Councillors' Forum



25 January 2018

Community Wellbeing Board – from Cllr Izzi Seccombe (Chair)

Conferences, meetings and external events

- On 24 October, Cllr Gillian Ford was an expert witness at the International Longevity Centre Commission on Music and Dementia at the House of Lords. She will attend the launch of the final report in January 2018.
- 2. On 1 November, I spoke at the UKactive National Summit on the theme 'Our Ageing Population: How can physical activity play a leading role in social and residential care'. The panel discussion before representatives from the physical activity sector discussed how the sector can support the NHS and local authorities to deliver its ambitions for a healthy, active nation.
- 3. On 13 November, I met Noel Gordon, Chair of NHS Digital, to discuss prevention and data security, as well as collecting and using data across the health and care sector. We also had a constructive discussion around how NHS Digital and local government can work closer together to support the sector – both around awareness raising with the sector of what NHS Digital can do for councils and ongoing engagement.
- 4. On 28 November, Mayor Kate Allsop chaired a New Care Models event as part of a programme of work to spread the learning from the new care models led in collaboration by the Local Government Association, NHS Providers, NHS Clinical Commissioners and the NHS Confederation. Mayor Allsop also participated in the panel discussion, along with Councillor Jonathon McShane, on the importance of system leadership and how experiences from the new models of care can be utilised in future integration programmes. The event was extremely well received and will be repeated in Birmingham on 31 January, where I will be taking part in the panel discussion.
- 5. Cllr Richard Kemp represented the LGA at a sector roundtable on the future of adult social care, hosted by the Alzheimer's Society on 28 November. Looking ahead to the promised green paper on care and support reform, the roundtable explored the state of social care and the issues a green paper should address, and discussed principles that should underpin reform, which could be supported cross-sector.
- 6. On 29 November, Cllr Doreen Huddart attended a Parliamentary Breakfast Roundtable on 'Understanding the Psychological Dimensions of Dementia to Improve Care' at the Houses of Parliament. The roundtable was hosted by Dr Lisa Cameron MP, Shadow Mental Health Spokesperson and Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Psychology.
- 7. On 30 November, Councillor Richard Kemp chaired the LGA's Prevention at Scale networking event. We have designed and are piloting support to help areas improve the scale and pace of some of their prevention initiatives. We are currently in the testing phase of this support with a small group of areas and will be sharing learning from these sites
- 8. On 4 December, Mayor Kate Allsop chaired and presented at an LGA event which gave over 40 councils the opportunity to shape the LGA's response to the Government's consultation on future funding of supported housing. Delegates welcomed the opportunity for greater local commissioning and emphasised the importance of adequate government funding to meet current and future demand for support housing.

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- 9. On 12 December, Cllr Jackie Meldrum attended a reception at the House of Lords 'Healthy, Independent Ageing the pivotal role of the home'. The event allowed speakers to share their views of the role of the home, particularly adaption of current homes, in the context of an ageing population.
- 10. On 10 January, Mayor Kate Allsop attended a meeting of the Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat Steering Group.
- 11. On 17 January, I met Duncan Selbie, Chief Executive at Public Health England to discuss progress of the NHS Healthcheck programme as it reaches the end of the first five years of operation in local government.

Publications and correspondence

- 12. Along with Cllr Claire Kober OBE (Chair of the Resources Board) and Margaret Wilcox OBE (President of ADASS), I wrote to ministers to request a meeting and highlight our continued significant concern about the ability of employers and individuals to fund back-payments and meet ongoing costs arising from changes to sleep-in payments.
- 13. In October 2017, the LGA published a document entitled 'Adult Social Care Funding: State of the Nation 2017', which looked people's experience of existing care and support, and considered the consequences mounting funding pressures are having on the entire social care system and the support available to those in need.
- 14. On 13 December, a briefing written in partnership with Public Health England and the Association of Directors of Public Health titled 'Making obesity everybody's business' was published. The briefing focuses on the 'Whole Systems Obesity' programme, which will provide local authorities with a different approach to tackling obesity.
- 15. On 13 January, we reissued the LGA publication '<u>Tackling poor oral health in children a guide for local authorities</u>'. Tooth decay is the most common oral disease affecting children and young people in England, yet it is largely preventable. Local authorities have a statutory responsibility to provide or commission oral health improvement programmes to improve the health of the local population, to the extent that they consider appropriate in their areas.

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