

Local Government Information Unit

News release

RELEASE IMMEDIATE: 30 July 2004

**Working with children**

Local Democracy think tank the Local Government Information Unit (LGIU) has published Children's Social Services, an introductory guide aimed at all those who work with children.

The Children Bill will mean major changes to the organisation of children's services. In each local authority there will be a new director covering education and children's social services and a Lead Member councillor for children's services. With the greater co-ordination envisaged between education, social services and other services working with children, Children's Social Services:

- \* Describes the main elements of children's social services in England
- \* Identifies some of the main links with education and other services
- \* Provides a glossary of frequently used terms and a range of useful references and sources for further information.

The guide will help all those employed in or responsible for education and other services who will be working more closely together with social services and other agencies. It will also be of use to school governors, staff in schools, elected members with an education brief and those in many agencies such as the police or in the health sector who will need a greater awareness of children's services.

Martin Rogers, Co-ordinator of The Education Network (TEN) at the LGIU, said: "The process of change that the Children Bill will bring requires many people to absorb a common language and develop a new understanding across services that work with children. This booklet will help that process."

ENDS

For further information contact:

Kevin Morton Tel. 020 7554 2858; Mobile 07958 314846; E mail [kevin.morton@lgiu.org.uk](mailto:kevin.morton@lgiu.org.uk)

Notes to Editors

1. Originally founded in 1983 to campaign against ratecapping, the Local Government Information Unit (LGIU) is Britain's foremost independent local democracy think tank, campaigning to extend local authority best practice, freedoms and responsibilities. The LGIU is working to influence the debate on local government modernisation. The LGIU and its sister organisations The Education Network (TEN) and the Democratic Health Network (DHN) provide research, policy briefings, information, advice, training and lobbying services to local authority

and trade union affiliates. Previous LGIU news releases and statements can be viewed at [www.lgiu.gov.uk](http://www.lgiu.gov.uk).

2. The printed version of Children's Social Services has been sent to all LGIU affiliate authorities and the PDF version can be downloaded from <http://www.steerbriefing.org.uk/ten/CSpamph.pdf>.

3. Christine Heron, the author of Children's Social Services, is a consultant for the LGIU. She is also Planning and Development Manager in Wirral Social Services and has written a number of books in the social services and health fields.