

7 December 2017

## Chief Executive's Report – December 2017

### Purpose

For discussion and direction.

### Summary

The LGA business plan for 2017/18 centres on six external priorities:

- Britain's exit from the EU;
- Devolution and funding for local government;
- Inclusive growth, jobs and housing;
- Children, education and schools;
- Adult social care and health; and
- Supporting councils.

Part 1 of the six-weekly Chief Executive's report sets out the LGA's main achievements against those priorities. Part two focusses on our internal priority – *a single voice for local government* - including membership and our media outreach activities.

### Recommendation

That the LGA Leadership Board notes the Chief Executive's report for November 2017.

### Action

As directed by members.

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## Chief Executive's Report – December 2017

### Achievements against our external priorities

#### Priority 1 – Britain's exit from the EU

- 1.1. **Committee of the Regions Inquiry:** we submitted a response to a recent Committee of the Regions inquiry on the effect of Brexit on local areas, highlighted the LGA's work and the potential risks and opportunities for local councils.
- 1.2. **Trade & Customs White Papers:** we submitted responses to the Government's recent Trade & Customs White Papers highlighting the vital role councils play in the customs regime as well as supporting trade and investment.
- 1.3. **Migration Advisory Committee Inquiry:** we submitted a response to the MAC inquiry into EEA-works in the UK labour market. Please contact [Brexit@local.gov.uk](mailto:Brexit@local.gov.uk) for further information.
- 1.4. **CLG Select Committee Inquiry into Brexit and Local Government:** the LGA submitted a response to the ongoing Communities and Local Government Select Committee inquiry. The published submissions, including from a number of other local authorities, can be found [here](#).
- 1.5. **CCN and ADEPT Annual Conferences:** Cllr Kevin Bentley, Chair of the Brexit Task and Finish Group, spoke on the LGA's approach to Brexit and the potential risks and opportunities for the sector at both the recent CCN and ADEPT Annual Conferences.
- 1.6. The EU (Withdrawal) Bill began its Committee Stage in the House of Commons. Ahead of the first two days of committee, we issued a briefing to MPs highlighting our lines of the Bill.

#### Priority 2 – Devolution and funding for Local Government

- 2.1 **Autumn Budget:** we provided an on-the-day briefing on 22 November. A report on the announcements relevant to local government is tabled separately.
- 2.2 Following the Budget announcement, our Senior-Vice Chair Cllr Nick Forbes gave evidence to the Treasury Committee where, in a session on housing policy, he discussed our response to the Budget announcements on housing and planning, and the policies needed to tackle the housing crisis. We also circulated a media statement reiterating Cllr Forbes's key recommendations to the Committee.
- 2.3 **2018/19 Local Government Finance Settlement:** following comments by the Leadership Board, Executive and Lead Members of Resources Board, the response to the technical consultation on the 2018/19 Local Government Finance Settlement was submitted to Government in October.
- 2.4 **Business Rates Retention:** the Steering Group, the Responsibilities Working group and the System Design Working Group have all held meetings. The Responsibilities Working Group reviewed and agreed its previous decisions on which grants could be funded through further business rates retention. As there is uncertainty around the Government's overall policy direction on the responsibilities aspect of the reforms the group has agreed there is no longer a need to continue to meet for the time being. The systems design working group reviewed its forward work plan. Papers for those meetings are available on the [LGA business rates retention hub](#).
- 2.5 **Fair Funding Review:** the Fair Funding Technical Working group met on 17 November. Discussions focussed on various options for reflecting income from council tax in formula, as well as the potential and limitations of having a single-formula based needs assessment. Papers are published on our business rates retention [hub](#). There was a local government workshop for all members of the joint DCLG / LGA steering and working groups to discuss the Fair Funding Review on 27 November.

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Separately, officers are in the process of doing the extra work agreed by Leadership Board and Executive in October.

- 2.6 **Business Rates Reliefs:** we have worked with DCLG and local authorities to develop a better understanding of the status of implementation of the three business rate relief schemes announced in Spring Budget 2017. The Government now regularly publishes a list of councils that have implemented some or all relief schemes
- 2.7 **MiFID II:** the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive reclassifies local and public authorities from professional investors to retail investors from 3 January 2018, limiting the options available to authorities for both pensions investments and for treasury management purposes. Following the publication earlier this year of the Financial Conduct Authority's policy statement on implementation, we have produced a guidance note for councils outlining the steps they need to undertake if they wish to elect to retain their status as a professional investor. This [note](#) has been published on our website and was produced following consultation with a range of colleagues in the local government and financial sectors.
- 2.8 Cllr David Simmonds, hosted a briefing event for Conservative Vice-Presidents in the House of Commons. The briefing event was an opportunity to highlight our calls for local government to be fully funded ahead of the Autumn Budget.
- 2.9 We briefed MPs and Peers ahead of debates on finance and devolution for district councils.

### **Priority 3 – Inclusive Growth, Jobs and Housing**

- 3.1 **Industrial Strategy:** we produced a briefing on the Government's White Paper industrial strategy welcoming the recognition of the crucial role of place and recognising the strengths and opportunities that each area brings and the vital contribution of local government. We reinforced that councils need to be able to draw on the right powers and adequate funding to deliver successful and inclusive economies.
- 3.2 **DCLG consultation on planning for the right homes in the right places:** we [responded](#) to the DCLG consultation on this important area, raising concerns about the proposed model for calculating local housing need, and calling for it to be optional.
- 3.3 **Proliferation of telephone kiosks:** we hosted a workshop for DCLG and local authorities to understand and explore the issues associated with the recent increases in prior approval applications for new telephone kiosks, and the associated advertising, in city centre locations.
- 3.4 **Air quality evidence:** we submitted evidence to the APPG on air quality and the joint EFRA, Transport, Health and Environmental audit select committee inquiry into air quality. Cllr Adele Morris, Deputy Chair of Environment, Economy, Housing and Transport Board, gave evidence to both committees, making it clear we welcome the Government's decision to allow local areas to determine the best solutions to improve air quality but we need more powers, proper funding and robust national action to ensure local plans are successful.
- 3.5 **Air quality seminar:** we convened a seminar of authorities that have been required to formulate air quality plans to improve nitrogen dioxide levels. The seminar allowed authorities to share information and gain outside perspectives on the plans they have formulated. It will also inform our work on the subject in the future.
- 3.6 **Submission to accessibility action plan:** we submitted a response to the DFT's accessibility action plan, offering views on specific issues like shared space, pavement parking and community transport. We also made it clear that the Government needs to focus its efforts on accessibility and give the work a sense of priority and hierarchy.

- 3.7 **Supported Housing:** DCLG and DWP have launched a consultation on the future funding of supported housing, including a new ring-fenced DCLG grant for councils in relation to short term accommodation for vulnerable people. We welcomed confirmation that the Local Housing Allowance rates will not apply to supported housing or wider social housing. We invited councils to help shape our response at an event on 4 December.
- 3.8 The Committees of Advertising Practice (CAP) have that **broadband speed claims** used in advertising should be based on the download speed available to at least 50 per cent of customers at peak time and described as “average”. This is one of the aspects of our Up to Speed campaign and in our response we said these changes are long overdue, highlighting the importance of good digital connectivity for our residents and the need for greater honesty and openness about download and upload speeds.
- 3.9 **Autonomous and Electric Vehicles Bill:** received its Second Reading and began its Committee Stage in the House of Commons. We issued briefings ahead of both debates.
- 3.10 There were debates in both Houses of Parliament on **Universal Credit** and the problems affecting the rollout of the scheme. We issued briefings ahead of both debates.
- 3.11 We issued a briefing to Peers ahead of a debate in the House of Lords on the **rural economy**.
- 3.12 We issued a briefing to MPs ahead of a debate in the House of Commons on **temporary accommodation**.

#### Priority 4 – Children, education and schools

- 4.1 **NCAS:** The Chairman and Children and Young People Board office holders attended this year's National Children and Adult Services Conference on 11-13 October in Bournemouth. The conference provided many opportunities to discuss issues across the spectrum of children's and adults' services and how to respond locally. Members were encouraged to share their experiences and examples throughout the event.
- 4.2 **Youth Justice Board:** Cllr Richard Watts has written to Charlie Taylor, Chair of the Youth Justice Board, to express concern over the safety of those in youth custody. This was followed by our press release calling for an action plan from Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service to address the problem swiftly. Officers have also met with the Youth Justice Board to raise this issue.
- 4.3 **Children's Services:** Cllr Richard Watts, Chair of the Children and Young People Board, has spoken at several Parliamentary events to highlight the £2 billion funding gap facing children's services and the need for additional resources to enable sufficient investment in vital early help services. Recent examples include the All Party Parliamentary Group on Families in the Early Years, a roundtable organised by the Children's Services APPG and a conference hosted by the Westminster Education Forum.
- 4.4 **Solace summit:** Cllr Richard Watts jointly chaired a session at the recent Solace summit focussing on children's services funding and improvement. Discussions focussed on the £2 billion children's social care funding gap, as well as the shape of a new model of sector led children's improvement and the LGA's Bright Futures publication which was launched in October.
- 4.5 **Home-schooling:** the Government has announced new guidance for councils and parents who choose to home-school their child. These new, tougher rules will clearly set out the action councils can take if they believe a youngster is not being educated properly or is at risk. We have warned that, whilst councils have a legal duty to ensure home-educated children receive a suitable education, they currently have no actual powers to visit children in their homes to check, unless the parents give their consent or there is a serious safeguarding concern. We will also continue to push for a legal duty on

parents to register home-schooled children with their council to help monitor how children are being educated, and prevent children from disappearing from the oversight of services designed to keep them safe.

- 4.6 We issued a briefing on **school places and fair funding for schools**, ahead of a debate in the House of Lords

### Priority 5 – Adult Social Care and health

- 5.1 **Opposition Day Debate:** we briefed MPs ahead of an Opposition Day Debate on social care on 25 October, highlighting, amongst other things, the scale of funding pressures and their consequences, the urgent need to see the Government's proposals for the future sustainability of care and support, and the importance of not over-focusing on delayed transfers of care and instead looking at wider challenges across the care and health system. A transcript of the debate is available [here](#).
- 5.2 **ILC Commission:** On 24 October Cllr Gillian Ford was an expert witness at the ILC Commission on Music and Dementia at the House of Lords.
- 5.3 **Better Care Fund:** On 7 November, Margaret Wilcox, President of the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services and Cllr Izzi Seccombe, Chair of the LGA Community Wellbeing Board and I sent a joint letter, to update the Chief Executives, Directors of Adult Social Services and Lead Members for Adult Social Care of all councils with adult social care responsibilities to update them on recent developments on the Better Care Fund and Improved Better Care Fund and the action we are taking to support councils through the Care and Health Improvement Programme.
- 5.4 **Delayed Transfers of Care:** On 9 November the latest monthly delayed transfers of care (DToCs) figures were published, found [here](#), showing the number of delays attributable to adult social care has fallen. Councils have reduced the number of delayed transfers of care attributable to social care since July by 7.2 per cent. This compares to the NHS reducing delays by 3.4 per cent. In our [response](#) we said this is a testament to the huge ongoing efforts by councils to get people out of hospital and back into the community.
- 5.5 **Extension of NHS seasonal influenza vaccination to include social care workers:** NHS England announced in October that they will fund up to £10m for this flu season to support the delivery of flu immunisation for social care workers that offer direct patient/client care. The LGA have been working with NHSE colleagues to ensure the scheme successfully protects staff and patients/clients and contribute to the resilience of the health and social care system in the coming winter.
- 5.6 **Mental Health Foundation:** Officers attended the schools mental health advisory group meeting hosted by the Mental Health Foundation. The group is providing strategic support to the Mental Health Foundation to roll out peer education training programme to young people in schools. Cllr Gillian Ford will attend these meetings in future.
- 5.7 **Sleep-in shift pay compliance scheme:** the Government have [launched](#) a new voluntary compliance scheme in which social care providers can work with HMRC to assess how much they owe in back pay for underpaying workers for sleep-in shifts. Employers will not have to settle any back payments until March 2019, which allows the sector time to further understand the size and potential impact of the historic liability. In our [response](#) we warned that this does not end the uncertainty, and called on the Government to provide genuinely new funding to deal with any back-payment.
- 5.8 We submitted written evidence to the joint Health/EFRA/Environmental Audit/Transport Committee inquiry into **air quality**.
- 5.9 Cllr David Simmonds, gave evidence to the **Environmental Audit Committee** on disposable packaging, highlighting councils' progress in dealing with plastic bottle and paper waste.

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- 5.10 We issued a briefing to MPs calling for £2.3 billion funding gap facing adult social care by 2020 to be filled, ahead of a debate in the House of Commons on **social care**.
- 5.11 We issued a briefing to MPs ahead of a debates in the House of Commons on **supported housing and children's oral health**
- 5.12 We issued a briefing to Peers on the challenges facing **adult social care**, ahead of a debate in the House of Lords on the comprehensive care of older people.
- 5.13 We issued a briefing to Peers ahead of a debate in the House of Lords on the challenges facing problem **gamblers**.

### **Priority 6 – Supporting Councils**

- 6.1 **Innovation Zone:** we are inviting councils and organisations through various means to put their innovations forward by Friday 26 January so that we can consider showcasing them in our Innovation Zone at the LGA Annual Conference from 3 – 5 July in Birmingham. Visit our [website](#) if you are interested in showcasing your work.
- 6.2 **Sector-led improvement peers:** held a very successful Conference for Member Peers at Manchester Town Hall. The conference was a key occasion to thank peers for the contribution they make to the success of sector-led improvement and provided an important opportunity to engage peers on the key issues facing the sector, helping to inform the LGA's improvement work going forward.
- 6.3 **Political leadership programme:** over 784 delegates have so far registered this financial year to attend our political leadership programmes, putting us on track to break our previous records. So far this financial year, 244 authorities have registered - a new record for this time of the year of the programme.
- 6.4 Following feedback from Member Authorities, introduced new **masterclasses to our political leadership development** offer. This includes Collaborative Partnerships and Emergency Planning and Civil Resilience.
- 6.5 Our **e-learning offer** now has over 8,250 sign ups and the number of training options available continues to grow. We have launched a number of new e-learning modules for councillors, including most recently data protection, anti bribery and corruption, and supporting residents with difficult issues.
- 6.6 **National Graduate Development Programme (ngdp):** 130 graduates have been placed in councils. This is a significant increase on the 2016 intake (95). Registration is now open for councils wishing to take part in ngdp next year and applications are open for candidates to apply. So far this year there are nearly 2,500 applications, which is a significant increase at this stage last year.
- 6.7 **LG Inform - Value for Money (VfM):** worked with Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) to develop this [tool](#) as a replacement for PSAA's existing VfM Profile. It has been designed to help auditors, authority officers and the public understand the costs of delivering local services by providing an overview of comparative spend and performance over time and relative to others.
- 6.8 **'Encouraging Innovation in Local Government Procurement':** launched this [publication](#) in September and it has had a great response.
- 6.9 **Energy Category Strategy:** launched this [publication](#). It includes information about making savings and achieving more social value through our £773 million collective spend on energy.
- 6.10 **Commercialisation:** working with Central Government's Commercial Function and have agreed that councils can now access their commercial/procurement related training sessions free of charge. More

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details are on the [Knowledge Hub](#).

- 6.11 **Digital:** continuing to promote the free delegate places for council officers on Government Digital Service's Digital Academy this year. There are a range of courses at different locations across the country, which provide training in how to apply an agile approach to digital projects, and help design and build digital services that better meet users' needs.
- 6.12 **Support for library services:** published a new [strategic planning and needs mapping tool](#) to help library services to identify local needs and develop a strategy for addressing them. We have also developed a sector-led [benchmarking framework](#) to help library services to assess their performance against best practice.
- 6.13 **Support for Culture and Sport Portfolio holders:** Sport England and Arts Council England are contributing £110,000 towards five Leadership Essentials sport events, two Leadership Essentials culture events and three culture peer challenges. Over the last five years, almost 300 Portfolio holders have attended the Leadership Essentials events and over twenty-five councils have received either sport or culture peer challenges.
- 6.14 **Return to Social Work:** in partnership with central government, launched [Return to Social Work](#) programme which will look to retrain 100 social workers for both adults and children who have left the profession.
- 6.15 **#OurDay:** On 21 November, member councils across the country joined us on Twitter for #OurDay, highlighting all of the work that councils do for their communities. We were trending in the number one spot across the UK and first worldwide in the English language. We managed to achieve over 45,000 tweets from nearly 14,000 contributors, reaching more than 31 million people.

## **Internal Priority – A single voice for local government**

### **LGA Membership**

7. The total number of councils on notice remains at eight. These are:
- West Sussex County Council
  - East Staffordshire Borough Council
  - London Borough of Richmond
  - Hartlepool Borough Council
  - Leicestershire County Council
  - Essex County Council
  - Lincolnshire County Council
  - Southend Borough Council
8. Four councils remain out of membership – the London Boroughs of Bromley, Wandsworth and Barnet and Gosport Borough Council.

### **Membership engagement by the Strategic Management Team**

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| <b>Chief Executive</b>              |   |
| <i>18 October – 7 December 2017</i> |   |
| 19 October                          | Society of Local Council Clerks Conference  |
| 30 October                          | National Association of Local Councils Conference                                   |
| 1-3 November                        | Society of Local Authority Chief Executives Conference                              |
| 8 November                          | District Councils Network Chief Executive Group                                     |
| 9 November                          | Leicestershire County Council   |
| 16 November                         | Norfolk Chief Executives  |
| 20 November                         | County Councils Network Conference  |
| 21 November                         | Lister Hospital – Hertfordshire County Council                                      |
| 24 November                         | Association of County Chief Executives and Society of Metropolitan Chief Executives |
| 1 December                          | MJ Future Forum North   |
| <i>Forward plan</i>                 |   |
| 10 January                          | Havant & East Hampshire   |
| 16 January                          | North East Chief Executives   |
| 30 January                          | Bradford MBC  |
| 2 February                          | South West Councils   |
| <b>Deputy Chief Executive</b>       |   |
| <i>18 October – 7 December 2017</i> |   |
| 30 October                          | Hertfordshire County Council  |
| 1-3 November                        | Society of Local Authority Chief Executives Conference                              |
| 6 November                          | Surrey County Council   |
| 24 November                         | Association of Local Authority Treasurer Societies                                  |
| 1 December                          | East of England Chief Executives  |
| <b>Director of Communications</b>   |   |
| <i>18 October – 7 December 2017</i> |   |
| 2 November                          | Hillingdon  |
| 6-8 November                        | Stevenage   |
| 27-29 November                      | West Midlands Combined Authority  |



**Media**

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| <b>Devolution and funding for local government</b>   |
| Lord Porter interviewed live on Channel 4 News and Sky News with the LGA's response to the Budget  |
| Tax match could raise £400m for roadworks (Telegraph, Times, i paper, Sun on Sunday, Mail Online)  |
| Cllr Martin Tett on tax match for roads funding (LBC, Sky News Radio)  |
| Fly-tipping costs councils £58 million (BBC Online, Telegraph, Mail, Sky News Online, LBC Online,  |
| Cllr Marianne Overton on how pool halls and sports clubs could close due to lack of funding (LBC, Talk Sport, Talk Radio, BBC Online)                      |
| Cost of care will take up most of council tax within two years (Mail, Times, Sky News)   |
| Council tax debt (BBC Online, Mirror Online, BBC Victoria Derbyshire programme, BBC Radio 4's Today programme, BBC Radio 1, BBC Radio 2, BBC Radio 5 Live) |
| Devolve industrial strategy powers and funding or risk leaving areas, say councils (Share Radio)   |
| Councils to spend £1bn on commercial property to generate income and plug funding gaps (Guardian)  |
| <b>Inclusive growth, jobs and housing</b>  |
| Theresa promises £10bn for Help to Buy (BBC Online, Sunday Times)  |
| Theresa May announces £2bn for council home expansion (BBC Online, Independent Online, Guardian Online, i paper, FT, Times)                                |
| Cllr Martin Tett: It's about priorities (Guardian)   |
| Lord Porter on council housebuilding (BBC Radio 5 Live)  |
| One million private renters 'risk homelessness' (Observer, Mirror)   |
| Cllr Martin Tett on house borrowing (BBC News, BBC Radio 5 Live, i paper)  |
| Response to Shelter report on homelessness (BBC Online, Metro Online)  |
| Lord Porter about how local authorities must play role in solving housing shortage (FT)  |
| Right to Buy is doomed unless we get more power, say councils (Times Online, BBC Online)   |
| Cllr Peter Fleming on Sky News Radio and Cllr Marianne Overton on BBC Radio Berkshire about Right to Buy   |
| Lord Porter on front page of Telegraph business section about how housing borrowing cap should be lifted (Telegraph)                                       |
| Lord Porter interviewed on Sky News and Channel 4 News to call for councils to be given greater freedoms to encourage housebuilding                        |
| Cllr Martin Tett about councils to be given financial freedoms to encourage more housebuilding (BBC News, BBC Online)                                      |
| Government housing benefit cut is making homelessness worse, councils warn (Independent)   |
| Hammond considers council freedoms to boost social housing (FT Online, Independent Online, Mirror)   |
| Hammond's Budget big five: cuts, pay, housing, roads and students (Observer)   |
| Opinion: Give councils more borrowing powers to build (Guardian Online)  |
| Hammond to pledge 300,000 homes a year (Mirror Online)   |
| One in seven renters spending more than half their income in rent (Independent Online,   |

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| BBC Online)   |
| Budget 2017: Plans to fix 'broken housing market' get mixed response (Times, Telegraph, FT Online)  |
| LGA calls for Hammond's plans to boost housebuilding to go further (FT)   |
| 700,000 approved homes in Britain are 'still waiting to be developed' (Express)   |
| New home plots: First-time buyer developments could spring up around the country (Sun)  |
| <b>Children, education and schools</b>  |
| Cllr Richard Watts interviewed on BBC Radio File on Four about home schools   |
| Regulators ask online gaming sites to remove cartoon advertisements (Mail, Guardian Online, Times, Telegraph, Sun Online, Independent Online, BBC Online)   |
| Children's services at tipping point, record number of children in care (Guardian, Sun, Independent, Mirror, i paper, Times, ITV Online, BBC Victoria Derbyshire, Good Morning Britain, BBC Breakfast, BBC News)      |
| Cllr Richard Watts on BBC Radio 5 Live about children in care   |
| Cllr Richard Watts on Education, Health and Care plans (BBC Radio 4 You and Yours programme)  |
| Children who need mental health support face 'postcode lottery' (Guardian Online, Telegraph)  |
| Benefits cuts causing surge in demand for children's services (Independent)   |
| More children than ever need our help, but they are being ignored (Guardian Online)   |
| Vulnerable children have to reach crisis to get help (BBC Online)   |
| LGA Vice Chairman Cllr David Simmonds on Sky News about record numbers of children at risk of neglect or abuse in England and £2 billion funding gap facing children's services by 2020 (Sky News Online, LBC Online) |
| Government must close children's services funding gap (Independent)   |
| LGA Vice Chair Cllr Howard Sykes on BBC Radio 5 Live about impact of closure of youth centres on communities  |
| <b>Adult social care and health</b>   |
| Budget backlash over NHS and social care cash (Observer)  |
| Councils forced to use emergency cash to pay for social care as funding shortfall grows (Independent)   |
| 9 out of 10 councils will run out of care home places (Mail, Mirror, Express Online)  |
| Home first model aims to stop patients being stranded (BBC Online)  |
| Lord Porter NCASC speech (Guardian Online)  |
| Number of older homeless people on the rise (Independent, Express, Mirror, Mail Online)   |
| Loneliness epidemic (Independent, Express)  |
| Drug overdoses rise where cuts are deepest (Observer)   |
| DTOCs (Times, BBC Radio 4 Today)  |
| Lack of choice means families had to settle for care homes (Mail)   |
| Social care crisis yet billions go abroad (Express)   |
| Council spend doubles on social workers from agencies (BBC Online, BBC Radio 5 Live)  |
| Public health cuts lead to contraceptive care service closures (i paper)  |
| Care homes warn sleep-in back pay could bankrupt them (Mirror Online)   |
| Cllr Izzi Seccombe on BBC Radio 4's World at One about funding for substance misuse treatment   |

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| 'Wake-up call' of alcohol death figures among over-50s (Guardian, Times)   |
| Cost of care homes increased by a quarter since 2012 (LBC)   |
| Hammond urged to tackle underfunding of dementia care (Express)  |
| Cllr Izzi Seccombe on LBC about social care cuts linked to excess deaths (Independent Online twice, Sun Online, Metro Online)  |
| Government accused of 'dragging feet' on social care review (Independent Online)   |
| Budget 2017: NHS funding plan 'not enough', say bosses (Telegraph Online)  |
| Opinion: Have there been two decades of failure to reform social care? (BBC Online)  |
| <b>Supporting councils</b>   |
| Cllr Martin Tett on Sky News Radio about councils preparing for winter by stockpiling 1.5 million tonnes of salt and other measures (BBC Online, Telegraph, Independent, i paper, Express) |
| Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson on BBC Radio 4 You and Yours about leisure services   |
| Councils put brakes on Uber rollout (Sunday Times)   |
| Security bolstered at Christmas markets (Telegraph, Mirror Online, Mail Online, Star)  |
| Car owners to face fines for passenger littering (BBC Online, Metro Online)  |
| On the spot fines for litter louts (Times, Telegraph, Mirror Online)   |
| LGA call for FOBTs maximum betting stakes to be reduced (Mail, Telegraph, Guardian, ITV News, Talk Radio)  |
| Councils and fire chiefs warn people not to buy cheap fireworks (Mail Online, ITV Online)  |
| Cllr Simon Blackburn on Sky News Radio and LBC about warning people not to buy cheap fireworks   |
| Nearly 40 per cent of battery-powered smoke alarms fail to activate in fires (BBC Radio 4, Telegraph, Mirror, Sun on Sunday, Mail Online, ITV Online, BBC local radio)                     |
| Cllr Peter Fleming on BBC Breakfast, BBC Radio 2 and BBC Radio 5 Live news bulletins about how almost 40 per cent of battery-powered smoke alarms fail to activate in fires                |
| Return to Social Work programme (Evening Standard)   |
| #OurDay 2017 preview (Guardian Online)   |