

## **Children and Young People Board – from Cllr Roy Perry (Vice-Chair)**

### **Conferences, meetings and external events**

1. Cllr Richard Watts spoke at the launch of the Care Crisis review, highlighting the huge pressure on children's services as a result of rapidly rising demand and significantly decreased resources.
2. Cllr Richard Watts met the Children's Minister, Nadhim Zahawi, and DfE officials to share the findings of new LGA research on the causes of variable spending on children's services across the country. The research identified a range of factors that result in inevitable variation in spending. Half of the variation was found to be outside of the direct control of local authorities, with deprivation the single biggest factor.
3. Cllr Lucy Nethsingha spoke at the APPG for Youth Work on 11 July. Chaired by Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP and supported by the National Youth Agency, the current inquiry was launched by cross-party MPs to evidence the role and impact of youth work and to consider whether there is sufficient provision to meet some of the key challenges and opportunities for young people. Cllr Nethsingha spoke on the important role of youth work as part of a broader package of services for young people, the £2 billion funding gap faced by children's services and the reduction in funding for the Early Intervention Grant.
4. Cllr Richard Watts and CYP Board Member Cllr Anntoinette Bramble both spoke at the LGA's conference on Home Education and Addressing Unregistered Schools on 14 June. We had an excellent turnout from local authorities, along with representatives of the home education community who were able to provide a helpful perspective for discussions on the day. Feedback from the conference informed the LGA's submission to the DfE's call for evidence on home education, and we are now considering how to take forward some of the key recommendations.

### **Publications and correspondence**

5. Cllr Lucy Nethsingha, Deputy Chair of the Children and Young People's Board, chaired a well-attended LGA Annual Conference workshop on mental health and loneliness. We also launched "Must Know" guides for councillors on mental health and loneliness.
6. On 8 June Cllr Gillian Ford co-hosted an LGA seminar with the Children and Young People's Mental Health Coalition to promote the Bright Futures CAMHS campaign and to discuss areas for joint working in the future.

### **Press Releases and Statements**

7. In June Cllr Richard Watts made public statements on [responding to latest school offer statistics](#),

8. In June I made the following public statements on [responding to EPI report on school performance](#), [figures analysed by the LGA indicating more than 180 children are placed on child protection plans every day to keep them safe from harm](#), [responding to a report by education think tank LKMco and social enterprise Minds Ahead on what role schools should play in tackling the youth mental health crisis](#) and [responding to Action for Children's 'Revolving Door' report](#).
  
9. I have recently also made [public statements responding to children's commissioner report on vulnerable children](#), [responding to a joint report on neglect of older children from the inspectorates Ofsted, HMI Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services \(HMICFRS\), the Care Quality Commission \(CQC\) and HMI Probation](#), [on new analysis reveals more failing schools are turned around by councils than academy chains](#), [responding to a report by the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Children on varying levels of social care support for children](#) and [responds to PAC report on academy conversions](#).

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