

Children and Young People Board

Agenda

Wednesday 27 March 2013
11.00 am

Westminster Suite (8th floor)
Local Government House
Smith Square
London
SW1P 3HZ

To: Members of the Children and Young People Board
cc: Named officers for briefing purposes

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LGA Children and Young People Board

27 March 2013

There will be a meeting of the LGA Children and Young People Board at:

11.00am on Wednesday 27th March in the Westminster Suite (8th floor), Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ. Lunch will be available at 1pm in Westminster Suite.

Attendance Sheet

Please ensure that you sign the attendance register, which will be available in the meeting room. It is the only record of your presence at the meeting.

Apologies

Please notify your political group office (see contact telephone numbers below) if you are unable to attend this meeting, so that a substitute can be arranged and catering numbers adjusted, if necessary.

Labour: Aicha Less: 020 7664 3263 email: aicha.less@local.gov.uk
Conservative: Luke Taylor: 020 7664 3264 email: luke.taylor@local.gov.uk
Liberal Democrat: Group Office: 020 7664 3235 email: libdem@local.gov.uk
Independent: Group Office: 020 7664 3224 email: independent.group@local.gov.uk

Location

A map showing the location of Local Government House is printed on the back cover.

LGA Contact

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Children and Young People Board

Date: 01.11.12

Children and Young People Board - Membership 2012/2013

Councillor	Authority
Conservative (8)	
David Simmonds [Chairman]	Hillingdon LB
Paul Carter	Kent CC
David Pugh	Isle of Wight Council
Robert Light	Kirklees MBC
Susie Charles	Lancashire CC
Liz Hackett Pain	Monmouthshire CC
John Osman	Somerset CC
Patricia Bradwell	Lincolnshire CC
Substitutes:	
Roy Perry	Hampshire CC
Peter Evans	West Sussex CC
Dominic Gilham	Hillingdon LB
Ann McAllister	Calderdale MBC
Labour (6)	
Rita Krishna	Hackney LB
John Merry CBE [Vice Chair]	Salford City
Paul Lakin	Rotherham MBC
Anne Burns	Cumbria CC
Nick Forbes	Newcastle City
Jude Robinson	Cornwall CC
Substitutes:	
Richard Watts	Islington LB
Liberal Democrat (3)	
David Bellotti	Bath & NE Somerset Council
Liz Green [Deputy Chair]	Kingston upon Thames RB
Kath Pinnock	Kirklees MBC
Substitutes:	
Peter Downes OBE	Cambridgeshire CC
Independent (1)	
Apu Bagchi [Deputy Chair]	Bedford BC
Substitutes	
Gillian Ford	Havering LB
Paul Cullen	Richmondshire DC
Neil Burden	Cornwall Council

LGA Children and Young People Board Attendance 2012-2013

Councillors	05.09.12	25.10.12	21.01.13			
Conservative Group						
David Simmonds	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Paul Carter	Yes	No	No			
David Pugh	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Robert Light	Yes	No	No			
Susie Charles	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Liz Hackett Pain	No	No	Yes			
John Osman	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Patricia Bradwell	NA	Yes	No			
Labour Group						
Rita Krishna	Yes	Yes	Yes			
John Merry CBE	No	Yes	Yes			
Paul Lakin	No	Yes	Yes			
Anne Burns	No	Yes	Yes			
Nick Forbes	Yes	No	Yes			
Jude Robinson	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Lib Dem Group						
David Bellotti	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Liz Green	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Kath Pinnock	Yes	No	No			
Independent						
Apu Bagchi	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Substitutes						
Roy Perry	Yes	Yes				
Peter Evans	Yes	Yes				
Dominic Gilham	Yes		Yes			
Richard Watts	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Rachel Heywood	Yes					
Paul Watling		Yes				

Agenda

Children and Young People Board

27 March 2013

11.00am

Westminster Suite, Local Government House, London, SW1P 3HZ

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	Next Meeting: 29 May 2013	
	Close	1:00pm

LGA work on a New Model for Local Government – Children and Adult Social Care proposals

Purpose of the report

To introduce the LGA's work on 'A new model for local government' and to receive Members' feedback on the document **(Appendix A)**.

Summary

This paper introduces a draft paper on children's social care and safeguarding **(Appendix A)** that will feature as part of the LGA's wider work on 'A new model for local government'.

Recommendation

Members are asked to review and comment on the draft children's safeguarding and social care and safeguarding paper.

Action

LGA officers to amend the children's safeguarding and social care paper in line with Members' comments.

Contact Officers: Sally Burlington / Liz Hobson /Cassandra Harrison

Role: Head of Programme / Senior Advisers

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LGA work on a New Model for Local Government – Children and Adult Social Care proposals

Background

1. At its meeting on 9 January 2013, the LGA Leadership Board considered a proposal to develop a 'new model for local government'. There are three main objectives for this work:
 - 1.1. To develop a clear case for the future national role of local government in order to inform party manifestos in the run-up to the next General Election.
 - 1.2. To set out local government's offer in order to inform the expected 2015 Spending Review immediately after the election.
 - 1.3. To provide the LGA annual conference with a practical explanation of the above and inform its longer-term planning processes.
2. The Leadership Board agreed with the proposed work and the suggestion to focus on developing policy think pieces on the following subjects:
 - 2.1. Independent local government;
 - 2.2. Growth;
 - 2.3. Good adult social care;
 - 2.4. Future children's services;
 - 2.5. Welfare reform; and
 - 2.6. Sustainable future funding.

Next steps

3. The think piece papers will continue to be developed and Board Members' comments are sought on the 'children's safeguarding and social care' paper included at **Appendix A**. The key issues set out in the papers are being discussed at a series of regional roadshows taking place throughout March. They will then be explored in greater detail in a series of 'deep dive' sessions taking place in April.

Decisions

4. Members are asked to comment on the draft paper included at **Appendix A** 'children's safeguarding and social care'. Officers will incorporate these comments into the next iteration of the paper.

Finance and Policy Directorate

Manifesto: children's safeguarding and social care

Children's social care plays a crucial role in supporting vulnerable children, young people and their families to achieve positive outcomes and improve life chances. It is important not only for those who receive support from the services that councils and other organisations provide, but also for the wider benefits to society and there are significant issues for the reputation of councils. Local government is entrusted with the care of vulnerable children and young people, and we have a responsibility to keep them as safe as we can and give them the essential security that they need for the future.

Key requirements

Local government will have three main objectives for child safeguarding and care for the future: These are to:

- Secure the best possible outcomes for vulnerable children and young people for a stable, supported transition to adulthood.
- Increase the flexibility to respond to needs on the ground within and across services, so that we can work together to focus on the interests of the child and young person.
- Invest sufficient resources in early intervention to reduce safeguarding pressures and demands in the longer term.

Key challenges

Safeguarding pressures

- There has been a very substantial increase in referrals and numbers of children coming into care over the last few years. There was a 51% increase between 2007/8 and 2011/12 in children becoming the subject of a child protection plan. Whilst this trend appears to be levelling out, the Secretary of State argued in December 2012 that still too many children are being allowed to remain in situations of neglect, with a strong message that we should not hesitate to bring children into the care system without delay.
- Increasing public and professional awareness of sexual exploitation of children and young people may also serve to increase referrals.
- The impact of welfare reform is not yet known, but there is a potential risk that it could put additional pressure on families who are struggling, exacerbating the risk of crisis or neglect, and increasing pressures on the system still further
- Domestic violence is a consistent feature of child protection cases and serious case reviews and it continues to be a priority.

Funding:

- Total spending on children and young people's services in the 2011-12 financial year was £8.6 billion (the second biggest area of spend after adults) and cost pressures are rising. Local authorities spent a total of £3.1 billion (gross) on Children Looked After, an increase of £94.9 million (3.2%) compared with the equivalent figure for 2010-1. Children's services have not been immune to effects of the 28% reduction in council budgets, even though councils have sought to protect frontline services from the impact. Cuts to the Early Intervention Grant have been very substantial over the last 2 years. The £150m topslice for 2013-14 is being re-badged to support adoption, of which £50m will be ring-fenced. The cuts make it more difficult for councils to plan for the longer term in the way they commission services and for children and families to experience consistent and secure support.
- Whilst increased adoption should over time help to reduce the number of children looked after by the local authority, this further restriction on funds will make it harder for councils to invest in early intervention to prevent problems within families from escalating, potentially increasing the pressures on safeguarding and care still further. In addition from a multi-agency perspective, there are other significant funding cuts to key partners, including the police service.

Public service reform

Against a backdrop of reform in public services, councils are coping with rapid and radical changes which have an impact on children's services, including:

- The changing role of councils with new responsibilities for public health, a shift to more commissioning of children's services and joint working with health and other partners. There are concerns that some NHS bodies may not be well equipped to deliver their own safeguarding responsibilities during this period of rapid change; and the reforms are fragmenting responsibility for commissioning children's health services which could make it even harder to join up;
- Adoption reform, improving residential care, and reforms of the system for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities, (a relatively high proportion of whom will also be vulnerable or looked after) alongside changes to high needs funding will place new duties and expectations on councils ;
- New duties placed on councils to support the raising of the participation age, on top of existing duties to re-engage young people not in education, training or employment. Both are particularly challenging for vulnerable young people. Councils' ability to have an impact is being made more difficult as funding and levers are being increasingly centralised.
- In addition, the impact of welfare reform on families is not yet known but, if people get into debt and face other problems, there may be a further increase in the numbers of children who need protection or to be looked after by the local authority, particularly in those areas that currently have a high proportion of families on benefits.

What local government wants to see in the future

- **To secure the best possible outcomes for vulnerable children and young people and a stable, supported transition to adulthood.** This means:
 - improving adoption services and commissioning, and delivering a shift to effective early intervention and a care system which really delivers good long term outcomes for children
 - the education of looked after children to be a much higher priority, so that everyone involved in their care has the same high aspirations for them as they would their own children – and the same determination, as any other parent, to champion their needs
 - addressing the need for a more flexible and age-appropriate response to the needs of adolescents who enter the care system at the age of 11 or over and actively explore how best to provide support for a stable transition to adulthood
 - recognising the Munro view that we cannot predict with certainty what will happen to children; we can only make judgments and decisions that, on the evidence available, look the best.
- **To increase the flexibility to respond to needs on the ground within and across services, so that we can work together to focus on the interests of the child and young person.** This means:
 - More scope for professional and local autonomy to manage pressures effectively both within and across services, to have the skills and experience to take advantage of this flexibility, and to be able to assess, learn and respond to how well we are helping children and young people.
 - Striking the right balance between central and local government on any changes to the safeguarding and care system that allows councils to take advantage of their unique position and political leadership to ensure that services work together to focus on the interests of the child and young person.

What do we need to do?

- Articulate a vision for the future led by local government which is focused around the needs of children and young people, increasing the resilience in families and wider society's responsibility for vulnerable children. This would seek to build on the fact that everyone has a responsibility for safeguarding children and the wider benefits to society of successful outcomes for children and young people.
- Explore the role of councils as a stronger convener of local agencies, learning from the community budget pilots, and consider the delivery (and funding) of services around the families that use them instead of organisational boundaries.
- Evidence, research and analysis will be a key factor in the context of Spending Review discussions if we are to achieve a workable funding approach which allows longer term planning and consistent and secure support for children and families.

Item 1 Appendix A

- This may include, for example:
 - a robust cost-benefit analysis for interventions, apportioning benefits to agencies, identifying the most effective structures, plus what other levers government could help provide and address in order to use current public funding more effectively;
 - commissioning - and how well commissioners and the social care workforce are aligned, as well as the ability to define and commission for outcomes, while trying to minimise the impact of budget cuts;
 - review of statutory reporting requirements to Government to make sure that it is proportionate and focused on outcomes not process.
 - role of Ofsted in shift to multi-agency inspections and impact of rising expectations, and new duties against the backdrop of falling resources reduced flexibility and structural change, for example in education.

Immediate activity

- The spending review project on children's social care is underway and will articulate more clearly current pressures and to develop our understanding of the mitigations which authorities are putting in place;
- Joint project with Solace and ADCS to improve the pace of adoption, and adopter recruitment in particular;
- Lobbying on the Children and Families Bill which will introduce new duties for councils and implement many reforms in adoption, family justice and special educational needs for those aged 0 – 25;
- the Children's Improvement Board (CIB) is well respected and its work is well developed, giving us – with sector partners – a good understanding of what "good" looks like and how to improve safeguarding and care;
- the Early Intervention Foundation has recently been set up, based in Local Government House, to provide a strong evidence-based focus for guiding local investment in really effective early intervention. This can draw on learning from Community Budget pilots and the Early Years and Munro Demonstrator projects led by the Children's Improvement Board;
- we are conducting action research, led by OPM, into how to improve the commissioning of children's homes will provide an interim report later in the spring with a final report in the summer;
- The 3Rs awareness raising campaign on child exploitation, which links into everyone having a role in safeguarding, a focus on prevention and councils' wider role in communities.

Item 2

Early Education and childcare: A changing landscape

Purpose of report

For discussion and direction.

Summary

The childcare sector has received increasing public, Government and media attention recently. This has been seen through a spate of high profile parliamentary activity, Government reform proposals and new policy initiatives, including a new statutory duty on councils to extend free early education to two year olds and the Government's publication of their "More great childcare" vision. As well as improving children's life chances, childcare offers opportunities to deliver wider policy objectives such as early intervention, child poverty and helping parents back to work.

Proposed Government reforms will significantly change the tools, expectations and funding available to councils in order to ensure sufficient and quality childcare to serve the needs of their local families. This paper sets out the key issues and a number of areas for members' discussion and direction.

Recommendation

That members discuss the issues set out in the paper and make suggestions about how the childcare system can be improved, with particular consideration and discussion of the issues set out in paragraphs 3,4,5,9, 11 and 12.

Action

LGA officers to action as directed. A further policy paper setting out specific LGA lines and a work plan will be circulated to office holders following the board's discussion and direction.

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Item 2

Early years and childcare: A changing landscape

Background

1. Local government currently plays a significant statutory and market enabling role in the childcare (also commonly known as early education) sector. Councils have a statutory sufficiency duty under section 6 of the Childcare Act 2006 to secure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that the provision of childcare (whether or not by them) is sufficient to meet the requirements of parents in their area who require childcare in order to enable them to take up or remain in work or undertake education or training to assist them into work. In addition the Act contains a plethora of additional duties on councils in order to execute their sufficiency duty, especially around supporting providers with quality improvement and making local arrangements in relation to funding the free entitlement.

Ensuring sufficiency of provision

2. The Children and Families Bill introduces legislation to: set up childminder agencies; repeal the duty (formerly in the Childcare Act 2006) on local authorities to publish a formal assessment of the sufficiency of childcare at least every three years; allow providers to pay for an early re-assessment of their settings by Ofsted; and remove the requirements on school governing bodies to consult if they want to open up their facilities for the wider community, including for childcare provision.
3. It is recommended that the LGA should be supportive of the Government's aim to encourage schools to open up their provision for wrap-around childcare through a collaborative approach and give councils the flexibility to incentivise this through local funding arrangements. **We welcome ideas from members on how councils can play a greater role in influencing schools to open up their facilities in this way.**

Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

4. A recent survey by the Daycare Trust¹ showed that many councils do not feel they are meeting their sufficiency duty. As part of this duty they have a particular responsibility to ensure suitable childcare for disabled children. There is limited understanding of the adequacy of the supply of childcare provision to disabled children and, as a consequence, the implications of the proposed duty on councils to develop a "local offer" set out in the Children and Families Bill. **We would welcome members' views on the challenges faced by councils in providing childcare to children with SEND.**

New statutory duty for early education

5. Councils are at varying levels of readiness in securing sufficient places to deliver their new duty to provide early education for 20% of two year olds from September this year (increasing to 40% from September 2014). The Government is investing £525 million in

¹ Daycare Trust's annual childcare costs survey – February 2013

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2013-14, and around £750 million a year from 2014-15 through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) to fund this new duty. In addition, following the LGA's work on the importance of capital funding to ensure sufficient provision, the Government has made £100 million capital funding available to local government. **Members are asked whether they are aware of any issues affecting councils in obtaining their capital and trajectory revenue allocations contained within the DSG for increasing provision.**

Childcare reforms

6. In January 2013 Elizabeth Truss MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for education and childcare launched the Government's vision for reforming childcare with the "More great childcare" paper which focused around improving quality of provision. David Simmonds met with the Minister in to discuss these proposals in more detail and the consequences for local government.

Improving quality of provision

7. Improving the quality of provision is commonly accepted in the sector as being the main variable affecting children's development. A Department for Education research report on the early education pilots published this month² proved that high-quality settings delivered better outcomes. The Government is proposing to raise the quality of the workforce by improving early years' qualifications and increasing the flexibility of children-to-staff ratios.
8. The Government also plans to reform what it considers to be a confusing regulatory regime in which Ofsted's role is duplicated by local government. Ministers believe that as a result of duplication, local authorities retained £160 million of three and four year old education funding which should have gone to the 'front line' in 2012-13. It is suggested that this perceived duplication will be reduced through various means including:
 - 8.1. The removal of local authority discretion to set and monitor local funding arrangements – which it is suggested will increase transparency of funding and make it easier for providers to expand; and
 - 8.2. Reducing the quality improvement role of councils by giving Ofsted a dual inspection and quality improvement role; setting up of childminder agencies; and moving towards the provider to provider improvement model that is currently being encouraged in the schools system (i.e. school to school improvement).
9. Councils would challenge the belief that their crucial role in 'market enabling' and driving up standards to make sure there is sufficient quality local early years provision is duplicating the inspection role played by Ofsted. The LGA can play a key role in clarifying this misunderstanding of the role of local government and advocate the value

² The Early Education Pilot for Two Year Old Children: Age Five Follow-up , Research report , March 2013 – Department for Education

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of councils' self-improvement work with providers. The LGA would also have concerns over Ofsted playing a dual quality improvement and inspection role (both in early years and mainstream education provision) because of the potential conflict of interest in being both the inspectorate and a provider of improvement support. **Members are asked to discuss the effects the removal of councils' market enabling role would have on quality and sufficiency.**

Making childcare more affordable

10. Improving the affordability of childcare is a much discussed topic. The recent Daycare Trust³ survey showed that average childcare costs have increased by more than double the rate of inflation. The cost of childcare is commonly linked the back-to-work agenda, with many citing the rising costs of childcare as the number one reason why they do not return to work.
11. The Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister are to imminently launch a new scheme to help working parents with the costs of childcare for every child under five from 2015, with the scheme expected to be extended to all children under 12 by 2020. The new voucher scheme will mean that per child a working family will be able to claim up to 20% off (£1,200) the cost of childcare up to a total of £6,000. This scheme will replace the current tax-free child care vouchers for new parents. The LGA will be discussing with the Government the full details of the scheme to ensure it assists as many families as possible. **We welcome members' views on how childcare can be made more affordable.**

Children's centres

12. Sure Start children's centres have been subject to closures and service transformation as a result of a tough financial settlement for local government. In 2011-12 councils spent a total of £1.1 billion (gross) on Sure Start Children's Centres⁴, a reduction of £114.7m (9.5%) compared to 2010-11. However we know that when councils make difficult decisions on the future of their children centres they face strong public opposition as well as media and parliamentary attention. **It is suggested that the LGA** would be best placed to commission research on how to use the universal offer provided by children's centres to target the most vulnerable and needy children in the most cost effective way, in order to inform the debate.

Conclusion and next steps

13. Increasing Government activity in the area of childcare policy will significantly change the tools, expectations and funding available to councils in order to ensure sufficient and quality childcare to serve the needs of their local families. The LGA will continue to work with the Department and other stakeholders to help ensure councils are given the tools and funding required to meet their duties.

³ Daycare Trust's annual childcare costs survey – February 2013

⁴ According to Department for Education website.

Item 3

Children and Young People Research and Support Commissioning

Purpose of report

For discussion and direction.

Summary

This report updates the Board on the agreement by the LGA Leadership Board to replacement the grants previously funded from a top slice of Revenue Support Grant (RSG) to the National Youth Agency (NYA) and the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) with an integrated and commissioned 'CYP research and support commissioning budget'. The Board is asked to indicate its high-level priorities for the work to be commissioned from this £800,000 budget.

Recommendations

That the Board gives a steer on its high-level priorities for the work to be commissioned from the Children and Young People (CYP) research and support commissioning budget' and agree that decisions about commissioning should be delegated to the CYP Office Holders and reported to the Board on a regular basis.

Action

Officers to take any action arising out of the discussion, as directed by members.

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Item 3

Children and Young People Research and Support Commissioning

Background

1. Following the expiry of a two-year funding arrangement this financial year, the ‘top-slice’ of Revenue Support Grant given to NYA and NfER under a longstanding grant arrangement has been the subject of discussion recently by the Board’s Office Holders and at the last meeting of the Board. In the last financial year £900,000 was given in grant to NYA and ‘up to £500,000’ was available for commissioning work from NfER.

The recommendation by CYP Board Office Holders to the LGA Resources Panel and Leadership Board

2. CYP Office Holders have had detailed oversight of the work delivered through the top slice arrangements with NYA and NfER in previous years and have made recommendations to the LGA Resources Panel on the size of the grants made available to the two organisations. These were reduced from nearly £2.8 million in 2010/11 to ‘up to’ £1.4 million in 2011/12, in line with overall reductions in RSG.
3. For the next financial year, Office Holders recommended that the grant arrangements for both organisations should be ended and that in future work should be commissioned in line with the LGA CYP Board priorities on a fully commissioned arrangement which is open to any supplier on the Children’s Improvement Board framework or the new research framework. They also recommended the merging of the two ‘budgets’ into a single ‘CYP research and support’ budget which would support a wider range of CYP priorities than have until now been funded by the NYA grant (which focuses on youth work) to include priorities such as the LGA’s Hidden Talents campaign and the Raising of the Participation Age. They proposed a combined budget of £800,000 for this purpose and this proposal was agreed by the Resources Panel and endorsed by the LGA Leadership Board on 13 March 2013.
4. However, in recognition of the substantial reduction of funding to NYA, Office Holders recommended a transitional arrangement which allows the LGA to commission the NYA to provide a £100,000 programme of youth work support to 8-10 councils over a 3-month period from April 2013 without the need to procure the work through competitive tendering. This recommendation has been agreed and will be funded from within the £800,000 CYP research and support budget.

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Priorities for the commissioning of the CYP research and commissioning budget for 2013/14

5. The Board is asked to indicate its high-level priorities for the work to be commissioned from this £800,000 budget in the coming year and to agree that decisions about commissioning should be delegated to the CYP Office Holders and reported to the Board on a regular basis.
6. Providing tailored support to councils to reconfigure services for young people in the light of budget cuts has been a central part of the improvement offer funded by the top slice to NYA. It has also funded work on developing outcome measures for youth work and improving commissioning. The transitional arrangement with NYA will provide support to a further 8-10 councils over a 3-month period from April 2013. **Does the Board wish to commission further packages of tailored improvement support, assuming that there is continuing demand for such support?**
7. NYA has underlined the importance it places on continuing a close partnership with the LGA, including the arrangement through which the LGA nominates two members to sit on the NYA Board of Trustees (currently Cllr Apu Bagchi and Cllr Ken Meson). They have proposed a continuing strategic partnership, which would support elements of the work programme currently funded by the grant arrangement, including an annual LGA/NYA conference, the 'Supporting Services for Young People knowledge hub' which currently has over 500 members, and the work they do on the youth services workforce. This would be jointly funded through a partnership agreement between LGA and NYA. **Would the Board wish officers to explore the proposal for a jointly funded partnership arrangement with NYA?**
8. An explicit aim of the merging of the two top slice 'budgets' into a single 'CYP research and support' budget is to support a wider range of CYP priorities than are currently funded by the current grant arrangements. Other CYP Board and LGA priorities that could be funded under this budget could include:
 - 8.1. the LGA's Hidden Talents campaign;
 - 8.2. Support to councils around the Raising of the Participation Age;
 - 8.3. Evidence for the LGA's children's services submission to the Spending Review;
 - 8.4. Research on effective integration of children's and adult's services;
 - 8.5. Research into reducing demand and costs in children's services through service transformation;
 - 8.6. Older children: building resilience/child sexual exploitation;
 - 8.7. Neglect evidence review;
 - 8.8. CAMHS good practice research;
 - 8.9. Research into the targeting of the support provided by Children's Centres on the children and families with highest needs;
 - 8.10. Monitoring the impact of the health reforms on children's health services;
 - 8.11. Child poverty good practice research (possible update to 2011 NFER report);
 - 8.12. Youth justice – possibly linked to building resilience for older children and/or implementing 'looked after' status for young people in custody;

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- 8.13. School Exclusions/Alternative provision (possible update of 2012 NFER report);
and
 - 8.14. Working with the FE sector (including on age 14 admissions and place planning
and council funding for 16-plus SEN learners).
9. **The Board is asked for a steer on which of these, or other research or
improvement priorities, should be supported by the CYP research and support
budget.**

Financial Implications

- 10. This budget has been agreed by the LGA Resources Panel and the LGA Leadership
Board for the financial year 2013/14.

Education and Children Services Funding

Purpose of report

For discussion and direction

Summary

This report updates members on the key issues in education and children services funding including: Education Services Grant – previously Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent Grant (LACSEG); Early Intervention Grant and the Adoption Reform Grant; the new schools funding formula and review; pressures on children's services; and the 2015-16 spending review and schools capital.

Recommendations

That the Board should:

1. note this report; and
2. agree to receive further reports on any developments

Action

Officers to continue to provide updates

Contact officer: Mike Heiser
Position: Senior Advisor Finance
Phone no: 020 76643265
E-mail: mike.heiser@local.gov.uk

Item 4

Education and Children Services Funding

Education Services Grant – previously LA LACSEG

1. Members are reminded that the Department for Education (DfE) will pay £1.04bn in 2013-14 and £1.03bn in 2014-15 to schools and academies as a non-ring fenced grant, to be called the Education Services Grant, proportionate to the number of pupils for which each is responsible. It will be paid at the same rate everywhere: £116 per pupil.
2. Authorities will receive an additional £15 for every pupil in the local authority area, in maintained schools or academies, for the statutory duties which do not transfer to academies. That means that for pupils in maintained schools local authorities will get £131 per pupil in the new grant. For pupils in academies they will get £15 per pupil; £116 per pupil will be removed from the authority.
3. As a measure of transitional protection, academies will get at least £150 per pupil in 2013-14 and £140 per pupil in 2014-15. No such protection is being offered to authorities although we did ask for it in our reply to the Local Government Finance Settlement.
4. DfE have now published the provisional allocations for ESG for 2013-14 although these will be subject to change quarterly as more schools convert to academies. According to the provisional allocations authorities will receive £686m for maintained schools and £113m for retained duties – or £799m in total. The remaining £205m will be paid to academies through the Education Funding Agency.

Early Intervention funding

5. Early intervention funding for 2013-14 has been confirmed as follows:
 - 5.1. £1.709bn in 2013-14 and £1.600bn in 2014-15 is within the start-up funding assessment on which the business rates retention arrangements will be based – this is not ring-fenced. The sum originally consulted on was reduced by 1% in 2013-14 and 2% in 2014-15 as a result of the cuts in the 2012 autumn statement;
 - 5.2. £525m in 2013-14 and £760m in 2014-15 has been taken into the ring-fenced Dedicated Schools Grant – to be used to expand provision for disadvantaged 2-year olds. The distribution for 2013-14 was announced in November 2012.

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5.3. The £150m holdback will be used for an adoption reform grant. The amounts for 2013-14 were announced on 14 February; £50m is ring-fenced and will be distributed on the basis of the number of children placed for adoption per local authority and the number of children with an adoption decision still waiting to be placed for adoption per local authority. The remaining £100m is not ring-fenced and is meant to be used for capacity building. It will be distributed on the basis of a formula taking into account the number of under-fives with adjustments for deprivation, sparsity and higher costs.

Schools' Funding and the Review of 2013-14 school funding

6. As previously reported, authorities have set Schools Budget this year on the basis of the restricted number of factors permitted by DfE. The new rules will not permit a specific small schools factor or a factor relating to service children and there is a single lump sum for all schools irrespective of phase. Currently authorities tend to have different lump sums for primary and secondary. Losses beyond -1.5% per annum per pupil are protected by the Minimum Funding Guarantee. DfE have confirmed that the MFG will continue beyond April 2015 but have not confirmed the amount.
7. Following concern expressed by the LGA and a number of authorities, DfE have now established a review of the 2013-14 arrangements; based both on a review of the evidence from the new local authority pro-formas which councils have to return demonstrating how much will be allocated on which factor and on fieldwork with a limited number of authorities. The review is expected to lead to changes in 2014-15.
8. DfE published a review document on 12 February; the closing date for responses is 26th March. The LGA's response, which will be cleared by leading members, will be circulated at the meeting.
9. The review document can be seen to look two ways. On the one hand it asks whether we are moving towards the national consistency which ministers want or whether there should be further restrictions setting out a minimum to be distributed in pupil-led factors. On the other hand it does pick up the concerns that have been raised and proposes some options for changes to factors on prior attainment, pupil mobility, the lump sum and the possible inclusion of sparsity measures which may give more flexibility, for example on small schools. They also ask for more evidence on service children. In addition a number of questions are asked about the high needs funding system, although they are unlikely to lead to radical change.

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2015-16 Spending Round and beyond

10. Following the announcement by the Treasury that there will be a one-year spending review, for 2015-16, which will be announced on 26th June, an initial LGA submission was sent to the Chancellor on 12 March. This contains a section on children's services which notes the increases in both numbers of children requiring social care and the overall increase in pupil numbers. It notes with concern the reduction in non-ring fenced funding and calls for authorities to be allowed to make a contribution to early intervention from the Schools Budget (with the agreement of the Schools Forum). Under the most recent funding reforms DfE have stopped any new commitments of this nature being made.
11. The LGA will also be gathering evidence for submission to the next full Spending Review. We are in the process of commissioning some work on cost pressures in children's services and schools capital.

Capital

12. The delayed announcement of schools capital was finally made on 1st March. This announced resources for 2013-14 and 2014-15. It included:
 - 12.1. £1.2bn per annum for condition and maintenance for councils, academies and the voluntary sector (not distributed through a single capital pot) and £800m for basic needs funding for councils.
 - 12.2. Allocation of the additional resources announced in the Autumn Statement; £982m over two years through a Targeted Basic Needs Programme; this will be allocated by a bidding process which is now open. The closing date is 30 April with authorities being informed of the outcome in June 2013 and the first schools being open by September 2014.
13. The government has not yet confirmed exactly when the 261 schools in the Priority School Buildings programme will have their needs addressed; this is expected to be phased over a number of years. The LGA put out a press release based on a survey of authorities and Cllr Simmonds was interviewed on the Today programme. In response, David Laws, the minister responsible said that they were now putting in place the revised PFI framework and that the programme was expected to be complete by 2017.
14. The National Audit Office has also published a report on schools capital which was critical of the information used by the Government to make allocations. It says that local authorities contributed on average 34% of the cost of new school places in 2012-13.

Financial/Resource Implications

15. None specific to this report.

Other Business Report

Purpose of report

For information.

Summary

This section provides reports on other business relevant to the Board.

Recommendation

That the Board note the update.

Action

LGA officers to action as necessary.

Contact officer: Verity Sinclair
Position: Programme Officer
Phone no: 020 7664 3173
E-mail: verity.sinclair@local.gov.uk

Other business report

Child Poverty

1. Officers understand that as part of the reorganisation at the Department for Education we might expect to see a significant change in the Child Poverty Unit's (CPU) remit to support councils. While changes have not yet been formally agreed, it is likely that we will see a reduced support offer to councils, with the CPU pulling back to focus on the provision of data via the basket of local indicators. If the decision is made for the CPU to no longer act as a convenor for local child poverty support, this could change the debate about the LGA's future role in supporting councils in this area. Confirmation of the changes is expected next month.
2. As teams develop their business plans for 2013/14, officers are working to identify appropriate lobbying and support offers that can be drawn together to form a cross-organisational LGA narrative on child poverty. This is likely to include content from work on welfare reform, housing, local growth and fuel poverty as well as other CYP and CWB work areas.

Political Leadership in Children's Services – Leadership Academy Programme 2012/13

3. Sixty five lead members from across the country attended the four residential sessions of the 2012/13 Children's Services focussed Leadership Academy. The programme aimed to support lead members in exploring the key challenges they face, develop personal leadership capacity and to share learning from the sector. The programme was funded by the Children's Improvement Board (CIB) and was facilitated by Cllr. David Simmonds, Claire Burgess CIB and Caroline Bosdet. There were also a number of other speakers and contributors to the programme from councils, the LGA, the Department for Education and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE).
- 3.1. The evaluation of the programme has been extremely positive with the following key results:
 - 3.1.1. The Leadership Academy module has provided me with a basis for further improvement – 100%
 - 3.1.2. Would you recommend LGA services to other councils – 100%
- 3.2. The following feedback gives the Board a flavour of the learning, Lead Members took away with them from the events:
 - 3.2.1. "There is a learning curve – this was informative and challenging"
 - 3.2.2. "Very, very useful 2 days- great to be reminded of my core purpose and that I am not alone in the challenges I face in my council"
 - 3.2.3. "Really helped to identify areas I need to look at in more detail"

Item 5

- 3.3. CIB have agreed to fund another programme of four events in 2013/14.
The dates for the programme will now be advertised and are:

3.3.1. 5th & 6th September 2013, 23rd & 24th November 2013, 11th & 12th
December 2013, 29th & 30th January 2014

3.3.2. For further information contact Caroline Bosdet
Caroline.Bosdet@local.gov.uk

National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER)

4. In the reporting period January to beginning March 2013, NFER completed and published the interim report on the longer term impact of safeguarding children peer reviews. The second phase of the research is now underway with a second report due in early summer. In addition they submitted the third quarterly report on the analysis of academy schools by local authority and the 2012 report on GCSE analysis of academy and other school types. The first draft report on the evaluation of sector-led improvement and support peer challenge was submitted at the end of February and NFER will receive comments in order to revise and finalise in March. The research team reported on the case studies on local authority support to care leavers, which fed into LGAs work around care leaver's week. The new year was a busy period for proposal development with proposals submitted and approved for some additional analysis of academy schools by local authority for inclusion in the fourth and final report due in March; a review of the longer-term impact on life chances for looked after children; the Councillor Census Survey 2013; a study exploring the local impact and current effectiveness of Education Funding Agency (EFA) 16-19 commissioning.

Local Government Association Research Framework Update

5. The Children and Young People (CYP) Board has benefitted from a designated topslice resource that has historically funded a programme of research completed by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER). In February 2011, the CYP Board reviewed topslice funding arrangements and it was agreed that topslice budgets would reduce from £1.3m to £650,000 in 2011/12. This figure was further reduced to £500,000 in the 2012/13 financial year.
6. The funding arrangements were for a period of 24 months and the CYP Board has agreed that a new fully commissioned model for topslice funded research would be developed to be in place by the start of the 2013/14 financial year, to ensure that the LGA and the sector got maximum benefit from the resources available and specifically that the new approach would provide:
- 6.1. Flexibility to meet the emerging needs of the sector and the LGA;
 - 6.2. Access to the best research resources available across a range of specialisms and expertise;
 - 6.3. Linkage to other programmes within the LGA (specifically the Children's Improvement Board (CIB) programme); and

6.4. Value for money.

7. Following this decision, LGA Officers developed a research framework and the tender documentation was published in mid-December 2012. 84 organisations submitted an application and these bids are currently being assessed. All successful organisations will be notified in time for the framework to go live on 1 April 2013.
8. The LGA Resources Panel has agreed a budget of £800,000 for CYP research and support for 2013/14. Funds are therefore available for CYP Board Members to commission research and provide a steer to officers on potential areas for research commissions. Officers will then draw up a long list that can be considered by Members at future boards. The approach for commissioning will be the same as when NFER was sole provider with the only difference being that LGA Officers will now be able to select the most suitable provider from the framework partners. A list of framework partners will be provided to CYP Board Members for information, at the next board meeting.

National Youth Agency (NYA)

9. As the current funding regime draws to a close the Agency is clear about the importance of retaining a strategic relationship with the LGA. The membership of LGA CYP Board Members on the NYA Trustee Board, the annual conference and the Knowledge Hub would, in the Agency's view, create a stable platform to maintain clear links.

Universal Strand

10. Current membership of the Supporting Services for Young People knowledge hub is over 500. NYA continue to provide resources and materials from the sector free to download for all members.
11. The third annual NYA/LGA free conference took place in January. Chaired by Councillor David Bellotti, it included key note sessions from Edward Timpson, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families and, Karen Buck MP, Shadow Children and Families minister. The conference was well attended and the event venue (LG House) was full.

Tailored Support strand

12. Of the 40 councils NYA are working with this year, 23 have now completed (with case studies), a further five are awaiting case study sign off. The remaining packages of support are on schedule and will be completed and case studies added to the knowledge hub by the end of March.

Emerging Themes strand

13. NYA work this year has focused on three areas: Troubled families; Business engagement; and evidencing the value of youth work.
14. The Agency has produced a report into the role of youth work in the Troubled Families agenda. Based on a combination of learning from our troubled families conference, the survey of heads of service and illustrated with detailed case studies.

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The report, available on the Supporting Services for Young People knowledge hub, highlights the ways in which youth services are playing a role in this environment.

15. Working with Manchester council, the North West Regional Youth Work Unit and the British Chambers of Commerce, NYA have run a pilot programme designed to produce a strategy for councils for brokering support from businesses into the youth sector. This report will be available in March. NYA have also completed their work into evidencing the value of youth work. The work with the Young Foundation to test their calculator within Norfolk and Staffordshire councils is now complete. Through our tailored support programme we have worked with three councils to test practical tools for measuring the impact of their services. A report with case studies is available on the Supporting services for Young People knowledge hub.

Policy and advocacy

16. The Agency continues to provide policy support and connection with the LGA.

Children's Improvement Board (CIB)

17. The last meeting of the Board received a report on the CIB work programme for 2013-14. Work is now underway to prepare both for continuing and new work streams on 2013-14. Highlights of progress at this point are:
 - 17.1. A review of the children's services peer challenge being carried out in regions (currently in draft) confirms that the involvement of councils in peer challenge is creating a culture of increased openness and trust and willingness to take a collective approach to improvement.
 - 17.2. The development demonstrators programme of learning events on Munro and early years is very active – more details of upcoming events are available on the CIB website: www.local.gov.uk/cib .
 - 17.3. From April an increased number of data reports, data sources and indicators will be available for children's services on LGINform.
 - 17.4. Events will be run in regions, in response to demand, to share learning from the support CIB has given councils on adoption and permanency.
 - 17.5. Regions are on track to spend their funding allocation for 2012-13 and the latest reports on their work programmes show a substantial increase, over the last year, in the amount of sector led improvement activity being delivered at regional level and in the impact this is having particularly on working relationships.

Commissioning of Children's Residential Homes

18. .The LGA has commissioned the office of Public Management (OPM) to work with a select group of local authorities to look into how to better support councils in the effective commissioning of residential children's homes. An advisory group has been

established chaired by Cllr Robert Light from the Children and Young Peoples Board. It also includes representation from the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives, the Association of Directors of Children's Services, the Department for Education, the Children's improvement Board and the Who Cares Trust.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE): Starting a National Conversation

19. The LGA held a successful, over-subscribed conference on tackling child sexual exploitation on 13 February, which brought together representatives from across different local agencies. At the event, the LGA launched its 'National Conversation' campaign, aimed at breaking down the taboo of CSE. Raising awareness of CSE, how to spot it and how to respond, not just among childcare professionals but among the wider public is crucial to tackling this crime. Councils – through their staff, councillors, partnerships and links with communities - can play a key role in this.

The LGA wants to support councils to develop this role and is running an eight week consultation exercise, which is encouraging councillors, officers, voluntary and community organisations, partner organisations such as police and health, and groups representing young people and victims to feed in views, suggestions, expertise and to share existing good practice. This will inform a set of resources to support councils, to be published in the summer.

The LGA's campaign is being supported by organisations including the NSPCC, Barnado's, the Children's Society and the Office of the Children's Commissioner.

Transforming Youth Custody

20. The Ministry of Justice has issued a consultation paper: '*Transforming Youth Custody: Putting Education at the Heart of Detention*'. It seeks views and proposals from a broad range of stakeholders and providers, including education providers with experience in the academies and free schools sectors, on how youth custody can deliver improved education and reoffending outcomes while driving down costs. The paper proposes a youth estate of 'Secure Colleges' which would provide intensive education combined with a period of detention with a clear focus on employment and educational goals. The consultation includes a question on how a payment by results or incentive approach might apply to a Secure College and what outcomes it should focus on. Currently, 73% of young offenders who are released from custody reoffend within 12 months. The vast majority of young people in custody have been excluded from school at some point and about half entering youth offending institutions have literacy or numeracy levels well below the expected standard for their age. Half of all young people in custody in 2011/12 were 17 year olds and 96% were aged 15 – 17. Boys comprised 94% of all young people in custody. The deadline for response to the consultation is 30 April 2013.

LGA and Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS) support to improve councils post 16 tracking and recording

21. From April, the LGA and ADCS will be offering a short piece of sector led support to councils who wish to improve the way they track and record young people's progress, and reduce their 'not known' rates. It has been developed with London Councils. Councils have a range of statutory duties to support young people into post 16 education, employment and training. The most fundamental of these is to track and record young peoples' progress locally into a local CCIS – Client Caseload Information System – database. Effective recording and tracking is crucial to establishing where young people are at any given time in the system, and underpins all subsequent support a young person receives. However the job is complex and time consuming, requiring timely and accurate data from a range of local learning providers. Councils' ability to fulfil this duty is significantly affected by reductions in resources. Open to all councils, it has capacity to support a maximum of 24. It will comprise of peer to peer action learning sets, plus material which will be available to all councils. This piece of work will conclude by September.

National Children's Bureau (NCB) Corporate Parenting Advisory Group - Supporting local authorities' corporate parenting role

22. The LGA has been represented on the NCB's Corporate Parenting Advisory Group by Cllr. Andrew Harper of London Borough of Barnet. This advisory group has been overseeing the Department for Education funded project; "Supporting local authorities' corporate parenting role". The project aims were to support councillors to fulfil their role as corporate parents and to champion children in their care. The LGA was able to input priorities for elected members that shaped the project. These included: tools that would support members in their ability to challenge; suggestions about working with children in care councils and involving children generally; and ideas about models of governance.
23. It was agreed that the materials needed to help corporate parents focus on children's outcomes and perspectives rather than processes. There was recognition of the need for councillors to interrogate information in a meaningful way, for example, how far children's educational attainment has travelled since coming into care rather than just exam results and outcomes of children placed out of authority.

The outputs of this 18 month project include:

- 23.1. Delivery of six regional events for those with leadership responsibility for corporate parenting within local authorities – Cambridge, Leeds, Manchester, Bristol and London, one hosted at LGA.
- 23.2. Two national events bringing together corporate parents and children in care councils run on NCB's behalf by Voice.
- 23.3. 27 councils were approached with the offer of tailored support following the identification of weaknesses in corporate parenting by Ofsted. A further three councils also requested support independently. By the end of the project, 11 councils will have received one or more sessions to assist them with their local arrangements.

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- 23.4. A website offering a range of free resources, including training materials, established and promoted.
 - 23.5. A handbook for individual local councillors distributed free to every local authority, with the option of further copies for sale.
24. The resources are freely available to download from the end of March at;
<http://www.ncb.org.uk/corporateparenting>

Note of decisions taken and actions required

Title: Children and Young People
Date: Monday 21 January 2013
Venue: Westminster Room, Local Government House, Smith Square, London SW1P 3HZ

Attendance

Position	Councillor	Council / Representing
Chairman	David Simmonds	Hillingdon LB
Vice-Chairman	John Merry CBE	Salford City
Deputy-Chairman	Liz Green	Kingston upon Thames RB
Deputy-Chairman	Apu Bagchi	Bedford BC

Members

David Pugh	Isle of Wight Council
Susie Charles	Lancashire CC
John Osman	Somerset CC
Anne Burns	Cumbria CC
Jude Robinson	Cornwall CC
Paul Lakin	Rotherham MBC
Rita Krishna	Hackney LB
David Bellotti	Bath & NE Somerset Council
Liz Hackett Pain	Monmouthshire CC
Nick Forbes	Newcastle City

Substitutes

Dominic Gillham	Hillingdon LB
Richard Watts	Islington LB

Apologies

Paul Carter	Kent CC
Patricia Bradwell	Lincolnshire CC
Robert Light	Kirklees MBC
Kath Pinnock	Kirklees MBC

Officers: Sally Burlington, Mike Heiser, Rebecca Cox, Lucy Ellender

Item	Decisions and actions	Action by
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The Chairman welcomed all those present and opened the meeting with introductions.

1. Derbyshire County Council

Cllr Barry Lewis, Cabinet Member for Young People, and Ian Thomas, Director of Children Services, presented Derbyshire's 'Uni-fi' project to the Board. The project aimed at improving outcomes for children and young people in care. It was noted that this was an issue across different areas of the country, and that there were widespread consequences to not improving outcomes. Derbyshire had used a social pedagogy approach, bringing together both education officers and social workers as well as using a variety of corporate mentors to help ensure positive outcomes for children in care. It was noted that Derbyshire were continuing to monitor and support young people who had been in the care system and were developing the use of a personal budget for children in their care.

Members discussed the importance of getting local schools as well as different parts of the council involved in the corporate parenting agenda. Members felt that an approach incorporating different aspects of council work would be useful.

Members asked a number of questions in discussion including:

- what benefits and savings this approach would have for the council. Ian Thomas said that the benefits of the approach would be visible across the public sector.
- how they engaged effectively with young people. Ian outlined the work they had been doing to make the council more accessible to young people in care.
- what work Derbyshire had undertaken with council staff to implement the changes. Ian outlined the work they had done to change attitudes within the council.
- how they engaged with young people in care who were sometimes difficult to reach. Ian said that they felt it was important for the council to be accessible to young people, and that they had worked to make themselves more so.

In discussion members also made a number of other comments including:

- the use of a virtual school in relation to the Derbyshire work and how this had been used to monitor the progress of pupils who were in care;
- what data was available on a local and national school for councils';
- the importance of attitudes towards attainment for children in care.

Decision

Members agreed that these issues had an impact across the country and should not only be limited to the Creative Councils programme.

Action

Officers to reflect Members' suggestions in the design and delivery of future support to councils, communications and lobbying activity derived from the Creative Councils programme and further.

2. Child Poverty

This work would form part of the Board's work around growth and prosperity as well as welfare reform. Members agreed that child poverty is a complex, cross-cutting issue which exists across the country, manifesting itself in many different ways, across a wide range of services and over many years. This was an issues that would affect different work areas across the LGA, as well as across councils.

Members discussed the definition of child poverty, discussing the key importance of family income in child poverty as well as a number of other issues affecting child poverty including:

- Increases in the cost of living
- Educational attainment
- Fuel poverty
- Petrol prices
- Child care costs
- Safeguarding
- Provision of services
- Welfare reform
- School's awareness
- Public transport costs

Decision

Members agreed to have a further discussion on this item at a future meeting bringing together the key issues on child poverty.

Members agreed to look further at the usefulness of the proposed Government measures currently out for consultation as well as the levers that councils have to address some of these issues.

Action

LGA Officers to proceed as directed.

Rebecca
Cox

3. Education and Children's Services Funding

Mike Heiser, Senior Adviser for Finance, introduced this item updating members on developments in education and children's services funding. Members discussed the need for capital to be flexible according to local priorities rather than ring fenced to academies and free schools. Members agreed to officers' proposal for further research around schools capital.

Item 6

Members also discussed the role of the Educational Funding Agency and the problems facing small schools.

Decision

Members agreed the LGA should carry out further survey work around schools capital.

Action

Officers to proceed as directed.

Mike Heiser

4. Children's Improvement Board

Decision

*The Board **noted** the report.*

5. Other Business Report

Members discussed the changes to the LGA's relationship with the National Youth Agency.

Decision

Members agreed to have a further report on the National Youth Agency at the March meeting of the Board.

Members agreed to have discussions at future meetings on:

- *The National Youth Parliament and invite a member of the organising body to the meeting.*

Action

Officers to take forward this work in light of Members' comments.

LGA
officers

6. Notes of the last meeting and actions arising

The Board **agreed** the note of the last meeting subject to changes to the attendance register.

LGA location map

Local Government Association

Local Government House
Smith Square
London SW1P 3HZ

Tel: 020 7664 3131

Fax: 020 7664 3030

Email: info@local.gov.uk

Website: www.local.gov.uk

Bus routes – Millbank

- 87** Wandsworth - Aldwych
- 3** Crystal Palace - Brixton - Oxford Circus

For further information, visit the Transport for London website at www.tfl.gov.uk

Cycling facilities

The nearest Barclays cycle hire racks are in Smith Square. Cycle racks are also available at Local Government House. Please telephone the LGA on 020 7664 3131.

Public transport

Local Government House is well served by public transport. The nearest mainline stations are:

- Victoria and Waterloo: the local underground stations are

St James's Park (Circle and District Lines), **Westminster** (Circle, District and Jubilee Lines), and **Pimlico** (Victoria Line) - all about 10 minutes walk away.

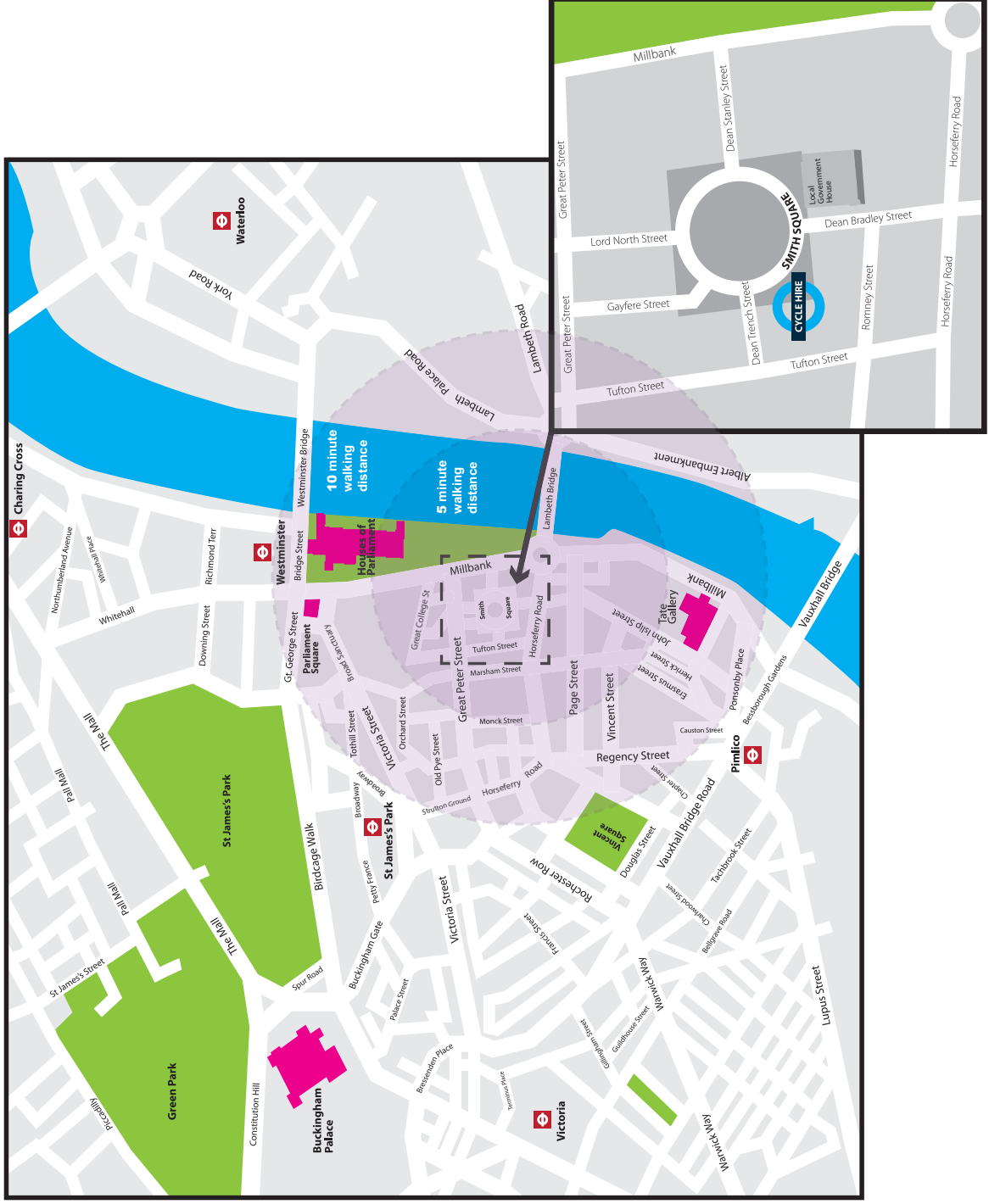
Buses 3 and 87 travel along Millbank, and the 507 between Victoria and Waterloo stops in Horseferry Road close to Dean Bradley Street.

Bus routes – Horseferry Road

507 Waterloo - Victoria

C10 Canada Water - Pimlico - Victoria

88 Camden Town - Whitehall - Westminster - Pimlico - Clapham Common



Central London Congestion Charging Zone

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For further details, please call 0845 900 1234 or visit the website at www.cclondon.com

Car parks

Abingdon Street Car Park (off Great College Street)

Horseferry Road Car Park
Horseferry Road/Arneway Street. Visit the website at www.westminster.gov.uk/parking