

The Children Act 2004 - 20 years on, what's been the impact?

Welcome to our series of regular newsletters, bringing insight into the Children Act 2004, which turns 20 this year. During our special edition newsletters, we will be:

- Introducing a Special Guest Blog covering important pillars contained within the Children Act;
- Showcasing our insight on the guest blogger's theme - learning from the sector;
- Sharing details of other connected news and;
- providing details about some of our work and the support that we offer.

All of our work here at Shaping Governance centres around 'working together' to improve outcomes for children. This was a central pillar of the Act, emphasising the importance of partnership and cooperation among various agencies and professionals involved in child welfare.

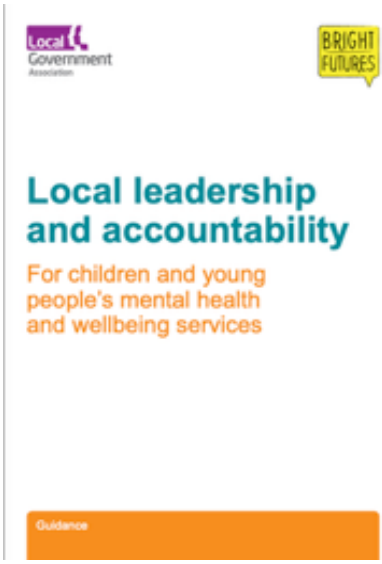
Our first in our series of blogs comes from Su Turner, our Chief Executive, highlighting some of the research into local CAMHs partnerships, timely given it's National Children's Mental Health Week.

Warmest regards,

The Shaping Governance Team



Guest Blog



Local Leadership and Accountability in Children's Mental Health

In 2018, I was honoured to work with ten local authorities to learn how they were leading local services to improve mental health. Using this insight, I authored a comprehensive guide for the Local Government Association (LGA), which launched its Bright Futures campaign and offered valuable insights into the role of local authorities in promoting mental well-being among the younger population. It also provides a helpful 'Think List' to help improve leadership.

In her blog, she reflects on this work, its relevance today, and also some of the useful tools it produced.

Other connected news



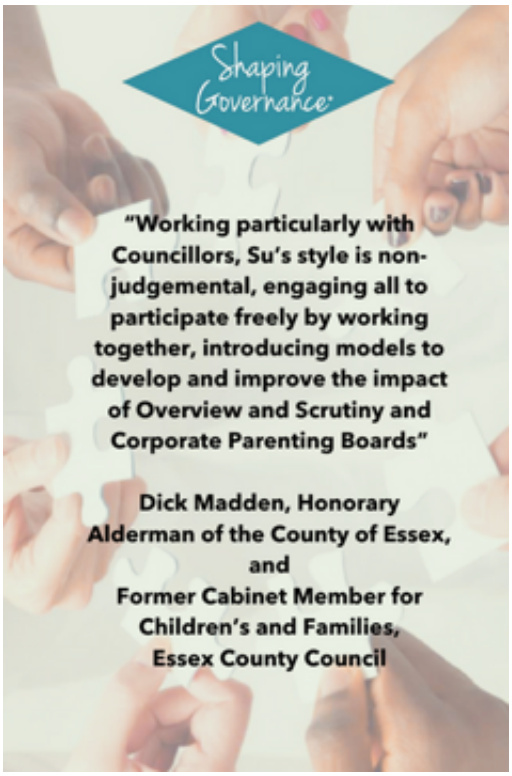
It's Children's Mental Health Week - take a look at some of the great support and articles.

With a Royal Patron, Place2Be is a children and young people's mental health charity providing counselling, mental health support, and training in UK schools. As you would expect, there are lots of interesting articles from them:

- Sesame Street's Elmo encourages children to 'Celebrate The Day' ahead of Children's Mental Health Week.
- Children's Mental Health Week: Stars offer advice on how young people can use their voice
- Children's Mental Health 2024 Resources

Family Hubs - press release from the Department of Education celebrating the fact that there are now 75 Family Hub Local Councils. This is great - but if you stick around long enough and we've been here before - think Sure Start!

How we support Schools and Councils on this important issue:

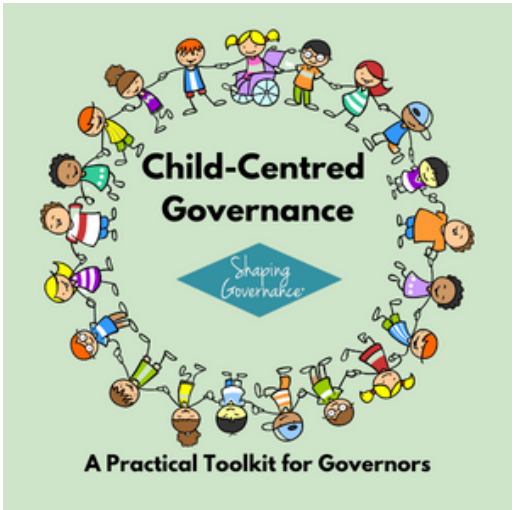


For Councils and Councillors we:

Provide support to Corporate Parenting Boards to improve governance and oversight and be part of the journey to improving outcomes for children in care. Our work helps all to understand what being a good corporate parent means and practical ways to carry the role out, and caring for the wellbeing of their children.

Provide Overview and Scrutiny Committees with the skills and knowledge to improve the way that they challenge and support - being child-centred. Our approach has been praised by Secretaries of State, and we have also been called Agents of Change!

We use appreciative approaches to help Councillors to think differently and to use this new angle to be part of improving outcomes for children.



For Schools and Academies we:

For schools, we support Governing Boards to know how to ensure that their school is promoting the wellbeing of its pupils and its staff.

Our appreciative approaches support a change in the conversation, so that we move to focus on assets and opportunities rather than problems.

Our ethos is always a glass-half-full.



Shaping Governance - here to help

Interested about finding out more about how we can help you to improve your governance - get in touch using the button below.

Contact us



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