

Community Wellbeing Board – from Cllr Izzi Seccombe (Chairman)

Community Wellbeing Board Away Day

1. On Friday 7 October the Board met for the first time this meeting cycle to discuss our priorities for 2016-17 and hear from guest speakers on a variety of topics related to the Boards work, such as the future of integration, adult social care funding, public health and prevention, and homelessness. Members heard perspectives on the various topics from Stephen Dorrell (Chair of NHS Confederation), John Jackson (ADASS Resources Lead), Frank Ursell (Char of the Care Providers Alliance), Shirley Cramer CBE (Chief Executive of the Royal Society of Public Health, Paul Plant (Deputy Director at Public Health England), David Buck (Senior Fellow at the Kings Fund) and Gill Leng (Public Health England national adviser on health and homes).

Armed forces

2. On 22 July 2016 Cllr Richard Kemp chaired a round table discussion with representatives of the armed forces and Directors of public health to explore opportunities for working closer together.
3. At the end of August we published the joint report with Forces in Mind Trust – [“Our Community, Our Covenant”](#) - a report into the local implementation of the armed forces covenant, recommendations for improvement and sharing examples of good practice. It has been very well received by the armed forces community, Government as well as councils, and we look forward to taking the recommendations in the report forward.

Carers

4. We submitted our call for evidence to inform the development of the [Carers Strategy](#) to the Department of Health. We focused on the opportunities of Carer Friendly Communities and the importance of health support to carers as well as those cared for.

Learning disabilities and autism

5. Cllr Jackie Meldrum represented the CWB Board at the National Learning Disabilities Board on 19 July, meeting the new parliamentary-under-secretary for social care, David Mowat, on his first day in the job. Cllr Meldrum will also be chairing the LGA's event on Autism: [Think Autism: Supporting the person, their family and their carers](#) – being held on Wednesday 23 November in London.

Children and Young People's Mental Health

6. We undertook a survey into the opinions of Directors of Children's Services into the provision of mental health services at a local level, with a focus on the impact of the [Local Transformation Plans](#). The results will form part of a 'state of nation'-style report into Children and Young Peoples' mental health, services and support, and the role of councils, due for publication in December 2016. This is alongside the development of a wider LGA campaign on Children and Young People's mental health.

Supported Housing for vulnerable people

7. After much representation from the LGA, Government announced that they would not be introducing the Local Housing Allowance cap on rents for [supported housing](#) until 2019, when they would be introducing a new funding model for the sector, that is likely to involve a ring-fenced grant going to councils to commission supported housing. The LGA [responded to the announcement](#) and we are awaiting the publication of the fuller consultation, due out imminently. Cllr Jackie Meldrum also spoke at the National Housing Federation's annual conference on [Health and Housing](#) in Birmingham on housing and councils working together to improve health.

Dementia

8. In July 2016 Cllr Gillian Ford co-chaired the PM Challenge on Dementia 2020 (Public Services) thematic group teleconference and in August 2016 Councillor Gillian Ford was a judge for the Alzheimer Society's Dementia Friendly Awards.
9. In August and September 2016 Cllr Jackie Meldrum attended the Prime Minister Challenge on Dementia 2020 Citizens Engagement Programme Task and Finish advisory group. The purpose of the group is provide advice on engaging with citizens to find out if the PM Challenge is making a difference to the lives of people with dementia and carers.

Personalisation

10. In September 2016 Cllr Colin Noble attended the Think Local Act Personal (TLAP) Programme. An output of the programme is the publication: 'Engaging and empowering communities - Our shared commitment and call to action'. This will be published at NCAS.

Mandated Health Visitor Checks

11. Cllr Izzi Seccombe (Community Wellbeing Board Chairman) and Cllr Richard Watts (Chair of the Children and Young People's Board) have written to Nicola Blackwood MP, (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health and Innovation) requesting that the Government does not make a decision about the mandation of health visiting services in isolation. We have proposed that a collective review of all mandated public health services delivered by local councils should be undertaken next year. This will help to ensure that councils are not forced to redirect existing public health budgets to mandated services and that within the context of a reduced funding envelope, there is local flexibility to determine how to target available resources. We have invited the Minister to meet with us discuss this proposal further.

Kings Fund Annual Integration and Care Summit

12. Cllr Izzi Seccombe recently represented the Board at the King's Fund annual Integration and Care Summit, which explored the ways NHS organisations and their partners can collaborate in order to meet the needs of the population they serve. It also focused on the work being done to develop sustainability and transformation plans and how place-based systems offer can enable commissioners and providers to collaborate in response to the pressures they are faced with.

Press Releases and Statements

13. We have recently made public statements on a report by the [Children's Commissioner on school nurses](#), [latest diabetes figures](#), [the Kings Fund report on social care](#), [latest immunisation figures](#), [latest dental statistics](#), [the PACAC report on unsafe discharge from hospital](#), [latest Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards statistics published by NHS Digital](#), and [drug misuse death statistics](#). The LGA has also called for the [prescription of exercise to reduce obesity](#), and [mandatory use of traffic light labelling on food & drink to show nutritional content](#).

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