immigration policy delivers yet more blows to the disabled community
Poverty and disability are bad enough, but add ethnicity and immigration status into the mix and it all gets worse. A new report signposts some of the issues we should be concerned about, but we need even more evidence if we are to produce better policies. View article

Australia: Psychiatrists Identify 'Asylum Seeker Syndrome'
A group of Australian psychiatrists has identified a new mental illness syndrome unique to asylum seekers. It was identified after studying the mental health of asylum seekers and refugees living in Melbourne. Major depression was diagnosed in more than 60 per cent of asylum seekers and about 30 per cent of refugees. Psychiatrists say the latest evidence shows asylum seekers should be allowed to live in the community to improve their wellbeing. View article

European Convention on Human Rights (Immigration)
The Government are considering responses to the public consultation on changes to the family migration rules carried out last year, and expect to announce the results shortly. This will include changes relating to article 8. View article
**Cruel cuts**
A new report in Britain's Sunday Times newspaper claims that 100,000 women in the UK have had their genitals damaged, usually according to traditional Islamic practices. Police are now investigating a Bristol imam for advocating female circumcision to a reporter working undercover. The right-wing press has seized upon the story as a chance to paint Muslims as "barbaric"; but the real scandal is the British authorities' inertia over this cruel and criminal practice.
Avaaz member Ruth Burnett has created a petition calling on the Home Secretary to start prosecuting people involved with these assaults.
Sign the petition [here](#).

**Safeguarding girls at risk of Female genital mutilation**
The Department of Health has published a letter from the Chief Medical Officer and the Director of Nursing calling for all health care professionals to familiarise themselves with the actions they should take if they have reason to believe a girl is at risk of, or has undergone, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).
[Download publication](#).

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**Project Manager FareShare Cymru**
Location: Cardiff, Salary: Up to £32,000, depending on experience, Contract Type: Permanent, Hours: Full-time. **Closing Date: 20th Jun 2012**
Visit the [website](#) for more details.

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**WCVA funding news:**
[http://e2.ma/message/pngkc/92xj6c](#)

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**National taskforce to end the problem of 'beds in sheds'**
A new national taskforce will be set up to tackle the issue of "beds in sheds" by taking action against criminal landlords and removing illegal immigrants.
On Monday 30 April, Housing Minister Grant Shapps and Immigration Minister Damian Green will hold the first in a series of cross-Whitehall summits with representatives from the police, the UK Border Agency and local government.
[View article](#).
**Voters' verdict: Immigration not as important as the economy, Europe, or taxes**
Election junkies in the UK and Europe have had a satisfying fix over the last couple of weeks. One lesson from France for all the mainstream parties is that immigrant bashing only gets you so far but not over the finishing line.
[View article](#)

**Centre Left debates – the numbing familiarity of apparently new approaches to immigration**
Parties of the centre left should get a firmer grip on immigration and withhold rights from all those who fail to integrate argues an important new book on the future of social democracy. Isn’t that exactly what social democratic parties have been doing when in government in recent past decades?
[View article](#)

**Student visa changes may hit Welsh universities**
Education Minister Leighton Andrews is “very concerned” Welsh universities will struggle to attract international students because of the UK government’s immigration policy.
[View article](#)

**Immigration: Damian Green rejects call to exempt foreign students from figures**
The government is on course to meet its immigration targets without “fiddling” the figures to exempt foreign students, minister Damian Green has said.
[View article](#)

Sources for the bulletin include:

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