



Child and Adolescent Health and Well-being: Confronting Parental Alcohol Misuse and its Effect on Children

A Public Policy Exchange Symposium

Thursday 10th November 2011

10:15am – 4:30pm

Central London

Public Policy Exchange, in association with the Centre for Parliamentary Studies, holds regular interactive seminars which provide an invaluable interface for policy discussion, debate and networking. These special events offer local practitioners, civil servants and other stakeholders not only an insight into current policy thinking, but also the opportunity to feed into future development across all areas of public policy.

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Child and Adolescent Health and Well-being: Confronting Parental Alcohol Misuse and its Effect on Children

Overview

Over the years alcohol policy in the UK has been predominately shaped around the negative consequences of harmful drinking on an individual's health and behaviour, particularly amongst young people. However, due to its largely hidden nature, parental alcohol misuse has received little attention at a national or local level. Yet with over 2.6 million children in the UK living with hazardous drinkers and more than 8 million people affected by a family member's alcohol use, there is an urgent need to address the significant impact parental alcohol misuse has on children and childhood.

Resulting in an unstable and unsupportive household, neglect or even cruelty, parental alcohol misuse can cause a range of poor outcomes for a child, including: behavioural and long-term psychological problems, poor educational attainment, offending behaviour and the normalisation of substance misuse. Taking on a caring role within the family at an early age and suffering from guilt or isolation are also common in children of alcohol misusers. Although the impact of a parent's drinking problem will vary from family to family, with the right support the harm to a child can be significantly reduced. Increased awareness amongst the public and practitioners, alongside better training and resources for social workers, are vital for earlier intervention, whilst stronger partnership working and innovative commissioning is essential to delivering a joined-up, 'whole family' approach.

With the Government currently in the process of developing its alcohol policy, this special symposium offers an invaluable opportunity for social workers, education and health practitioners, third sector practitioners and key stakeholders to explore how best to confront parental alcohol misuse and safeguard children against its harmful consequences.

“The impact on children and childhood is significant. Children whose parents misuse alcohol can suffer a range of poor outcomes. These will vary according to the child's stage of development, but include behavioural and/or psychological problems, poor educational attainment, low self esteem, offending behaviour, exposure to sexual exploitation, domestic abuse, self harm and suicidal thoughts, as well the normalisation of substance misuse.”

- 'Swept under the Carpet' Report, Alcohol Concern and Children Society,
October 2010

“This report highlights the harm that millions of children face because their parents drink too much alcohol ... It paints a shocking picture, which is why we must make sure that we identify early on, children and families that need support.”

- Anne Milton MP, Public Health Minister, October 2010

Accommodation

Through our partnership with HotelMap, we are able to offer our delegates heavily discounted hotel rates at a wide range of London hotels. To view hotel availability and rates and to book online, visit www.HotelMap.com/M5NUZ/

Alternatively, if you would like to book your accommodation by phone, you can call **Daniel Spinner at HotelMap**, on **020 7292 2335** quoting **Special Reference Code M5NUZ**.



Why Attend?

- ✓ **Explore what strategic and practical steps must be taken at a national and local level to better tackle parental alcohol misuse**
- ✓ **Consider how to increase awareness and understanding of alcohol misuse amongst the public and practitioners**
- ✓ **Examine how to safeguard children against the harmful psychological impacts of parental alcohol misuse**
- ✓ **Discuss how to strengthen multi-agency working to deliver a holistic, 'whole family' approach**

Who Should Attend?

- Drug and Alcohol Action Teams
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Practitioners
- Teenage Pregnancy Teams
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Teams
- Early Years and Childcare Practitioners
- Children's Health Service Professionals
- Domestic Violence Co-ordinators
- Housing Officers and Associations
- Police Service, Police Authorities and Fire Services
- Probation Officers
- Families Services Officers
- Sure Start
- Directors of Children and Young People's Services
- Children's Trusts and Children's Centres
- Health Service Professionals
- Victim Support Representatives
- Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships
- Community Safety Teams
- Neighbourhood Policing Teams
- Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinators
- Youth Workers and Youth Offending Teams
- Community Support Officers
- Children and Youth Services
- Community Development Managers
- Social Exclusion and Neighbourhood Renewal Teams
- Social Workers and Social Services Officers
- Local Education Welfare Authorities
- Men's Health/Welfare Organisations
- Teachers and Head Teachers, Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators
- Looked-After Children Team Managers
- Fostering Team Managers and Agencies
- Criminal Justice Practitioners
- Judges and Magistrates
- Legal Professionals
- Third Sector Practitioners
- Local Authority Officers and Councillors
- Central Government Departments and Agencies

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Programme

09:30	Registration and Morning Refreshments
10:10	Chair's Welcome and Introduction
10:30	Panel Session One: Tackling Parental Alcohol Misuse – Working Towards an Holistic Alcohol Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building a National Picture – Where are We Now and Where Do We Need to Get To?• Raising Public and Practitioner Awareness and Understanding of the Risks of Parental Alcohol Misuse• Up-Skilling Practitioners – Improving Social Workers' Training and Access to Resources and Best Practice• Strengthening Joint Working and Innovative Commissioning to Deliver a Consistent, Whole-Family Approach• Working with Families to Shape the Design and Delivery of Services
11:15	Morning Refreshments
11:30	Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel One
12:30	Networking Lunch
13:30	Panel Session Two: Reducing the Harm of Parental Alcohol Misuse through Prevention and Early Intervention <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early Identification and Intervention – Recognising and Addressing the Needs of Families before Crisis Point• Reducing Harm – Safeguarding Children from Caring Roles, Poor Educational Attainment and Feelings of Guilt and Isolation• Reducing the Number of Frequent Parental Drinkers Unable to Fulfil 'Expected Parental Duties' through Guidance and Learning• Improving Information, Support and Practical Help for Parents• Breaking the Pattern of Generational Alcohol Misuse
14:15	Afternoon Refreshments
14:30	Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel Two
15:30	Chair's Summary and Closing Comments
15:40	Networking Reception
16:30	Close

Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice

Event Details

Date: Thursday 10th November 2011
Time: 10:15am – 4:30pm
Venue: Central London

Forthcoming Events

The New Early Years Foundation Stage:
Giving Every Child the Best Start in Life
27th September 2011

Tackling Violence Against Women and
Girls: Improving Responses to Rape and
Sexual Assault
28th September 2011

Health and Wellbeing in the Workplace:
Supporting Mental Health and Combating
Sickness Absenteeism
11th October 2011

The 2nd Annual Looked-After Children
Symposium: Improving Outcomes for
Vulnerable Young People
12th October 2011



Child and Adolescent Health and Well-
Being: Tackling Childhood Obesity
13th October 2011

Broken Britain? Working in Partnership to
Tackle Serious Youth Violence
18th October 2011

International Student Recruitment:
Understanding and Working with the
Points Based Immigration System
19th October 2011

The Waste Review 2011: Working Towards
a 'Zero Waste' Economy
19th October 2011

From Staycation to International
Destination: Growing the UK Visitor
Economy
20th October 2011

Tackling Hate Crime in Every Local
Community: Working in Partnership to
Confront Disability-Related Harassment
2nd November 2011

Working in Partnership to Transform Child
Protection: Delivering a Child-Centred
System
3rd November 2011

Sponsorship and Exhibition Opportunities

We offer a range of opportunities to enable your organisation to raise its profile and communicate with key decision makers in the public sector.

For further information please contact **Parvin Madahar** on **020 3137 8633** or email parvin.madahar@publicpolicyexchange.co.uk