

From: dialogue <news@dialogueltd.co.uk>
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To: Jen Bean
Subject: dialogue - July 2025 - Residential Care Bulletin



Residential Care Bulletin July 2025

dialogue offers lots of support to the residential sector, we regularly review the latest research and publications, and offer a huge variety of training courses to support you and your teams.

In this edition:

- **Baroness Casey Review** - inquiry into group-based child sexual exploitation and abuse
- **Free webinars on serious incidents** - for Children's Homes and Supported Accommodation staff
- **Be part of the residential child care community for Children's Homes** - meetings every Wednesday 1-2pm
- **Update from the Children's Commissioner** - launch of the Youth Voices Forum
- **Inspection Top Tips bulletin** – our weekly bulletin with analysis from live inspection data and suggestions for improvement, together with links to our weekly sessions

- **Understanding the reforms in Children's Social Care** - research paper
- **July training highlight – Safeguarding Supervision**, next course starting on 18th September
- **Cyberstalking and healthy relationships** – BBC investigation
- **Excellent training** for your independent person, safeguarding lead, RI, NI, RSM, RM and staff.



Baroness Casey's audit of group-based child sexual exploitation and abuse

Baroness Casey is livid, and rightly so. She talks of a wasted decade in addressing the serial, gang rape and sexual assault of the most vulnerable children in our society who are coerced and beaten into submission. She recognises the lifelong mental and physical impact of these experiences, the pain and perceived shame of not being believed forever shaping young people's memories, families, and on-going experiences of the criminal justice system while the professionals rarely acknowledge these failures and are never held accountable. She recognises our fear of creating divisions in our communities has prevented us from identifying patterns around the ethnicity and misogyny that leads predominantly young women to be abused by men, and that there is some evidence to suggest there are a disproportionate number of Asian men involved in group-based child sexual exploitation.

In aligning herself with the victims of these appalling crimes Baroness Casey holds a mirror up to all of us working with children and young people. What we have done is not enough!

Action must be taken - Baroness Casey senses the public mood that the experience of children and limited action taken to protect them will be "jaw dropping", yet less than 10 hours after the publication of the report this news item is sixth or seventh in the news in three quarters of newspaper websites sampled. The Government have accepted all the recommendations, but what will the resultant inquiry look like? How long will it take? How effective will it be? Baroness Casey herself describes her shock at her own failure, 10 years on from her inquiry in Rotherham, that the changes she assumed would happen have not taken place. While Baroness Casey does point to increased reporting from schools, the proportion of children on child protection plans for sexual abuse and the reporting of child sexual exploitation for safeguarding practice reviews has gone down.

So, what should we do now? Baroness Casey reminds us to treat children as children. We should follow our existing legislation which is clear where we suspect a child has experienced, or is likely to experience, sexual abuse we should follow our child protection procedures. Whether the risk of abuse is current or historical, we should report this to our DSL, we should expect and insist that a strategy discussion is held. Yvette Cooper notes that she expects more than 1,000 historical cases are expected to be subject to formal review by the Police. Where we raise a concern we should ensure that action is taken to investigate and prevent further abuse or properly allay our concerns. If we are not satisfied that children are safe, we must escalate these concerns. And when it feels too huge and too difficult (which it will), we bear in mind those young people, now adults, who have battled the system and, like Baroness Casey, we should align ourselves with them and are ardent on their behalf.

[Read the statement here](#)

FREE webinars on serious incidents

There's a duty on providers to notify Ofsted of serious incidents, but when is serious "serious"?

Back by popular demand, our FREE 1-hour bite-size sessions explore the regulation, draws on experience and additional clarifications, and follows the process through from incident to evidencing the learning required for good practice in difficult times.

We run a session on Regulation 27 notifications for Supported Accommodation Providers and a separate session on Regulation 40 notifications for Children's Homes. Please see full details below to register to join one of these FREE sessions.

You can register to attend one of our free sessions, using the buttons below...

Children's Homes Reg40 on 10th September

Supported Accommodation Reg27 on 30th September



2025 Membership for Residential Care

Our membership offer for Children's Homes runs weekly meetings every Wednesday 1-2pm.

The sessions are getting great feedback and there's lots to cover!

Coming up...

- **9th July** - our fortnightly update session with inspection top tips, research, regs and responses to member queries.
- **16th July - 'Social Pedagogy'** - Emmanuel Akpan-Inwang will be joining us to consider how values, holistic learning, and positive experiences can support the well-being of children in care and improve their outcomes.
- **23rd July** - our fortnightly update session with inspection top tips, research, regs and responses to member queries with John Woodhouse and Brian Smith.
- **30th July - 'Safeguarding Supervision'** - Kat Aukett will be joining us to deliver a bite-size training session on Safeguarding Supervision and what this means in practice for the teams you support.

You'll find more membership benefits on our site...

- **Individual members £99+vat.**
- **Whole home membership £395+vat.**
- **Whole organisation membership** get in touch for a quote.

Members' log in here

Find out more & join dialogue today



Children's Commissioner launches Youth Voices Forum

The Youth Voices Forum is for any child across England aged over 13, and was launched by the Children's Commissioner at the end of June. Parents and people who work with children can also sign up.

Every month members of the forum will receive newsletters sharing the work of our office.

Young people and parents/carers will have the chance to take part in [The Big Conversation Survey](#) where they can tell me what they think needs to change to make England the best place to be a child.

They can also get their friends and peers to take part by having their say in The Big Conversation Survey and [signing up to join the Youth Voices Forum](#).

These ideas feed into the policy and research work conducted by the Children's Commissioner's office.

The forum will also share opportunities from government departments and other public bodies for young people to have their say around issues that may affect them. For example, the Children's Safety Code which has been developed by Ofcom to try to make the internet safer for young people.

This will give more young people the chance to share their views about the issues they care about from mental health to education and the SEND system to knife crime and the future of science across England – with the aim of influencing work and shaping the direction of government policy.



Inspection Top Tips

Our team are combing inspection reports every week for key themes and issues. We've been talking to providers about what you find useful and we'll now be highlighting elements that Ofsted identify as great practice, and flagging some of the pitfalls, together with ideas to think about for your setting.

In the last 4 weeks we covered:

- Partnership working
- Impact of low staff numbers on leadership
- Planning for moving on
- Regulation 40 notifications

All the resources and back catalogue are available in the [members' area](#)

Children's social care reforms

Four key themes that we argue could be considered in the design of regulatory systems and further research in this area. These include:

- (1) balancing the enforcement of minimum standards against support for service improvement;
- (2) improving worker autonomy and relationship building with children and young people;
- (3) addressing unresolved debates regarding minimum qualification and ongoing training requirements – the paper highlights the importance of aiming high (a possible example

for staff might be the weekly dialogue membership group);
and
(4) a stronger focus on organisational cultures and leadership within children's residential homes and care home groups

[Read the research paper](#)

[Find out more & join dialogue today](#)



Safeguarding Supervision training

Our Safeguarding Supervision training helps structure and approach supervision using an established supervision model to empower staff and focus on the experience and progress of young people.

Designed by highly experienced senior managers, the course addresses key dilemmas in balancing the needs of the organisation, the employee and the young people to create a different kind of conversation which both supervisees and supervisors find effective.

Course Outcomes:

Supervisors will:

- Understand the principles behind supervision models
- Recognise and apply reflective supervision
- Undertake dynamic risk assessment during supervision

- Create clear, focused and reviewable plans and actions

This two-day course, is suitable for Children's Homes and Supported Accommodation staff and costs £264+vat, reduced to **£199+vat for members**.

Our next training dates, being delivered virtually over four 3-hour sessions, are running on the following dates:

9:30am-12:30pm on 18th & 25th September and 2nd & 9th October 2025

You can read full details and make a booking for these dates by clicking on the button below or by contacting one of our team at **admin@dialogueltd.co.uk**

[Read more on healthy relationships training](#)

Cyberstalking and healthy relationships

Monitoring, constant checking of messages and for an instant response all build very unhealthy models of relationship that can quickly lead to coercion and control.

How are we intervening in our settings?

[Read the BBC article](#)

[Find out more on our healthy relationships training](#)

Upcoming Training Courses

Face to face training, virtual, at your setting or in our venue, we're ready to support you and your team.

Here's some of our upcoming courses, to see a full range of courses and memberships, please chose from the relevant options below:

training for Residential Care

training for Supported Accommodation Providers

Young People going missing (on 5th September)

MCA and LPS (on 9th September)

Safeguarding Supervision (starting on 18th September)

Safeguarding Lead (starting on 24th September)

RI training (starting on 25th September)

Online Safety (on 30th September)

Directors, the Board and Safeguarding (on 30th September)

Regulation 44 and Standard 3 (starting on 2nd October)

Reg45 Quality Review (on 3rd October)

(Children's Homes) Managing the Inspection Process (on 6th October)

Dynamic Risk (on 7th October)

Managing Allegations (starting on 7th October)

Safer Recruitment training (starting on 12th November)

Want training on something else?

For a full list of training topics to support the residential sector, please visit www.dialogueltd.co.uk/residential

We also design bespoke courses to meet the needs of you and your staff. Do get in touch to discuss.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Jen Bean
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Who are we?

dialogue provides training, coaching & mentoring, consultancy, safeguarding audits and independent visiting services for children's homes, residential schools and supported living providers. We prefer to work closely with you to identify areas of need and devise bespoke packages that demonstrably improve the lives of young people in your care. Training for managers, residential workers and other staff includes supervision, safeguarding, care planning & analysis, recording and much more.

[Click here](#) for more information.

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