

Quarterly Political Summary

WELFARE AND BENEFITS

How the Autumn Statement changes the benefits system

On 3rd December Chancellor George Osborne announced a number of changes to the benefits and tax credits system. [Read more.](#) **Contact a Family**

Claim carers allowance online from today

The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) has launched a new online system for Carer's Allowance. [Read more.](#) **Disability Rights UK**

Smith Commission: Scottish devolved powers

The Smith Commission published its report detailing Heads of Agreement on further devolution of powers to the Scottish Parliament. [Read more.](#) **Disability Rights UK**

EDUCATION

New guidance on the new SEND Code of Practice

[The Family Information Service SEND Framework](#) and [Family Guide to Personalisation, Personal Budgets and Education, Health Care Plans](#) are new guidelines to support the personalisation agenda and the implementation of the Children and Families Act 2014. **Council for Disabled Children**

SENDirect

SENDirect is a website that provides a personalised service to help families find the support and information they need. [Find out more.](#) **The SEND Consortium**

DISABILITY

HemiHelp co-signs letter calling for a review of neurological services

HemiHelp has given its support to a letter sent to members of the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee calling for a further review of neurological services. The letter, which was organised by the Neurological Alliance and co-signed by 26 organisations working in the field of neurological conditions, sets out ongoing issues affecting neurological services and calls on the Committee to pursue its previous recommendation of a follow-up review of neurology in 2014-15. [Read the letter in full here.](#) **HemiHelp**

Find a parenting programme

Evidence-based parenting programmes are offered to parents/carers free of charge through their local Sure Start Children's Centres, their children's school or their health provider. [Find out more.](#)

Department for Education

Ideas for preparing for changes

Cerebra suggests practical ways to help ease children through the transitions in their lives. [Read more.](#) **Cerebra**

HEALTH

CAMHS report

In a report published in November, the Health Select Committee talks about many problems with child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS). It recommends a series of actions to improve commissioning arrangements and service provision. [Read more.](#) **Parliament UK**

Evidence briefing paper on children with learning disabilities whose behaviours challenge

The paper is supported by a data supplement and the methodology for estimating the number of children in England with learning disabilities and behaviours that challenge. [Read more.](#) **The Challenging Behaviour Foundation**

RESOURCES

Care Act – what is it?

The Care Act received Royal Assent on 14th May 2014. Disability Rights has produced a Care Act resource page. [Read more.](#) **Disability Rights UK**

Being Active Guide launched

A new guide released ahead of International Day for Disabled People gives disabled people access to relevant information, so they have control over where, what and how they can start being active. [Read more and download the free guide.](#) **English Federation of Disability Sport**