

Peak Accountancy Training

Safeguarding Newsletter | March 2023 | Issue 29



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Introduction

Welcome to this month's edition of Safeguarding News. The incredibly sad news this month about Ruth Perry - the headteacher who took her own life whilst waiting for an Ofsted report that would downgrade her school has, I'm sure touched everyone. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the family of Ruth Perry, who was a dedicated and passionate individual.

We have at Peak recently experienced our first full Ofsted inspection. We are pleased to be able to say that our rating was 'Good' and I would just like to say thank you, to all of you who have helped us to achieve what we have - a provision of education and support that we are proud of. Let's just say that the experience, the process, and the pressures of the inspection have led us to question the way the inspection process is carried out, and the pressures it puts staff, apprentices, and employers under throughout. Unfortunately, despite our positive result, it was far from a positive experience.

Many of us will suffer varying degrees of pressure from work at different times, and I don't want to trivialise this editorial by referring to hints and tips on prioritising and having 'to do' lists.

But... please talk to people, share your thoughts, and if you need help, just ask.

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Article 1 – Missing People

I came across an article this month on missing people. The headline is quite startling that 170,000 people go missing in Britain each year. The figure itself is acknowledged to be a potential understatement. What drives people to just disappear? The UK's only dedicated charity to missing people has undertaken extensive research into the area. Most missing people do return, and most missing adults return within 2 days. The charity found that 94% of those interviewed cited poor mental health as a cause, while two thirds said that the experience of being missing had led to a further decline, whether through difficulties readapting to "regular" life or because of the impact of what they had experienced while away. You may be interested to read the following article from the Guardian ['Going missing wasn't a conscious choice' – why do some people just walk away from their lives? | Mental health | The Guardian](#)



Missing people has a lot of information and advice for people struggling, and those with thoughts of leaving home or disappearing: [Thinking of leaving - Missing People](#)

As with many situations surrounding mental health, just talking to someone can be an important first step.

Article 2 – Renting

Michael Gove on last Sunday's Laura Kuenssberg show said he will stop "unscrupulous" landlords who are raising their tenants' rent well above inflation. Cost of living rises affect everyone but some landlords have been increasing rents by as much as 20-30% to cover their own costs. At this level they have been accused of profiteering. "At the moment there's a situation where tenants can be evicted without any fault on their part," he said. Gove is wanting to pull forward rent reforms where 'no fault evictions' are abolished. These currently allow landlords to evict tenants with no reason.

Articles, just today highlight the issues with finding rentals at the moment with claims that available rental properties are down by a third. This isn't necessarily a result of lower overall numbers of rental property, but the increase in the level of demand and landlords not investing in more rental properties due to higher mortgage rates, tax changes and new regulations for rented properties.

You may be interested in reading the following articles which also provide useful information on your rights as a tenant:



[Renting: Number of UK homes available down by a third - BBC News](#)

[Your rights when you rent from a private landlord - Citizens Advice](#)

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Samaritans	Phone: 116 123 Website: www.samaritans.org
MIND (Mental Health)	Phone: 0300 123 3393 Text: 86463 Website: www.mind.org.uk
NHS (Urgent medical conditions)	Phone: 111
Emergency (Police, Fire, Ambulance)	Phone: 999
PREVENT (Suspicious activity, terrorism, radicalization)	Phone: 0800 789 321
RUN. HIDE. TELL. (Although terrorist attacks are very rare, we are not complacent about keeping you safe)	Website: www.npcc.police.uk/staysafe

Relevant links from the last six issues

Safety	Christmas safety - RoSPA Bartenders share the times customers used a 'safeword drink' to escape an unsafe situation. Someecards News 'Safe words' people can use in bars and clubs if they feel in danger or uncomfortable ITV News Central Advice - Cold Callers/Suspicious Activity - Cheshire Police Alert
Prevent	"Martyn's Law" - What you need to know ProtectUK
Men's Mental health	https://www.priorygroup.com/blog/40-of-men-wont-talk-to-anyone-about-their-mental-health
Scams	Take Five - To Stop Fraud To Stop Fraud (takefive-stopfraud.org.uk) Friends Against Scams - National Trading Standards (NTS) Scams Team initiative protecting and preventing people from becoming victims of scams
Sexual Health	https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/sexual-health/https://www.unaids.org/en/2022-world-aids-day https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/sexual-health/
Stoptober/ Vaping	https://www.nhs.uk/better-health/quit-smoking/ https://www.blf.org.uk/take-action/campaign-with-us/stoptober
Grief	www.cruse.org.uk Support and self-care for grief - Mind Get help with grief after bereavement or loss - NHS (www.nhs.uk)
Modern Slavery	Modern slavery and human trafficking - National Crime Agency The Issue — Human Trafficking Foundation
Disability Rights	Human Rights: Our Rights - Disability Justice Helplines Disability Rights UK

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Dementia

<https://www.alzheimersresearchuk.org/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/alzheimers-disease/>

<https://www.dementiauk.org/about-dementia/young-onset-dementia/>
