

## Community Wellbeing Board – End of Year report

1. This report summarises activity on our key priorities. However, the activity of the Board covers a far wider range of policy issues. The Community Wellbeing Board has responsibility for Local Government Association's activity in the areas of the wellbeing of adults, including lifelong learning, training, health and social care and for the wellbeing of all people in the areas of community cohesion, asylum and immigration. The LGA has continued to promote the vital leadership role of local government in the health and care system.

### Achievements and Priorities

#### Public Health

##### *Transformation and Health Protection*

2. The LGA have continued to argue that reductions in councils' public health grants of more than £700 million in real terms by the end of this financial year will impact on councils' ability to continue their good work. We have argued that to take vital money away from the services which can be used to prevent illness and the need for treatment later down the line and ease the pressure on the NHS is counter-productive.
3. The publication of the Secretary of State's vision document, *Prevention is better than cure*, in 2018 signalled a very welcome and timely interest in increasing the priority given by government to the prevention of avoidable ill health. The expected publication of a Green Paper on prevention in July 2019 provides a major opportunity to lobby for tangible policy actions to improve prevention and early intervention.
4. In January, we published [Local Government Delivers](#).
5. Air quality remained at top of the public health agenda. Local authorities have a central role in achieving improvements in air quality. We have worked collaboratively with Defra and PHE to generate an updated suite of tools which will help local authorities to take action to improve air quality.
6. Childhood obesity continued to be a priority for central and local government. In July we launched the "Trailblazer" programme to help to support councils develop their existing powers is also good news. We also published [Healthy Weight, Healthy Futures](#).
7. A joint publication with PHE [National Child Measurement Programme: a briefing for elected members](#) shares how councils are helping children to achieve a healthy lifestyle.
8. In March we held our seventh Annual Public Health Conference. The event highlighted the innovative work already being undertaken by councils and public health teams, with their partners and communities, and it looked at how to build on existing best practice to identify and tackle the challenges and opportunities of the new public health landscape. We also launched our [Health visiting](#) publication with ADPH. In the same month we

published *Public health transformation six years on* showing how local authorities are making progress on improving health and wellbeing and tackling health inequalities since public health was transferred to local authorities in 2013.

9. Finally, following a lengthy DHSC review of public health commissioning, the LGA successfully lobbied for public health services to remain with local government. The Secretary of State described the LGA's evidence as "comprehensive, compelling and clear". We are delighted that has accepted the LGA's powerful case for councils to keep their vital role and responsibilities for providing public health services.

#### *Children and young people's health*

10. In September we submitted written evidence to Health Social Care Select Committee inquiry into the First 1000 days. We highlighted the improved outcomes and innovation which councils have achieved and stressed the need for a sustainably resourced, integrated approach to early intervention.
11. In line with the current Government focus on the importance of the First 1001 days of a child's life, we published two timely reports [A Better Start](#) setting out the measures being taken by local authorities to bring together health, social care and early education services to create a holistic approach to meeting the needs of young children and families and [Fit for and During Pregnancy](#), demonstrating the importance of local authorities in delivering maternity and neonatal care through health visitors, family workers, midwives, social care and children's centres staff.
12. On the 25 March we launched a [joint publication](#) with PHE on supporting young parents to reach their full potential.

#### *Serious Youth Violence*

13. In April the Prime Minister opened the Serious Youth Violence Summit, bringing together partners from across the sector. Councillor Hudspeth represented the LGA at the roundtable focused on health and highlighted the importance of taking a multi-agency approach, the need to invest in CAMHS and wider public health interventions to prevent children and young people becoming more vulnerable and reaching crisis points.

#### **Adult social care and support**

##### *LGA Green Paper*

14. Following further delays to the Government's proposals for the future of care and support, the LGA's Chairman and Group Leaders approved plans for the LGA to develop its own green paper on adult social care and wellbeing.
15. The LGA green paper, [The lives we want to lead](#), was published on 31 July 2018 and received extensive national media coverage. Board Lead Members and senior officers within the LGA have spoken about our green paper at numerous parliamentary and sector events and conferences.

16. Videos we produced to accompany the green paper have been watched more than 83,500 times. The Twitter debate, through #FutureofASC, has reached more than four million people.
17. We received 548 submissions to our consultation, which exceeded our expectations. We established a Sounding Board of more than 30 partners to help inform our thinking. This met once in August and once in September. We also commissioned public polling of 1,741 members of the public and a series of five focus groups across the country.
18. Our response to our green paper was launched on 14 November 2018 at the annual National Children and Adult Services Conference. As part of the launch, LGA Chairman, Lord Porter, sent copies of the report to the Secretary of State of Health and Social Care, opposition spokespeople and LGA Vice Presidents.
19. Green Paper stats from **1 July 2018 - 10 June 2019**; over 83,194 webpage views, the Green paper had 10,954 page views and the summary green paper - 11,039 page views. The main paper had over 5,259 downloads. Response downloads in total achieved, 2,911 downloads. Further to this the main paper over 1,332 downloads, the summary document over 1,110 downloads and the easy read over 469 downloads.

#### *Integration*

20. We published *Shifting the centre of gravity: making place-based, person-centred health and care a reality*: <https://www.local.gov.uk/shifting-centre-gravity-making-place-based-person-centred-health-and-care-reality> at the National Children and Adults Services Conference in November 2018. It was developed in partnership with the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services, the Association of Directors of Public Health, NHS Clinical Commissioners, the NHS Confederation and NHS Providers to set out our refreshed shared vision for transforming health, care and wellbeing and the key actions that national and local organisations should take to successfully integrate health and care. The refreshed vision is based on a wide-ranging review of integration including case studies on six localities and an evidence review of good practice, which includes many case examples.

#### *The NHS Long Term Plan*

21. A major focus of our work in 2018/19 has been the NHS Long Term Plan (LTP) , which was published in January 2019. In January, we published a comprehensive briefing for local government on the key proposals of the LTP and the LGA's clear policy positions: <https://www.local.gov.uk/parliament/briefings-and-responses/nhs-long-term-plan> . The Board's key priority is to ensure that local government is seen as an equal partner in the implementation of the LTP. In particular, that adult social care and public health are vital components of the wider health and wellbeing landscape and which require urgent investment.
22. In April, the LGA submitted evidence to an NHS consultation on legal reforms to the NHS to implement the LTP : <https://www.local.gov.uk/parliament/briefings-and-responses/lga-response-legislative-proposals-nhs-long-term-plan> and gave oral evidence to the Commons Health and Social Care Committee inquiry into the proposed legal reforms. In both, we urged the NHS to consider the impact of the reforms on existing partnership

with local government and to build on existing good practice, especially in relation to the role of health and wellbeing boards in driving forward the change agenda locally.

*Personalisation*

23. Throughout this year, we have continued to work with NHS England to promote personalisation within the NHS. The Integrated Personal Commissioning Programme Board, which is co-chaired by Sarah Pickup, the LGA Deputy Chief Executive, has overseen and led the introduction of personalisation within the NHS. The LGA has over worked with NHSE to establish a new Personalised Care Advisory Board with a wider and more inclusive membership and a wider role within NHSE to champion the mainstreaming of the personalisation agenda.

*The impact of health and wellbeing boards*

24. The Community Wellbeing Board has constantly championed the place-based leadership role of health and wellbeing boards and their contribution to achieving the objectives of the NHS LTP. The LGA commissioned case studies of 23 areas where health and wellbeing boards are having a significant impact on health and wellbeing planning and services. A new report, highlighting the many examples of good practice, will be published at the LGA Annual Conference in July 2019.

**Vulnerable People**

25. The LGA is a member of the Prime Ministers challenge on dementia 2020 Programme Board. The Board is currently looking at the post 2020 commitments of the LGA in the challenge Implementation Plan.
26. In August 2018, the LGA made [a joint submission](#) to the Office of Civil Society Consultation on a National Strategy for Loneliness. A number of our recommendations were reflected in the final strategy.
27. In November 2018, the final report of the Independent Review of the Mental Health Act was published. The LGA made a submission to the review. The final report strongly emphasised the role of Councils in delivering mental health care in the community.
28. In December 2018, we published '[Supporting carers](#)' a case study guide.
29. In January 2019, we made a submission to the Defence Committee inquiry into the Armed Forces Covenant Annual Report 2018. We expressed concern that the MOD Covenant funding is coming to an end. In May 2019 we published a new suite of [case studies](#) that showcase local authority projects supported by the Covenant Fund.
30. In May 2019, we made a submission to the national Autism strategy consultation. The submission outlined local governments vital role in improving the lives of people with autism and ensuring participation and partnership at a local level.
31. In response to widespread concerns from local government and others, the Government decided that Housing Benefit will be kept in place for all types of supported housing. This announcement gave councils and housing providers the certainty to sustain and invest in supported housing for people in vulnerable circumstances. A sustainable funding model for supported housing is critical to ensuring councils can reduce homelessness

and help older and people in vulnerable circumstances. We continue to work with MHCLG and DWP to ensure that councils have the leading role in overseeing and ensuring the provision of supported housing is good quality, value for money, and fits in with the wider local services offered in places.

32. Secured the agreement of the Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention to a sector led approach to further improving local approaches to suicide prevention. We worked with ADPH to carry out a self-assessment of local suicide prevention plans, which was completed by 150 out of 152 councils with public health responsibilities. DHSC has agreed in principle to fund us and ADPH to deliver a new suicide prevention sector led improvement offer this year and we expect to finalise details within the next few weeks.

### **Sleep-ins**

33. Following our successful application to intervene in the Mencap Court of Appeal case about sleep-in payments, we have continued to provide timely advice to councils about the implications of the judgment and the subsequent Supreme Court decision to hear Unison's appeal. We have impressed upon Ministers that whatever the outcome of the Unison application to appeal, we still need to find a sustainable funding solution to attract and retain decent staff now and in the future and to enable care workers to be paid fairly for the work they carry out.

### **LGA Asylum, Migration and Refugee Task Group**

34. The [Task Group](#) met with the Immigration Minister in each quarter to discuss key pressures on councils. A Chief Executive [Group](#), co-chaired by the LGA and the Home Office, was established to work to the Task Group on asylum dispersal. Following our sustained lobbying from the LGA, councils and partners, Government [announced](#) that a higher rate of funding for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC). Whilst we welcomed this increase in our [response](#), we restated our call for Government to ensure all costs for children and those leaving care are fully funded. Resources and information to support councils were added to the LGA [website](#) and links made with related issues.

### **Leadership development**

35. Support for lead members for adult social care and HWB chairs continued with [CHIP](#), including an induction event, leadership essentials, [must knows](#) and regional networks. The National Children and Adult Services conference had sessions led by Board Members, including a closed session with the Minister.

### **Digital and Data**

36. Kate Allsop served as the Board digital and data lead. Kate represented the LGA as a member of the Department of Health and Social Care's Data Security Assurance Board which looks at progress in this area across the sector – including the [social care discovery programme](#). In this role she represented the voice of local government in areas relating to data security and information sharing between care and health.

## **Parliamentary work**

### *Social care*

37. In the last year we have hosted two roundtable briefings for Parliamentarians on our adult social care green paper consultation and consultation response. The briefing sessions presented opportunities to setting out key findings and recommendations from our consultation and build cross party support on the need for the Government's to act. Sarah Pickup also gave evidence to the House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee's ongoing inquiry into social care funding. Sarah highlighted the findings from our green paper consultation response and outlined the funding options for social care, particularly in the context of wider funding reductions to local government.

### *Sexual and reproductive health*

38. Councillor Ian Hudspeth, gave evidence to the Health and Social Care Committee as part of its inquiry on sexual and reproductive health. The Committee's report made a number of recommendations we had called for, including more public health funding in the spending review and that Public Health England convene a national strategy for sexual health.

### *NHS Long Term Plan Legislation*

39. Deputy Chief Executive, Sarah Pickup, gave evidence to the Health and Social Care Committee on the legislative proposals being considered by the NHS. Sarah welcomed the proposals to introduce greater collaboration within the NHS. However, she highlighted the inherent risks in creating a two tier system if local government was not adequately considered in decision making.
40. Alongside the wider LGA submission to the Long Term Plan, we submitted responses to the Children's work stream. We welcomed the greater focus on young people. The LGA is now a board member on the new Children and Young People Transformation Board.

### *Suicide prevention*

41. Cllr Richard Kemp gave evidence to the Health and Social Care Committee on suicide prevention. Cllr Kemp also attended a meeting of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Suicide and Self-Harm Prevention where he took part in a discussion about gambling related harm.

### *Drugs policy*

42. We responded to the Health and Social Care Committee inquiry on drugs policy. We emphasised the need for well-funded, targeted and effective substance misuse services and the responsibility of local government in commissioning these services.

## **LGA website - Health, adult social care and ageing webpages**

43. The statistics below give an indication of the visits to the health, adult social care and ageing pages of the LGA website;

- 44.1. Visits: 35,810
  - 44.2. Page views: 50,165
  - 44.3. Unique visitors: 31,064
  - 44.4. Returning visitors: 2,119
45. The statistics below give an indication of the visits to our publications up to March 2019;
- 45.1. Visits: 43,563
  - 45.2. Page views: 52,788
  - 45.3. Unique visitors: 34,363
  - 45.4. Returning visitors: 4,031
46. The Statistics below give an indication of the top ten visited pages health, adult social care and ageing pages of the LGA website;
- 46.1. Adult social care. Pages views;11,306
  - 46.2. Roles and responsibilities in adult safeguarding. Pages views; 7,673
  - 46.3. Social care, health and integration. Pages views;6,800
  - 46.4. Safeguarding resources. Pages views;3,596
  - 46.5. Public health. Pages views;3,386
  - 46.6. Mental Capacity Act including DoLS. Pages views; 2,584
  - 46.7. Safeguarding adults. Pages views; 2,186
  - 46.8. Making Safeguarding Personal. Pages views; 1,402
  - 46.9. Mental health. Pages views;1,394
  - 46.10. Resources to support Making Safeguarding Personal. Pages views; 880
47. The Statistics below give an indication of the top ten visited publications up to March 2019;
- 47.1. Ordinary residence guide: determining local authority responsibilities under the Care Act and the Mental Health Act. Page visits; 8,738
  - 47.2. Standard of proficiency: Social Workers in England. Pages visits; 4,542
  - 47.3. Safeguard Adults Page visits; 3,399
  - 47.4. Integrated Commissioning for Better Outcomes: a commissioning framework 2018. Page visits; 3,246
  - 47.5. Improving the public's health: local government delivers. Page visits 2,123
  - 47.6. Health in all policies: a manual for local government. Page visits; 1,884
  - 47.7. Social Care Digital Innovation Programme 2019-2021 Prospectus. Page visits; 1,579
  - 47.8. The 'So what, what next?' project. Page visits; 1,526
  - 47.9. Shaping healthy places: exploring the district council role in health. Page visits; 1,424
  - 47.10. Fit for and during pregnancy: A key role for local government. Page visits;1,402

**Highlights of the media coverage included:**

48. There were **393** national newspaper, online and broadcast CWB mentions **during the period July 2018-June 12 2019.**

**Highlights include:**

49. The LGA's press release, highlighting the pressures on unpaid carers and referencing the LGA's adult social care green paper consultation, was reported in the **Telegraph, Independent, i paper and Express** as well as featuring on **BBC Breakfast, BBC News, Sky News, BBC Radio 4's Today programme, BBC Radio 2 news bulletins** and across **BBC local radio**. (20 September)
50. Community Wellbeing Board Chairman Cllr Ian Hudspeth featured on **Mail Online** and **ITV Online** with the LGA's response to Public Health England estimates that just one in 10 people will be smokers in five years' time. (20 September)
51. The LGA's adult social care green paper featured on the front page of the **Telegraph** and in the **Express** after Health and Social Care Secretary Matt Hancock suggested that a system similar to the national pension scheme could be developed to pay for people's future care needs (17-18 September)
52. Cllr Ian Hudspeth appeared on the **BBC's Victoria Derbyshire Show** to discuss the findings of a report by the UK Homecare Association on the funding of care provision across England and pay for carers (25 October)
53. Community Wellbeing Board Chairman Cllr Ian Hudspeth featured in the **Mail** and **ITV Online** in response to figures from NHS digital showing that councils received 1.3 million requests for adult social care in 2017/18, which is the equivalent of 5,100 a day (24 October)
54. The **Express** and **Mail Online** reported the LGA's response to Which? research into care home costs. Research by the consumer group revealed that millions of people underestimate the cost of care, which follows polling by the LGA that found only 15 per cent of people were making plans to pay for their future care costs (31 October)
55. CWB Board Chairman Cllr Ian Hudspeth, was interviewed on **BBC Radio 4's You and Yours programme** about councils reducing meals on wheels services. (12 December)
56. Cllr Ian Hudspeth, Chairman of the Community Wellbeing Board, featured in a video interview on **Express Online** about the LGA's call for more funding for both child and adult social care, ahead of the Government's expected green paper on the issue (12 December)
57. Community Wellbeing Board Chairman, Cllr Ian Hudspeth, featured in the **Sunday Times** and **Sunday Express** in response to new government figures showing a total of 32,115 adults died last year before they could get the social care they needed (30 December)

58. Cllr Ian Hudspeth, featured on **BBC Breakfast** and the **BBC News channel**, while **BBC Radio 2**, **BBC Radio 4 Today** and **BBC local radio** news bulletins also featured the LGA's press release about how public health outcomes have improved under councils despite substantial budget reductions and Spending Review call for these cuts to be reversed to build upon this success. This was also reported on **BBC Online** (3 March)
59. The LGA's warning that adult social care faces a £3.6 billion funding gap by 2025 featured in an **FT** piece about the care provider Four Seasons entering administration (7 May)
60. The LGA's response to latest figures showing there were more than 700,000 obesity-related hospital admissions in England featured in the **Times** and **Guardian**. (9 May)
61. The LGA's call for government to reverse the £700 million reduction in public health funding since 2015 and to plug a £3.6 billion funding gap for adult social care by 2025 featured in the **Observer** and **Independent Online** about a IPPR report on how more than 130,000 deaths since 2012 could have been prevented if improvements in public health policy had not stalled as a direct result of spending cuts. (2 June)
62. The **Express** reported the LGA's adult social care funding lines in response to an analysis of CQC figures, showing nearly 10,000 care home beds have been lost since 2014 across 75 of England's council areas. (3 June)
63. **Mail Online** and **Independent Online** reported the LGA's lines child obesity were reported on in a piece about displaying cartoon characters on packaging (4 June)