

[UK ambassador to Denmark: letter to UK nationals following Town Hall meeting](#)

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[Introducing the Government Data Quality Hub Team](#)



We're the Government Data Quality Hub, also known as the DQHub. You might have come across us under our old name, the Government Statistical Service Quality Centre. We've now expanded our remit and scope: our new mission is to work across government and beyond to help make data better.

What is the DQHub?

The DQHub is based in the Office for National Statistics. We are an evolution of the Quality Centre – a team that has been working with stats producers across government to improve the quality of their statistics. Now, our aim is to improve the quality of all types of data and analysis across government. We will do that by supporting organisations to better understand, communicate and improve the quality of their data and their analysis.

What will the DQHub be doing?

We have created a data quality framework which we'll be launching soon. It is drawn from best practice across government and the wider industry. Over the coming months, we will be producing guidance and training that supports public sector organisations in developing and strengthening their work in data quality. We will also be providing tailored support for government organisations to strengthen their data quality culture, identify areas to improve, or better understand the quality of their data.

Why is this needed?

Good quality data should be the foundation of everything we do in government. But we don't always know the quality of our data or take the most effective actions to deal with quality issues that arise. If we are to make good decisions, policies and services in government, we need data we can trust.

How do I work with the DQHub?

We will be sharing the products we create here on our site. If you want to work with us on a specific challenge, or if there is a product you think would be particularly helpful, please drop us an email at DQHub@ons.gov.uk or tweet us at [@DQHubUKGov](https://twitter.com/DQHubUKGov).

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[Operational Honours and Awards list November 2020](#)

News story

The latest Operational Honours and Awards List recognises the bravery, commitment and commendable service of service personnel within the military.



The serving personnel who have won from the array of awards and decorations have shown outstanding examples of courage and dedication to their work while on operation.

The service they have given to the country ensures that Britain remains ready to face intensifying threats at home and abroad.

The full list is below:

Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE)

- Colonel Marcus James MUDD
- Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE)
- Commander Suzy Helen CONWAY, Royal Navy
- Commander Richard Paul HEWITT, Royal Navy
- Colonel John Leslie BAYNHAM

Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE)

- Lieutenant Commander Ben Russell MARTIN, Royal Navy
- Major (now Acting Lieutenant Colonel) Philip O'CALLAGHAN, Royal Marines
- Lance Corporal Elham SEDEQI, The Parachute Regiment
- Staff Sergeant Jason Peter WILCOX, Intelligence Corps

Queens Commendation for Valuable Service

- Commander Benjamin Charles KEITH, Royal Navy
- Lieutenant (now Lieutenant Commander) Alexander Antony SZWEDA, Royal Navy
- Corporal Louise Lillian COOPER, Adjutant General's Corps (Staff and Personnel Support Branch)
- Captain Alun Huw MORRIS, Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers
- Colonel Roderick Miles LEE
- Lance Corporal Hannah RICHARDSON, Royal Army Medical Corps
- Sergeant (now Staff Sergeant) Ashley Jade ROYLANCE, Intelligence Corps
- Major Kerry Anne SCHULTZ, The Royal Logistic Corps
- Lieutenant Colonel Matthew James Edney SMITH, Corps of Royal Engineers
- Corporal Samuel David George BUTLER, Royal Air Force
- Squadron Leader John Michael PLENTY, Royal Air Force

The Queen's Commendation for Bravery

- Staff Sergeant Steven Wayne COCKBURN, The Royal Logistic Corps
- Captain Karl Anthony WILLIAMS, The Royal Logistic Corps

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2020 success for young nuclear workers

The Young Generation Network (YGN), focusses on personal and professional development for its members while aiming to attract the next generation of nuclear workers.

The network this year has been supported by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) as its industry partner, who have formed a working group to offer opportunities to early-career professionals across the NDA group.

The group helped to organise 14 events during YGN Festival Week which attracted over 600 attendees that covered topics such as sustainable development, climate change and waste management, and a webinar series focused on UK decommissioning held in September.

Hannah Paterson, Technology Manager at Sellafield Ltd in Spent Fuel Management Strategy and Technical, helped organise Festival Week.

She said:

Festival week created such an awesome buzz which was wonderful to see.

We had great speakers, it was interactive, and feedback from attendees was that they particularly enjoyed the virtual coffee networking session where they were randomly chosen to meet other UK and international nuclear professionals and expand their network.

Grace Frost, Sub Project Manager at Sellafield Ltd in Programme and Project Partners, arranged the webinar events.

She said:

The 'Decommissioning Spotlights' series was a huge triumph for the Industry Partner working group. A lot of learning from this event can be taken to support future endeavours of the partnership.

Meanwhile, Sellafield Ltd has 3 employees on next year's YGN Strategic Committee – the largest company representation – with Hannah as Chair, Grace as the Industry Liaison Lead and Stacy Snook from Security and Resilience who will lead YGN Marketing and Communications.

Stacy said:

I'm excited to join the YGN Committee. The pandemic has demonstrated how important clear digital communications are in lieu of physical events and interactions.

I'm hoping to use my role to ensure we can reach a wider audience so the YGN can continue to encourage and develop the UK's early career professionals and demonstrate that the nuclear industry is an exciting destination for young people.

Grace said:

It's amazing to have 3 Sellafield Ltd workers holding strategic roles on the committee. It was also great that Quality Degree Apprentice Phillipa Hawley was recently awarded the 2020 YGN Excellence prize for her commitment and enthusiasm to support the YGN.

As the YGN Committee transitions into 2021, preparations are underway to develop next year's calendar of events.

Hannah added:

Despite not being able to host visits, events and conferences, we still had a great year, we can't wait to arrange a programme of events for 2021 and we'll be in touch with further details.

Children's Minister speaks during Anti-Bullying Week

I would like to start by thanking all the organisations involved in organising and taking part in this year's Anti-Bullying Week. I know it has been quite challenging to arrange this year – in what has been a very difficult time due to COVID-19.

We know bullying can have a devastating effect on children and their families, and we must make sure that we do not let up in our efforts to tackle it, especially at this particularly difficult time in children's lives.

This year's theme is 'United Against Bullying' and I am so proud to be supporting it. It feels particularly important right now as it gives us an opportunity to bring together children and young people to focus on this important issue, and to shine a light on the positive things that we can all do to help put a stop to it.

As many of you will know, the Department for Education has been a proud partner of the Diana Award since 2011, and we have been providing funding for the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors Programme since 2016. This funding has been used to train and support thousands of children and young people to become ambassadors, and I am so pleased that the Diana Award will be continue to support schools when our grant programme ends next year.

I welcome the Demos independent evaluation of the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors programme, and I would also like to congratulate the Diana Award for empowering over 35,000 young people to make a real difference in their schools through the programme – what an achievement.

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors provide ongoing peer support to their cohort and go on to share best practice. This is incredibly important, as we know that many young people turn to their friends and peers first when they have a concern or issue.

Having said that, the Government is committed to supporting schools, and indeed all education settings, to prevent and tackle all forms of bullying. We want schools to be safe, calm places where pupils can thrive.

Bullying can also have a serious effect on mental health. Children who are exposed to bullying are likely to experience higher rates of anxiety, depression, and self-harm in adulthood.

In these unprecedented times, many pupils are returning to school having been exposed to a range of adversity and trauma including bereavement, anxiety and in some cases increased welfare and safeguarding risks. Some children, particularly vulnerable groups, will need additional support and access to services such as educational psychologists, social workers and counsellors.

To support these children, we have put in place a range of measures, including guidance for settings and an £8m training initiative for educational staff and Local Authority services to support children and young people's mental health and wellbeing. This will help to make sure that schools are alert to underlying issues arising as a consequence of the pandemic, which might lead to behaviour issues and bullying.

The challenge has broadened over recent years with more and more use of online activities such as social media and gaming. Spending time online can be very beneficial for children, particularly at the moment where it can

provide the opportunity to connect with friends and family. But we recognise the worry about online safety.

The evidence does suggest that a lot of online child bullying is an extension of the bullying that happens between pupils at school. But online bullying follows children back home, is difficult to escape from, and the bully can also hide behind the anonymity of online platforms. Worryingly, online bullying can rapidly amplify, escalate, and go viral. This brings extra pressure to the victims. I want to make it clear that all forms of bullying, including cyberbullying, for whatever reason, is unacceptable.

I am also concerned by the use of deeply offensive language on certain online platforms. While some social media platforms let the user regulate content such as with profanity filters, others do not. Therefore, vile language that would never be printed or expressed in a traditional newspaper or media broadcasts, is allowed to run rife across Twitter.

I am concerned that this online activity normalises hate speech and normalises bullying. I want to send a clear message that deeply offensive language on social media is unacceptable, just as it is unacceptable face to face. It should never be tolerated or dismissed as banter.

To help in our efforts to combat cyberbullying and support children from all forms of online harm we have published specific guidance to help schools teach their pupils how to stay safe online. This guidance helps schools to ensure that children have the skills and knowledge they need to make the best use of the internet and technology in a safe, considered and respectful way.

Obviously, children's online life extends far beyond what schools can control and influence. These efforts need to be backed up by a responsible approach from social media platforms, who must take responsibility for what happens on their watch, and especially when children use their services.

The Government remains committed to delivering legislation to tackle online harms, as set out in the online harms white paper. This will introduce a statutory duty of care on companies to take steps to protect their users, including children, from harm.

But I want to be clear that companies should not wait for legislation to act – they can make a real difference to the lives of children right now.

Protecting children from online harms is also part of wider government priorities. Research shows that around a quarter of children and young people have sent a nude image to someone they are interested in; and almost half have received a nude image of someone else, sent by that same person. The potential risks of creating or sharing these types of images are significant – and it may lead to embarrassment, bullying or indeed vulnerability (for example blackmail) if shared further.

That is why we are working with the UK Council for Internet Safety's Education Working Group, in consultation with the National Police Chief's Council, to update guidance for education settings working with children and

young people on sharing nudes and semi-nudes.

We also work with other experts such as the National Crime Agency, Internet Matters, the Internet Watch Foundation and the NSPCC to help make sure children are safe online, whether in the classroom or learning from home.

I know that tackling bullying is a priority for many organisations both inside and outside government. I recently met with the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Bullying, who are supported by the Red Balloon Learner Group, to discuss our future plans for anti-bullying policy and the latest research and findings regarding bullying in schools.

So let me finish off by thanking everyone – young and old – across the country who is working to be united against bullying. I look forward to hearing more about this week's events and working with you all to help tackle bullying. Together, we can stop bullying for good. Thank you.