

## Children and Young People Board

Agenda

Monday, 10 September 2018 11.00 am

Smith Square 1&2, Ground Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

To: Members of the Children and Young People Board

cc: Named officers for briefing purposes





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There will be a meeting of the Children & Young People Board at 11.00 am on Monday, 10 September 2018 Smith Square 1&2, Ground Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ.

A sandwich lunch will be available directly after the meeting.

## **Attendance Sheet:**

Please ensure that you sign the attendance register, which will be available in the meeting room. It is the only record of your presence at the meeting.

## **Political Group meetings:**

The group meetings will take place prior to the meeting. Please contact your political group as outlined below for further details.

## **Apologies:**

<u>Please notify your political group office (see contact telephone numbers below) if you are unable to attend this meeting.</u>

Conservative:Group Office:020 7664 3223email:lgaconservatives@local.gov.ukLabour:Group Office:020 7664 3334email:Labour.GroupLGA@local.gov.ukIndependent:Group Office:020 7664 3224email:independent.grouplga@local.gov.uk

Liberal Democrat: Group Office: 020 7664 3235 email: libdem@local.gov.uk

### Location:

A map showing the location of 18 Smith Square is printed on the back cover.

### **LGA Contact:**

Amber Chandler

020 7664 3242/ amber.chandler@local.gov.uk

## Carers' Allowance

As part of the LGA Members' Allowances Scheme a Carer's Allowance of up to £7.83 per hour is available to cover the cost of dependants (i.e. children, elderly people or people with disabilities) incurred as a result of attending this meeting.

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The twitter hashtag for this meeting is #lgacyp



## Agenda

## **Children & Young People Board**

Monday 10 September 2018

11.00 am

Smith Square 1&2, Ground Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

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| 2.  | Presentation by Sir Alan Wood on Children's Residential Care |         |  |
| 3.  | Isos, early help research & SEND                             |         |  |
|     | Verbal Update by Natalie Parish.                             |         |  |
| 4.  | Membership and Terms of Reference for 2018/19                | 1 - 10  |  |
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| 8.  | Note of the Previous Meeting                                 | 37 - 40 |  |
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| 9.  | Confidential update on Children's Services Improvement       |         |  |
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| 10. | Confidential Note of the Previous Meeting                    | 41 - 44 |  |
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## Membership and Terms of Reference for 2018/19

## **Purpose**

For discussion.

## **Summary**

This report outlines the terms of reference and membership for the LGA's Children and Young People Board for the 2018/19 meeting cycle. The report also identifies outside bodies to which the Board is asked appoint for the 2018/19 meeting cycle.

## Recommendations

The Children and Young People Board is asked to:

- 1. Formally note the membership of the Board for 2018/19 at Appendix A;
- Agree the Board's Terms of Reference for 2018/19 at <u>Appendix B</u>;
- 3. Formally note the list of Board dates for 2018/19 at Appendix C; and
- 4. Receive appropriate feedback from members representing the Board on outside bodies over the previous meeting cycle.

### Action

Officers to inform outside bodies of any changes in, or confirm continuation of LGA representatives.

Contact officer: Amber Chandler

Position: Member Services Officer

**Phone no:** 0207 664 3235

Email: Amber.Chandler@local.gov.uk



## Membership and Terms of Reference for 2018/19

- Members are asked to formally note the membership and the Board's Lead Members for 2018/19 (as detailed in <u>Appendix A</u>). Members are invited to agree the appointments to Outside Bodies for 2018/19. Members are also invited to agree the Board's terms of reference for this year (attached as <u>Appendix C</u>). In addition Members are asked to note the meeting dates for the 2018/19 cycle (attached as <u>Appendix D</u>).
- 2. Please be aware that the Children and Young People Board meeting at NCAS will now be from 17.00 to 18.00.

## **CYP** outside body appointments

- 3. The LGA benefits from a wide network of member representatives on outside bodies across all Boards. These appointments are reviewed on an annual basis across the Association to ensure that the aims and objectives of the outside bodies remain pertinent to the LGA. A database for centrally recording all the information relating to appointments is held by the Member Services team.
- 4. A list of the organisations to which the Board will appoint member representatives for the 2018/2019 meeting cycle is attached at <u>Appendix C</u>. Members are asked to nominate the appointments for this meeting cycle, which are to be made in proportion with political representation across the LGA.
- 5. The Improving Mental Health for Looked After Children: Expert Group Outside Body which Cllr Gillian Ford was representing us on is now finished so has been removed from the table in **Appendix C**.
- 6. Members are asked to **appoint** councillors who are in post. These are;
  - 6.1. Cllr Anntoinette Bramble (Labour) Children's Improvement Board
  - 6.2. Cllr Lucy Nethsingha (Liberal Democrats) Adoption Leadership Board
  - 6.3. Cllr Roy Perry (Conservative) Howard League for Penal Reform Advisory Board on decriminalising children in residential care
- 7. Members are asked to appoint councillors to current vacancies. These include;
  - 7.1. National Youth Agency This was previously held by Cllr Ryan Brent (Conservative)

The proportionality rules suggest that the remaining vacancy should go to the Independent Group and Cllr Gillian Ford has indicated her willingness to take on the NYA role.

## **Financial Implications**

8. There are no substantial financial implications arising directly from this report.

Reasonable travel and subsistence costs will be paid by the LGA for expenses incurred



by a member appointee, whilst carrying out a representative role on an outside body on behalf of the LGA.

## Appendix A

## Membership and Terms of Reference for 2018/19

| Councillor                       | Authority                               |  |  |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|
|                                  |   |  |  |
| Conservative (8)                 |   |  |  |
| Cllr Roy Perry (Vice Chairman)   | Hampshire County Council                |  |  |
| Cllr Natasha Airey               | Windsor & Maidenhead Royal Borough      |  |  |
| Cllr Susie Charles               | Lancashire County Council               |  |  |
| Cllr Matthew Golby               | Northamptonshire County Council         |  |  |
| Cllr Dick Madden                 | Essex County Council                    |  |  |
| Cllr Laura Mayes                 | Wiltshire Council                       |  |  |
| Cllr Roger Gough                 | Kent County Council                     |  |  |
| Cllr Teresa Heritage *           | Hertfordshire County Council            |  |  |
| Substitutes                      |   |  |  |
| Cllr Lynne Doherty *             | West Berkshire Council                  |  |  |
| Cllr Warren Whyte *              | Buckinghamshire County Council          |  |  |
| Cllr Jane Murphy *               | South Oxfordshire District Council      |  |  |
| Labour (7)                       |   |  |  |
| Cllr Anntoinette Bramble (Chair) | Hackney London Borough Council          |  |  |
| Cllr Megan Swift                 | Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council |  |  |
| Cllr John Kent                   | Thurrock Council                        |  |  |
| Cllr Bob Cook                    | Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council        |  |  |
| Cllr David Mellen                | Nottingham City Council                 |  |  |
| Cllr Claire Coghill *            | Waltham Forest London Borough Council   |  |  |
| Cllr Barry Kushner *             | Liverpool City Council                  |  |  |
| Substitutes                      |   |  |  |
| Cllr Imran Khan                  | Bradford Metropolitan District Council  |  |  |
| Cllr Edward Davie *              | Lambeth London Borough Council          |  |  |
| Cllr Lesley Williams MBE*        | Gloucestershire County Council          |  |  |
| Liberal Democrat (2)             |   |  |  |
| Cllr Lucy Nethsingha             | Cambridgeshire County Council           |  |  |
| Cllr Carl Cashman                | Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council   |  |  |

## Agenda Item 4



Children and Young People Board 10 September 2018

| Substitutes                     |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Cllr Christopher Coleman        | Cheltenham Borough Council      |
|                                 |                                 |
| Independent (1)                 |                                 |
| Cllr Gillian Ford (Independent) | Havering London Borough Council |
|                                 |                                 |
| Substitutes                     |                                 |
| Cllr Julie Fallon               | Conwy County Borough Council    |
| Cllr Ruth O'Keeffe              | East Sussex County Council      |

<sup>\*</sup> Newly appointed to this governance structure for 2018/19 meeting year.



Agenda Item 4
Children and Young People Board

10 September 2018



| Organisation / contact details   | Background  | Representatives   | LGA Contact Officer                                    |
|--|---|---|--|
| National Youth Agency  Contact: Jaede Todner   | The Agency aims to advance youth work to promote young people's personal and social development, as well as their voice, influence and place in society.  | 1 Vacancy   | Louise Smith, Adviser                                  |
|  |   |   | louise.smith@local.go.uk                               |
| Email: jaedet@nya.org.uk   |   |   |  |
| Adoption Leadership Board  Contact: Maria Atkins (Businees Support Officer)  Email: maria.atkins@cvaa.org.uk | The ALB was jointly developed by Government, local authorities and the voluntary sector to provide national leadership to the adoption system, improve its performance and tackle the key challenges it currently faces.  | 1 position  Lucy Nethsingha (Lib Dem) Cambridgeshire County Council | Ian Dean, Senior Adviser ian.dean@local.gov.uk         |
| Children's Improvement Board   | The CIB is a partnership between the LGA, the Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS), the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) and the Association of Independent LSCB Chairs (AILC), bringing together senior political and officer leadership to consider issues related to performance and improvement in children's services. | 1 position  Cllr Anntoinette  Bramble (Lab)  Hackney Council        | Clive Harris, Senior Adviser clive.harris@local.gov.uk |





**Howard League for Penal Reform Advisory Board on** decriminalising children in residential care

**Contact: Jenny Chambers** 

Tel: 020 7241 7882

Email:

Jenny.Chambers@howardleague.

org

The Howard League has launched a two-year programme of work to end the criminalisation of children living in residential care. The work will be supported by this Advisory Board, chaired by the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP. The project follows research, published by the Howard League in March 2016, which found that children living in children's homes were being criminalised at higher rates than other boys and girls, including those in other types of care. The programme of work will explore best practice within the police service and the residential care sector and builds on the charity's work to keep as many boys and girls as possible out of the criminal justice system.

1 position

ian.dean@local.gov.uk

Cllr Roy Perry (Con) Hampshire **County Council** 

Ian Dean, Senior Adviser



Appendix B

## Terms of Reference: Children Young People Board

- The purpose of the Children and Young People Board is to engage with and develop a
  thorough understanding of the issues within its brief and how legislation does or could
  affect councils and their communities. The Board's brief is to provide strategic oversight
  of all the LGA's policy and improvement activity in relation to the wellbeing of children
  and young people, including education and social care.
- 2. The Board should seek to involve councillors in supporting the delivery of these priorities (through task groups, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), regional networks and other means of wider engagement); essentially operating as the centre of a network connecting to all councils and drawing on the expertise of key advisors from the sector.
- 3. The Children and Young People Board's responsibilities include.
  - 3.1. Ensuring the priorities of councils are fed into the business planning process.
  - 3.2. Developing a work programme to deliver the business plan priorities relevant to their brief, covering lobbying campaigns, research, and improvement support in the context of the strategic framework set by Improvement & Innovation Board and events and linking with other boards where appropriate.
  - 3.3. Sharing good practice and ideas to stimulate innovation and improvement.
  - 3.4. Representing and lobbying on behalf of the LGA including making public statements on its area of responsibility.
  - 3.5. Building and maintaining relationships with key stakeholders.
  - 3.6. Involving representatives from councils in its work, through task groups, Commissions, SIGs, regional networks and mechanisms.
  - 3.7. Responding to specific issues referred to the Board by one or more member councils or groupings of councils.
- 4. The Children and Young People Board may:
  - 4.1. Appoint members to relevant outside bodies in accordance with the Political Conventions.
  - 4.2. Appoint member champions from the Board to lead on key issues, with responsibility for liaising with portfolio holders on key issues that require rapid response/contact with councils.



## Quorum

5. One third of the members, provided that representatives of at least 2 political groups represented on the body are present.

## **Political Composition**

- 6. Conservative group: 8 members
- 7. Labour group: 7 members
- 8. Liberal Democrat group: 2 members
- 9. Independent group: 1 members
- 10. Substitute members from each political group may also be appointed.

## Frequency per year

11. Meetings to be held five times a year.

## **Reporting Accountabilities**

12. The LGA Executive provides oversight of the Board. The Board may report periodically to the LGA Executive as required, and will submit an annual report to the Executive's July meeting.



## Appendix C

## Meeting Dates 2018/19

| DAY (2018) | DATE              | TIME          | Meeting Room                      |
|------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tuesday    | 10 September 2018 | 11.00 – 13.00 | Smith Square 1&2, Ground Floor,   |
|            |                   |               | 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P     |
|            |                   |               | 3HZ                               |
|            |                   |               |                                   |
| Thursday   | 15 November 2018  | 17:00 – 18:00 | Manchester, NCAS                  |
|            |                   |               |                                   |
| DAY (2019) |                   |               |                                   |
| Wednesday  | 16 January 2019   | 11.00 – 13.00 | Westminster Room, 8th Floor, 18   |
|            |                   |               | Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ    |
|            |                   |               |                                   |
| Tuesday    | 12 March 2019     | 11.00 – 13.00 | Westminster Room, 8th Floor, 18   |
|            |                   |               | Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ    |
|            |                   |               |                                   |
| Thursday   | 13 June 2019      | 11.00 – 13.00 | Smith Square 1&2, Ground Floor,   |
|            |                   |               | 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ |



## Children & Young People Board

10 September 2018

## **CYP Board Policy Priorities for 2018-2019**

## **Purpose**

For discussion and direction.

## **Summary**

This paper sets out proposals for the Children and Young People Board's priorities and work programme for 2018-19 Subject to the Board's views, officers will develop a work programme to deliver these priorities.

### Recommendation

Members are asked to discuss and agree the Board's priorities and work programme for 2018-19.

### **Action**

Officers to take action as directed by members.

Contact Officer: lan Keating

**Position:** Principal Policy Adviser

**Telephone No:** 0207 664 3032

**Email:** ian.keating@local.gov.uk



## Children & Young People Board

10 September 2018

## **CYP Board Policy Priorities for 2018-2019**

## **Background**

LGA Boards are asked to consider their priorities for the coming year at their first meeting of the new cycle. Set out below are a list of priorities for discussion, based on the priorities identified last year, and adapted to reflect work that has been completed, recent developments in Government policy and issues raised by member councils.

## Children's social care

- Continue to work with partners across the public and voluntary sector on the LGA's Bright
  Futures campaign, urging government to act quickly to close the significant children's
  services funding gap and ensure that councils can continue to provide essential services
  for vulnerable children and families.
- Further build the evidence base around the impact of early help for children and families, working with partners such as the Early Intervention Foundation and undertaking research into current and emerging practice in the design and delivery of local early help offers.

## **Early Years**

- 3. Continue to highlight its concerns around the funding available for the Government's 30 hours free childcare policy.
- 4. Work to ensure councils receive an appropriate funding solution for maintained nursery schools to ensure their ongoing viability.

## Children's services improvement

5. Work with the Department for Education, ADCS and Solace to develop a new, funded system of improvement support that will provide timely and effective support to councils before they are rated as *inadequate* by Ofsted.

## The Council role in education and school improvement

6. Lobby the Government to ensure that councils have sufficient powers to meet their remaining duties on education, specifically around powers to direct academies to expand to meet rising demand, powers to direct academies to admit vulnerable pupils and; giving councils a lead role in deciding where new free schools should be sited. Councils with a strong track record in school improvement should also be allowed to create their own Multi-Academy Trusts and maintained schools should be allowed to help failing academies without having to convert to become academies themselves.

## SEND

7. Lobby the Government to undertake a fundamental review of High Needs funding arrangements to ensure councils are sufficiently resourced to meet their statutory duties to children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.



## Children & Young People Board

10 September 2018

## **School funding**

8. Lobby the Government to continue to allow a degree of local flexibility as part of the National Funding Formula for schools and also call for the creation of single, locally held schools capital funding pot to allow for available resources to be used as efficiently as possible.

## Unaccompanied asylum seeking children

9. Continue to push for clearer alignment between and sustainable levels of funding for all the programmes that resettle asylum seekers and refugees to minimise the pressures on local authorities, local communities and vulnerable individuals.

## Children and young people's mental health and wellbeing (activities sit across both this Board and the Community Wellbeing Board)

- 10. Work with partners at national and local level to promote health and wellbeing boards in ensuring local accountability for the spend on CYP mental health and wellbeing services.
- 11. Work with partners at national and local level to embed the role of health and wellbeing boards specifically their oversight role for the delivery of Local Transformation Plans and the implementation of the Government's Green Paper
- 12. Continue to highlight our concerns as articulated in the LGA Bright Future CAMHS campaign.
- 13. Continue to input into the ongoing implementation of the Green Paper transforming children and young people's mental health provision.
- 14. Continue to support councils to ensure that early intervention and prevention CYP mental health services are adequately funded and their role in providing these services are recognised.
- 15. Continue to address the gaps within the Green Paper and the potential gaps in the NHS long term plan such as focusing on improving transitions and the 16-25 cohort.

## **Financial implications**

16. The priorities will be delivered within existing resources.



## Children and Young People's Health Update

## **Purpose of report**

For discussion and updating

## **Summary**

Children and young people's health is a joint priority between the Children and Young People and the Community Wellbeing Board. This paper is designed to update members on the recent policy developments and seek members' steer on the direction of travel for some of the policy areas.

### Recommendations

The Children and Young People Board note and comment on the activities detailed in the report.

### Actions

Officers to take forward work in line with the steer from the Children and Young People Board.

Contact officer: Samantha Ramanah

**Position:** Advisor

**Phone no:** 020 7664 3079

Email: Samantha.ramanah@local.gov.uk



## **Background**

- 1. The Green Paper "<u>Transforming children and young people's mental health provision</u>" (March 2018) focused on strengthening the links between schools and the NHS and taking a whole school approach to delivering early intervention support through new NHS led mental health teams. The <u>Government's response</u> (July 2018) committed to implementing three core proposals and making £300m funding available for its implementation. The core proposals are:
  - 1.1 To incentivise and support all schools and colleges to identify and train a Designated Senior Lead for mental health.
  - 1.2 To fund new Mental Health Support Teams, which will be supervised by NHS children and young people's mental health staff.
  - 1.3 To pilot a four week waiting time for access to specialist NHS children and young people's mental health services.
- 2. Other Government commitments include:
  - 2.1 **Trialling implementation:** The three core proposals will be piloted in areas to be known as trailblazer areas. The first wave of ten to twenty areas will be fully operational by the end of 2019. The new approaches will be rolled out to at least a fifth to a quarter of the country by the end of 2022/23.
  - 2.2 Health education: will become a compulsory part of the curriculum by September 2020. It will look at healthier lifestyles, physical health, building mental resilience and wellbeing – including staying safe on and offline and healthy relationships.
  - 2.3 **Social media and potential harms to CYP mental health:** there will be guidance for social media providers on how to protect users from potential mental health harms (such as suicide and self-harm content) and social media providers will need to provide data on harmful content and how they are dealt with.
  - 2.4 **Reducing stigma and promoting awareness:** Staff in a further 1,000 state schools will receive Mental Health First Aid training by 2019, this will be an increase on the third of state schools who have already received training.
  - 2.4 Universities: A new University Mental Health Charter was launched in June 2018 to drive up standards in promoting student and staff mental health and wellbeing. Universities will be awarded a new recognition for meeting improved standards. A cross sector team to review the support needs for students in the transition into university, particularly those with or at risk of mental health issues is being set up.



### **Issues**

- 3. We welcome the Government's commitment to additional investment and its focus on earlier intervention through a whole school approach, the inclusion of health education in the curriculum and the greater focus addressing issues around social media and the transition to university. However, we remain concerned by the following issues:
  - 1.1 The implementation of the reforms is being led by NHS England via Clinical Commissioning Groups and there is a lack of local oversight and accountability for the funding and reforms. NHS England has expressed a view that Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs) need to be more involved in the reforms. Currently this is not built into the design of the implementation plans and as a result the level of engagement and oversight from HWBs is variable. CYP and CWB Board members have previously expressed their support for HWBs to be the key body that ensures funding reaches the right services and hold local partners to account. What support do members think we could provide to help strengthen the role of HWBs in the reforms? Options could include a "must know" on implementation, a briefing for HWBs and/or asking NHS England to make it a stronger part of their processes.
  - 1.2 Despite the rhetoric in the Green Paper there is a lack of focus on the 16-25 age group. The work being taken forward focuses on university students. Whilst this is welcomed it does not address those young people who are not in further or higher education, training or employment or conversely those who are in the later but not at university. Many of whom may be from demographics that are underrepresented at university or fall into vulnerable cohorts.
  - 1.3 We remain concerned by the lack of transparency and accountability for the £1.7billion funding. The commitment to reduce waiting times are not ambitious enough with no clarity as to how children in the remaining areas will overcome the obstacle of long waiting times. The reforms at best give a partial response to the pressures facing the system, with no clear strategy of how the remaining gaps will be funded or addressed. This is particularly concerning given the reduction in council's early intervention and public health funding and pressures on school funding.
  - 1.4 The Green Paper's focus on a whole school approach is a helpful contribution to our call for an independent school based counselling service in every secondary school in England. However, the reforms focus on building a new mental health workforce that will deliver evidence based interventions and a support network. A universal independent school based counselling service has the benefits of being accessible and therefore quickly reducing CYP's distress. It also builds upon existing Department of Education advice<sup>1</sup> and would help to mitigate the risk of taking mental health staff away from other parts of the system to fulfil the reforms.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>Counselling in schools: a blueprint for the future – Departmental advice for school leaders and counsellors, 2015</u>



Do members agree that the new announcement is a helpful contribution but it doesn't fully meet our call for action?

## **NHS Long Term Plan**

- 1. In July 2018 the Government announced that the NHS will receive an increase of £20.5 billion a year in real terms by 2023-24—an average of 3.4% per year growth over the next five years. The increased funding will support a new 10-year long-term plan for the NHS. It is looking at 17 work streams, the relevant ones for children and young people are:
  - 1.1 Healthy childhood and maternal health
  - 1.2 Mental health
  - 1.3 Learning Disability and Autism
  - 1.4 Primary Care
  - 1.5 Cancer
  - 1.6 Prevention, Personal Responsibility and Health Inequalities
- 2. The Healthy childhood and maternal health work stream will focus on improving long term conditions and outcomes, maternity, perinatal and infancy including still births and infant mortality, asthma, diabetes and cancer. It is anticipated that this work will be set within the wider early years and children's services agenda. However, we will raise our concerns about the lack of focus public health's role, the wider determinants of health and a whole systems focus. We also have concerns about where young people fit into the NHS plan. What are member's initial views on the work streams relevant to CYP?

## **Public Health funding**

- 3. Councils continue to face significant spending reductions to their public health budget up to 2020/21. To put this in context, public health funding will be cut by 9.7 per cent by 2020/21 in cash terms of £331 million, on top of the £200 million cut in-year announced in 2015.
- 4. Discussions continue around the inclusion of the public health grant within 75% business rates retention, negotiations with the Treasury around the Comprehensive Spending Review 2019 and the planned removal of the ring-fence around the use of the public health grant.

## **Child Obesity**

5. Childhood obesity has been described as one of the biggest health challenges of the 21st century. At the start of primary school one in 10 children are obese and by the end,



that has increased to one in five. For the first time the LGA recently highlighted figures that show more than 22,000 children aged 10 and 11 in Year 6 are classed as severely obese.

- 6. We are pleased that the Government's recent child obesity plan includes clearer food labelling, which the LGA has long-called for, plus measures to introduce mandatory calorie information on menus, improve food standards and physical activity in schools and the option to introduce further fiscal measures. A specific programme to help to support councils develop their existing powers is also good news.
- 7. It is recommended that we continue to keep child obesity within our current Community Wellbeing Board work programme.

## Transfer of health visiting to local government

- 8. The responsibility for commissioning health visiting services transferred from the NHS to local government in October 2015. The early years of life remains a Government priority, recent policy developments include the NHS long term plan's focus on "healthy childhood and maternal health" and the launch of Health and Social Care Committee inquiry into the First 1000 days of life which focuses on pre-conception to age 2, which we are responding to.
- 9. Local government is transforming services through; increasing the number of contacts delivered by health visitors for the five mandated checks, protecting health services despite cuts to the public health budget. Taking a life course approach and integrating across the Healthy Child Programme 0-19 (and up to age 25 for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities).
- 10. Local government's performance and health visitor numbers continue to be closely scrutinised. This includes calls by some for health visiting to be returned to the NHS. There have also been calls for an extension of mandation on local government for these services that is for the five checks that are currently delivered by health visitors to be increased and for this to be written into regulations. There is also speculation that the health visitor workforce has declined since commissioning transferred to local government.
- 11. In our response to these calls we have highlighted that health visitors play a crucial role in local systems which is intrinsically linked to local government's work and that moving health visiting would result in unnecessary disruption and could lead to poorer services and outcomes for families and children by making it harder to join up the support which families need. We have highlighted the impact cuts to the public health and early intervention grant are having on public health and children's service. We have also raised that there are unresolved issues around the robustness of the NHS' data on workforce numbers which does not include health visitors who are employed by local government or private providers.



There are a number of outstanding issues post transfer, these include:

- 11.1 Health visitor recruitment and retention difficulties. These issues were particularly pertinent in London at the time of transfer and are ongoing which is impacting on the service locally. Whilst this is particularly a problem for London and the South it is likely to impact on other regions as cuts to funding begin to bite.
- 11.2 Department of Health and Social Care originally promised that any variances in historic resource allocation at the point of transfer of 0-5 health visiting services would be resolved via the introduction of a resource allocation formula. However, this was not introduced, which has resulted in some councils operating with less money for their health visiting service.
- 11.3 Issues around the provider market including a lack of competition and the impact funding cuts are having on providers' ability to deliver contracts at a reduced cost.
- 11.4 Work local pressures. A survey conducted by the Institute of Health Visiting showed that 1 in 5 health visitors in 2017 are working with caseloads of over 500 children. However, the recommended 'minimum floor' set at the time of transfer was three whole time equivalent health visitors to cover 1000 children.
- 12. We are working with membership organisations and stakeholders to get a better understanding of these issues and how best we can support local government and raise issues nationally where necessary.

## **Implications for Wales**

13. No implications for Wales.

## **Financial Implications**

14. This work will be undertaken from within existing LGA budgets.

## **Next steps**

15. Children and Young People Board members are asked to note and comment on the activities detailed in the report.



## Children and Young People Board meeting

10 September 2018

## **Civil Society Strategy**

## **Purpose of report**

For discussion to inform work with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

## Summary

The Government published its Civil Society Strategy on 9 August 2018, which outlines how it intends to work with and support different sectors, including the private sector and charities, to work together for the benefit of wider society. "Mission 3" within the strategy focuses specifically on opportunities for young people, including youth services, social responsibility and involvement in policy design.

The strategy commits the Government to review the guidance setting out the detail behind the statutory duty on local authorities to provide appropriate local youth services, to clarify the government's expectations.

### Recommendation

Members are asked to provide feedback to officers on lines of enquiry to pursue with DCMS.

## **Action**

Officers to take any action arising from discussion of the report.

Contact officer: Louise Smith

**Position:** Adviser

**Phone no:** 020 7664 3163

E-mail: <a href="mailto:louise.smith@local.gov.uk">louise.smith@local.gov.uk</a>



## Children and Young People Lead Members meeting

10 September 2018

## **Civil Society Strategy**

- 1. In November 2016, former youth minister Rob Wilson announced that a new Youth Policy Statement would be published to provide a clear vision for support for young people. However, in November 2017 it was announced that this would be replaced by a wider civil society strategy, with consultation carried out on the youth policy statement incorporated into this instead.
- 2. The Civil Society Strategy was published on 9 August 2018, and draws actions and recommendations together under five headings: People; Places; Social Sector; Private Sector; and Public Sector. Each heading is underpinned by "missions", with Mission 3 focusing on opportunities for young people.

## **Young People**

- 3. Mission 3 emphasises the importance of young people having opportunities to improve their life chances, fulfil their potential and avoid negative pathways.
- 4. The strategy states that local authorities are responsible for funding open access youth services, and highlights areas where councils have taken innovative approaches to delivering this, for example Young People's Foundations in some areas of London, and Youth Mutuals such as those in Knowsley and Lewisham.
- 5. Commitment is given to developing evidence around what works in open access youth provision, along with fully embedding the National Citizen Service in the wider youth sector.
- 6. Section 507B of the Education Act 1996 states that local authorities in England must, "so far as reasonably practicable", secure sufficient education and recreational leisure time activities to improve the wellbeing, personal and social development of young people aged 13 to 19 (or to 25 for those with a learning difficulty). The statutory guidance supporting this duty was last revised in 2012.
- 7. The following paragraph from the Civil Society Strategy outlines the government's intention to revisit the guidance, and its rationale for doing so:

"While the government recognises the priority that local authorities must place on functions such as child protection, it also recognises the transformational impact that youth services and trained youth workers can have, especially for young people facing multiple barriers or disadvantage. The guidance which sets out the statutory duty on local authorities has not been revised since 2012. Much has happened to change the way these services are provided in the intervening years. The government will therefore review the guidance which sets out the statutory duty placed on local authorities to provide appropriate local youth

https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/a-positive-agenda-for-young-people



## Children and Young People Lead Members meeting

10 September 2018

services. We expect that the review will provide greater clarity of government's expectations, including the value added by good youth work."

- 8. The LGA will engage with the Government as it develops new guidance. In particular, it will be important to ensure that the clarification of the duty does not result in additional burdens on local authorities or over-ride the importance of local decision-making, for example prescribing the level and type of service expected. We will also seek realistic discussions about the long-term funding of youth services given the budget cuts faced by councils and the significant increase in demand for child protection services.
- 9. The LGA's Vision for Youth Services (**Appendix A**) will be a key document in the negotiations. As outlined in the Vision, we will emphasise that councils are best placed to bring partners and young people together to develop and set a local vision, and to coordinate the range of provision available in their area. Delivery and commissioning of services should be decided locally and not nationally prescribed.
- 10. Furthermore, we will seek to clarify how the Government's expectations around local youth services fit with the Government's broader ambitions and services for young people, including the National Citizen Service.

## **Implications for Wales**

11. The statutory duty applies only to local authorities in England.

## **Financial Implications**

12. None.

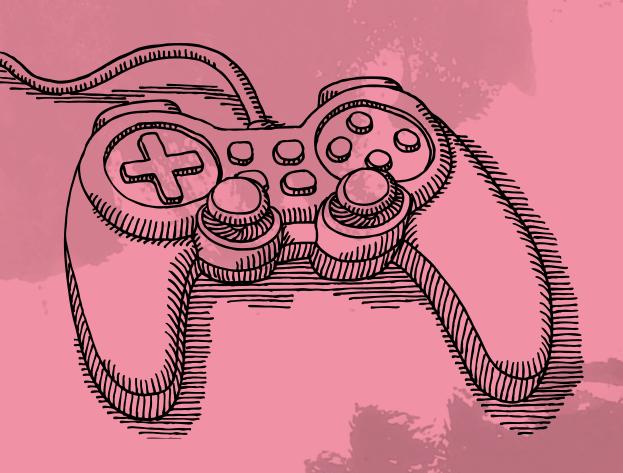
## **Next Steps**

13. Members are asked to advise officers of key lines of enquiry to raise with the government during discussions on the statutory duty on councils to ensure sufficient youth services.





# BRIGHT FUTURES OUR VISION FOR YOUTH SERVICES





# BRIGHT FUTURES OUR VISION FOR YOUTH SERVICES

Making sure all children and young people can have the bright future they deserve is a key ambition of every council. But our children's services are under increasing pressure, and every council in the country has seen major changes to their youth provision over the past decade. Demand for child protection support has increased dramatically at the same time as local authority funding has been significantly reduced. Recent research suggests that central government funding for children and young people's services has fallen by £2.4 billion since 2010,1 and our analysis shows that an additional £2 billion funding gap will have opened up by 2020. Councils have had to make extremely difficult decisions about how to allocate increasingly scarce resources, and youth services have seen their funding reduced as councils are forced to prioritise urgent help for children at immediate risk of harm. This has had a particularly strong impact on the availability of open access, universal services, with provision increasingly targeted at those in greatest need.

Yet councils still retain statutory responsibilities to make sure, as far as possible, that there is sufficient provision of educational and recreational leisure-time activities for young people, despite the increasingly limited funding available to do so. They have a vital role to play in youth provision, whether they are delivering this directly, commissioning services or maintaining oversight of local provision. This includes informal and non-formal learning, safe spaces to meet friends, youth voice services and sports and leisure activities. Councils also have a responsibility for the wellbeing of all young people in their area.

We know that councils are determined that all young people can enjoy where they live, reach their full potential and enter adulthood with confidence and optimism. Local authorities work hard to make the best use of available funds to support as many young people as possible, particularly those with the greatest needs. However, we also know that funding cuts have had a significant impact on universal services in particular, that services in many areas have become fragmented, and as councils have faced different funding and need challenges, levels of provision differ around the country.

This document sets out our long-term vision for youth services and provision, outlining the LGA's aspirations to support local work in this area. It is based on existing good practice around the country, and feedback from councils, partners and practitioners. We will develop a range of support for local authorities to help them to work towards delivering the vision, and use it to help make the case for additional government funding for youth services that genuinely meet the needs of young people.

Youth services are unlikely to return to the same levels of the pre-austerity years. However, we have a duty to our younger citizens to do the very best we can with what we have, and to argue for better. We hope that this document will provide a starting point in taking a fresh look at youth provision, encouraging true collaboration between all providers, to get the best for our children and young people.

<sup>1</sup> National Children's Bureau, 2017 https://www.ncb.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/documents/ Turning%20the%20tide%20report\_final.pdf

## OUR VISION

Our vision is for all young people to enjoy their lives, reach their full potential and make a good transition to adulthood. They should be able to achieve their ambitions, develop positive relationships and make worthwhile contributions to their communities.

We want to help councils to work across departments and with their partners to support all young people to do this, enabling access to both universal services and targeted support through safe spaces and activities

## SIX KEY PRINCIPLES FOR EFFECTIVE YOUTH SERVICES

## YOUTH-LED

Young people's voices are central to the provision offered to them. They can choose to attend a variety of services on a voluntary basis, building a sense of autonomy and trust in practitioners that encourages engagement with further work where needed.

Provision is structured around the needs of young people locally, offering both universal, open-access provision wherever possible, with targeted support for those considered more at-risk, disadvantaged or with higher need.

## INCLUSIVITY, EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

Young people feel included in their local area and can access the support they need as they progress towards adulthood. No young person feels marginalised or isolated as a result of disability, sexuality, nationality, socio-economic status, special educational needs, mental health issues, religion or any other characteristic.

The local youth offer helps to improve social mobility for young people from all backgrounds by offering support to develop the skills, knowledge and networks they need to access and take advantage of opportunities.

## RESPECT

Young people are a valued and respected part of the community whose needs and wishes are considered equally with those of other groups. They are actively encouraged to participate in their communities and to enjoy opportunities in their local area without fear of judgement or negative stereotyping.

## QUALITY, SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

Good quality services are provided by staff with appropriate safeguarding training, linked to a wider network of support. Ideally this includes professionally qualified youth workers with the skills, expertise and competencies to support safe, quality services with appropriate levels and types of intervention. The youth offer helps to keep young people safe and supports their mental, emotional and physical health, improves their social and economic wellbeing, and makes sure they can access education, non-formal learning and recreation.

## **EMPOWERMENT**

Services empower young people to progress and engage in employment, education and training, and to take an active role in their local communities. Young people are listened to and can make positive demonstrable changes to their communities, and understand how to engage with the democratic process.

## POSITIVITY

Services are strengths-based and focus on developing the skills and attributes of young people, rather than attempting to 'fix a problem'.

## DELIVERING OUR VISION

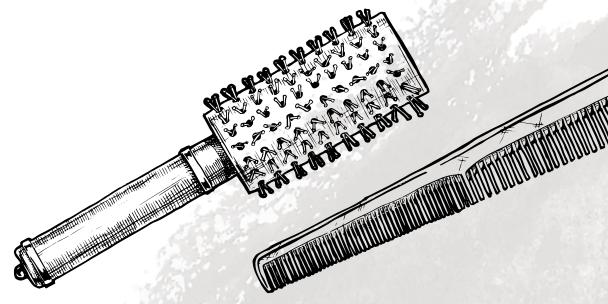
## LOCAL SOLUTIONS

As local leaders who know their communities best and have a key role in place-shaping, councils are ideally placed to set out the vision and direction for youth provision in their area. This includes establishing what services and support are needed and wanted, how all local provision (not just youth services) supports young people, identifying the outcomes that matter most to young people, and working with partners to find ways to deliver these. Councils may not be in a position to directly deliver or commission all youth provision, however their ability to oversee and coordinate, with the support of all levels of local government, is invaluable.

Consultation with young people and partners is key; a joint vision that genuinely responds to young people will stand a far better chance of being delivered and being successful than a vision developed by the local authority alone. This work should also include the local voluntary and community sector, faith groups, schools and employers, involving them from the very start to ensure that their experiences help to shape the vision and the local offer, and that they can contribute to the delivery of outcomes.

As with other children and young people's services, the importance of strong leadership should not be underestimated. The lead member for children's services and the director of children's services (DCS) should champion young people, the importance of youth provision and set the direction for delivery in the area. District councils may find it helpful to appoint a 'youth champion' to lead this work across all services in their area; this could also be an option for children's services authorities to help give a specific focus on young people in addition to the work of the lead member and DCS, whose remits are very large.

Many issues that impact on the wellbeing and life chances of young people fall outside the remit of youth services, such as housing, public health and employment, so the whole council – along with district, parish and town councils – needs to be engaged with this agenda to deliver a positive vision for young people. The role of families and the community is also important; local authorities are in an ideal position to set a clear example as to how young people deserve to be treated in society, and to make sure that young people and their families are at the centre of decision–making.



## COORDINATION

Local children's services authorities have a statutory responsibility to make sure, as far as possible, that there is sufficient provision of educational and recreational leisure-time activities for young people aged 13-19 (or up to 25 for those with learning difficulties). A strong needs assessment is vital to ensure that provision is led by service users' needs; useful tools to inform this include the local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Risk of NEET Indicators (RONI) tool.

Councils already work with a huge range of local partners and have well-established relationships; they also have a statutory duty to promote coordination with the police, NHS services and schools locally for the benefit of young people's wellbeing. These relationships and duties should be maximised to make sure that partners are working together in the most effective way to make the best use of resources and make progress towards shared outcomes and meeting need. Councils may wish to consider the model used by Partnership for Young London, whose purpose is to:

- connect (providers, funders, young people, partners)
- develop (staff, capacity, leadership, collaboration)
- influence (partners, government, vision).

There is often a significant amount of provision available for young people in any given area, but this information is rarely collated and oversight is often limited at best. Coordinating provision across an area is difficult, particularly where services change frequently. However in order to ensure the safety of young people attending services, maximise uptake and spot gaps in provision where needs aren't being met, processes should be put in place to attempt this. Maintaining oversight of services will also help councils to monitor the quality of provision so that they can offer support to improve if needed. Supporting partners in genuine collaboration, for example partners redesigning services to deliver joint outcomes rather than more superficial partnership working, can also help to deliver the local vision, with improved collaboration and coordination more likely to lead to better outcomes.

Government has committed £1.26 billion of investment in the National Citizen Service (NCS) scheme between 2016 and 2020.<sup>2</sup> NCS guidance<sup>3</sup> published in October 2017 recognises local authorities as a key partner in the delivery of the programme, and states that "your NCS provider will always work with you to make sure NCS is delivering the best outcomes for your area in a way that is right for you". The NCS Trust should work closely with councils on the design and delivery of the programme locally so that councils can take advantage of this available funding and provision, and to ensure the scheme supports the needs of local young people and delivery of the local vision. We will also argue for the devolution of a portion of NCS funding to councils to support local provision for young people, expanding the reach of NCS funding from a time-limited programme to ongoing support and an enhanced local offer.

<sup>2</sup> National Audit Office 'National Citizen Service' 2017 https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/National-Citizen-Service.pdf

<sup>3</sup> Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, 2017 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-citizenservice-guidance-for-local-authorities

## THE NATIONAL CONTEXT

Local leadership and vision should ideally operate within a framework established by a clear and ambitious national vision for young people. Young people need to know that they are an important consideration in national policy, and that they will receive services to support them towards the same positive outcomes wherever they are in the country. However, there is currently no clear national vision or policy around services for young people, which fall under the remit of the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). Responsibility for young people is with the Minister for Sports and Civil Society.

Neither youth services nor young people are listed in the Department's priorities or in the Minister's role on the departmental website, and we are concerned that this fails to reflect the Government's stated ambitions and commitment to young people. It also does not give the effective or sufficient direction required to support and engage with such a vital part of our society. We consider it essential that youth policy has a far higher profile in government in the future, to provide leadership to the sector and a voice to young people.

Furthermore, where youth services sit with children and family services within councils to ensure integration of services from birth to adulthood, services for young people are currently separate to children's services and education in government. We therefore believe that the Government should explicitly include responsibility for young people within a Ministerial portfolio, to champion young people within government and ensure coordination of policy across all departments.

## Agenda Item 7 SAFEGUARDING

Councils have a statutory duty to safeguard the wellbeing of all young people in their area. This includes making sure that they are safe, and that their mental, emotional and physical health is looked after. Councils will want to satisfy themselves that all provision for young people - regardless of who provides this - is delivered by staff trained in safeguarding procedures and who know how to respond to any concerns. They will also want to be sure that practitioners have the appropriate training and skills for their provision. Training and advice for providers is a key way that councils can support safe, quality provision in their areas. This should reflect the different approach to safeguarding needed for teenagers rather than children, to make sure that all practitioners are aware of the different challenges facing adolescents and are confident in responding to these.

Councils also need to have a strong understanding of their local area and the issues that are affecting young people, as these can change quickly and have considerable impacts in a short space of time. For example, there are emerging criminal activity trends that are more likely to affect young people, such as county lines and gangrelated acid attacks; the impact of Brexit is unknown and potentially causing anxiety for those who will be entering the job market at the point of exit from the EU; and the spate of terrorist attacks in England in the summer of 2017 caused an upturn in hate crime, in addition to the inevitable fear felt by residents. Councils need to be ready to respond swiftly to such changes and challenges by putting in place appropriate services to meet the needs of young people, when they need them. Year-round work with young people, as opposed to time limited interventions, is invaluable in identifying and tackling these new issues quickly. It is also helpful to build in flexibility, where possible, to contracts with commissioned providers so that they are responsive and able to alter provision where necessary to meet arising needs.

### **FUNDING**

Where many youth services were traditionally funded by councils, the landscape has changed significantly since 2010. Councils are facing a £2 billion funding gap for children's services by 2020, and were forced to overspend on their children's services budgets by £605 million across England in 2015/16.4 Government funding for the Early Intervention Grant has been cut by almost £500 million since 2013 and is projected to drop by a further £183 million by 2020. At the same time, demand for child protection services has increased significantly.

These two factors together have led to a major scaling back of universal youth services as councils have been forced to concentrate funding on those children and young people in the most urgent need, rather than the preventative early help and edge of care services – including youth provision – that might reduce need later on. We know that providing early help to children and young people not only supports better outcomes, but it saves significant amounts of money further down the line. The Early Intervention Foundation, for example, estimates that nearly £17 billion is spent every year on late intervention, with £6.4 billion of that falling on local authorities, in particular children's services.<sup>5</sup>

With limited funding available from councils, many organisations are often pursuing the same funding from external sources such as charities and trusts. Councils have an opportunity to invest smaller amounts in core funding for groups so that they can access further funding, and to coordinate funding bids, supporting smaller organisations to come together to deliver work that can contribute to the wider vision. Opportunities for organisations to collaborate meaningfully should be explored wherever possible to support collective impact. Support for writing funding bids can also be helpful, particularly where organisations have limited or part-time staffing.

In some areas, improving the use of council and community assets has been invaluable, and offers an alternative way of supporting service delivery than financial support. Finding ways to allow easier sharing of assets can improve the viability of, and access to, services across the area. This can apply to buildings, funding and resources – both owned by the council and community organisations, and by private and voluntary partners – as well as staff and volunteers.

Using the council's role as a community and partnership leader to facilitate discussions with and investment from the local private sector can help to support delivery of some youth services. Involving local businesses in the development of the vision for local youth services can support this, encouraging buy-in from the beginning and ensuring that the vision helps to support young people to develop the skills they need for the local job market when they reach adulthood.

Some authorities are looking at alternative delivery models in order to deliver services in different ways, depending on the local context. In some areas, Youth Mutuals have been developed to open up alternative sources of funding and to allow the generation of income, while in others, Young People's Foundations bring together the public, private, voluntary and community sectors to make the most effective use of all available funding and assets. In all models, the council as the body with the statutory responsibility will maintain a key role in supporting and setting the direction of local youth provision.

<sup>4</sup> Local Government Association analysis, 2017 https://www.local.gov.uk/about/news/childrens-social-carebreaking-point-council-leaders-warn

<sup>5</sup> Early Intervention Foundation, 2016

http://www.eif.org.uk/publication/the-cost-of-late-intervention-eif-analysis-2016/

## COMMISSIONING AND OUTCOMES

The vision for youth provision in an area should be firmly based on the desired outcomes for young people, supported by a clear understanding of how each service, whether directly delivered or externally commissioned, contributes to its delivery. For each service, it is helpful when commissioning to consider why that service is expected to contribute to that outcome and feed into the bigger picture, to ensure that the offer for young people evolves to meet changing needs.

Provision by alternative providers such as the voluntary and community sector, schools or religious groups can also help to deliver these outcomes. Clearly this cannot be specified by the council; this is where it is useful to develop the local vision in partnership with other sectors, to encourage progress towards a shared vision for young people. Other provision that is not explicitly youth services, for example health services, parks, housing and transport, can help to meet outcomes as part of a systemic approach to supporting young people. Mapping all of this against the needs analysis and outcomes needed to deliver the vision will help to identify gaps in provision.

Evaluating and reporting on outcomes effectively is not easy, and commissioners should acknowledge this, building in proportionate resources to contracts for robust outcome monitoring. In the context of reduced funding, it is not easy to divert money from frontline delivery; councils have a responsibility to their younger residents to ensure high quality services, and contributing to a good evidence base that allows rigorous scrutiny of services is one way to support this. A clear outcomes framework can help to effectively monitor the impact of a service at key milestones to spot where things aren't working and provide opportunities to make changes where needed. It can also support evidence of collective impact across the system, helping to ensure that everyone is working together toward the same outcomes.

As the voluntary and community sector is increasingly involved in the delivery of youth provision, councils will want to consider their commissioning and contract monitoring arrangements to check that these are proportionate and not excluding smaller organisations from putting themselves forward.

Involving young people meaningfully in service design and commissioning can also be effective in ensuring the delivery of appropriate services for young people. Working with young people to identify needs, establish the right outcomes for different services and consider the offers of different organisations can be invaluable in ensuring that the right service and the right provider are appointed. Skilled practitioners, for example youth workers, youth offending team officers, edge-of-care workers or mental health workers should also be involved to bring their expert knowledge to the table and identify potential issues that require further investigation.

A further opportunity arising from developing a shared vision for youth services in the area is joint commissioning and potentially aligned or pooled budgets. Where outcomes are shared by a range of partners, working with those partners to commission and deliver services that meet those shared objectives is more likely to result in more joined-up, efficient services for young people alongside economic benefits.



# DELIVERING THE VISION SUPPORT FOR COUNCILS

## OUR OFFER

We will work with national and regional partners including the National Youth Agency and UK Youth to provide tools to support councils in developing local visions and action plans.

We will work with partners to produce guidance on engaging with young people and involving young people in commissioning.

We will work with partners to coordinate a biannual meeting of key national and regional stakeholders to share information and identify national lobbying priorities.

We will gather and share examples of best practice to share learning and support councils in developing their approaches.

We will commission new research to establish and disseminate the factors that facilitate an effective early help offer including youth provision, looking at how best to engage partner agencies and the community and voluntary sector in developing a joined up offer.

We will work with the National Youth Agency and the Centre for Youth Impact on an outcomes framework for youth services that all councils can use.

We will work with partners to develop a standard checklist for councils to use when commissioning services.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT & NCS TRUST

The Government should ensure that youth policy has a high profile across government to provide leadership and to make sure that young people's voices are heard. Suggestions to do this include:

- The Government should set out its policy and ambitions for services for young people, clearly articulating the role that all government departments will play to deliver that vision.
- The Government should explicitly include responsibility for young people within a Ministerial portfolio to establish a champion for young people and ensure coordination of policy across all departments.

The NCS Trust should work closely with councils on the design and delivery of the National Citizen Service locally.

The Government should allocate a proportion of the funding dedicated to the National Citizen Service directly to councils for them to dedicate to supporting local youth services.

The Government must commit to sustainable investment in preventative services by reversing the cuts to early intervention funding for local councils.

Funding to support the measurement of outcomes and development of a wider evidence base for youth services should be made available to local authorities.





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#### Note of last Children & Young People Board meeting

Title: Children & Young People Board

Date: Thursday 14 June 2018

Venue: Smith Square 1&2, Ground Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P

3HZ

#### **Attendance**

An attendance list is attached as **Appendix A** to this note

#### Item Decisions and actions

#### 1 Welcome and Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 2 National Schools Commissioner

The Chair welcomed Sir David Carter, National Schools Commissioner, to the meeting of the Children and Young People's Board. Sir David gave a presentation on the future priorities for the National Schools Commissioner and working with the Regional School Commissioners.

Sir David emphasised that the role of all those involved in the system needs to be clear and that local authorities need to be included in this. He raised the importance of schools having effective partnerships with local authorities. He also emphasised the importance of place based leadership and the value of local intelligence which local government can provide to the education system. Sir David raised the importance of transparency in the system and highlighted the role peer challenges can play in improving schools.

In the discussion which followed, the following points were raised;

- Following a query regarding the availability of data on school exclusions, Sir David informed the Board that this will be shared with local authorities.
- He also emphasised that they would continue to defend the right of Head Teachers to withhold this information in extreme circumstances.
- Regarding a query on regional school commissioner responsibilities Sir David emphasised that they would continue to have a role in interventions in failing schools, but managing this through triage would be remain with national schools commissioners.

The Chair expressed his thanks to Sir David for speaking with the Board. He also expressed a view that it would be important in future for the Secretary of State to emphasise the role of Councils in education, so that local government has clarity around this.



#### 3 Early Intervention Foundation

Donna Molloy, Early Intervention Foundation, gave a presentation to the Children and Young People's Board on their work around social and emotional skills, links to child mental health and tackling parental conflict. In particular Donna drew attention to where their research evidenced the ways in which inter-parental relationships impacts on outcomes for children. It was highlighted that reducing parental conflict was not a focus for services at present and there wasn't yet a culture of early intervention on this issue.

Donna also emphasised the value of early intervention in supporting social and emotional development. In particular detailing the 3 types of approaches to early intervention in schools including universal classroom-based interviews, whole school interventions and targeted interventions.

Donna detailed future work in this area including a joint programme with the Education Endowment Foundation providing resources for schools, a new national programme focusing on culture change in services, centrally funded workforce development and evidence based interventions to target parent relationship functioning to improve child outcomes as well as continuing to emphasise schools role in local action to improve children's mental health. Donna asked if the Children and Young People Board will support this work.

In the discussion that followed, the following points were raised;

- A view was expressed that the evidence from this work would be useful in supporting the LGA's Bright Futures campaign, and that joined up work around this would be beneficial.
- The need for future work around children and young people's mental health in schools was emphasised and supported.
- It was suggested that the evidence from this work ties in with other work focusing on the impact of domestic violence and would benefit from some joined up working on this subject.

#### **Action**

Officers to work with the Early Intervention Foundation on areas of common interest

LGA Bright Futures task group to meet again after the summer break, to take stock of progress over the past year and consider next steps for the campaign.

#### 4 Children and Young People's Health - Update on activity

Samantha Ramanah, Adviser, introduced the report updating the Children and Young People Board as to the current activities in relation to the LGA's work related to children's health issues.

#### **Decision**

The Children and Young People Board noted the update in the report.

#### 5 Children and Young People Board - End of Year report



The Chair introduced the report providing an overview of the issues and work the Board has overseen during last year.

#### **Decision**

The Board noted the Children and Young People Board achievements for 2017/18.

#### 6 Note of the Previous Meeting

The Board agreed the note of the previous meeting.

#### 7 Children's Services Spending Research

Confidential item.

## 8 Sector-led Improvement in Children's Services and the development of an Early Years peer review programme update

Confidential item.



#### Appendix A - Attendance

| Position/Role                                | Councillor   | Authority  |
|--|--|--|
| Chairman<br>Vice-Chairman<br>Deputy-chairman | Cllr Richard Watts<br>Cllr Roy Perry<br>Cllr Lucy Nethsingha<br>Cllr Gillian Ford  | Islington Council Hampshire County Council Cambridgeshire County Council Havering London Borough Council   |
| Members                                      | Cllr Natasha Airey Cllr Ryan Brent Cllr Matthew Golby Cllr Dick Madden Cllr Laura Mayes Cllr Roger Gough Cllr John Riley Cllr John Kent Cllr Bob Cook Cllr Anntoinette Bramble Cllr David Mellen | Windsor & Maidenhead Royal Borough Portsmouth City Council Northamptonshire County Council Essex County Council Wiltshire Council Kent County Council Hillingdon London Borough Council Thurrock Council Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council Hackney London Borough Council Nottingham City Council |
| Apologies                                    | Cllr Susie Charles<br>Cllr Megan Swift<br>Cllr Andy Moorhead<br>Cllr Carl Cashman  | Lancashire County Council Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council  |
| In Attendance                                | Sir David Carter<br>Luke Tredigo<br>Donna Molloy   | National Schools Commissioner<br>Newton Europe<br>Early Intervention Foundation  |

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