

Note of decisions taken and actions required

Title:	Joint Children and Young People and Community Wellbeing Board
Date and time:	24 July 2012, 14.00
Venue:	Rathbone Room 7.1, Local Government House

Attendance

Position	Councillor	Council / Organisation
Chairman (CYP)	David Rogers OBE	East Sussex CC
Deputy chair (CYP)	Liz Green	Kingston LB
Deputy chair (CWB)	Ruth Lyon	Elmbridge BC
Deputy chair (CYP)	Apu Bagchi	Bedford BC
Via telephone:		
Chairman (CWB)	David Simmonds	Hillingdon
Vice chairman (CWB)	Keith Mitchell CBE	Oxfordshire CC
Vice chairman (CYP)	John Merry	Salford MBC
Apologies	Linda Thomas	Bolton MBC
In Attendance	Alan Bell	Team Leader, Vulnerable Children, Department of Health
	Sally Burlington	
	Samantha Ramanah	LGA, Head of Programme, Children and Young People Board
	Liam Paul	LGA, Adviser, Children and Young People Board and Community Wellbeing Board LGA, Members' Services Officer

Item	Decisions and actions	Action by
1.	<p>Chair's welcome</p> <p>The Chair welcomed the attendees, who comprised the Lead Members of the LGA's two boards with responsibility for Children's issues – the Community Wellbeing board and the Children and Young People's board.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr Linda Thomas</p>	
2, 3	<p>Update on safeguarding – Alan Bell, Team Leader, Vulnerable Children, Department of Health</p> <p>Cllr David Simmonds, Chair of the Children and Young People's board introduced the first speaker, Alan Bell, Team Leader, Vulnerable Children at Department of Health (DH), whose role gave him the responsibility for Children's safeguarding – working in conjunction with colleagues from across Government; including the Department for Education (DfE); and wider stakeholders.</p> <p>It was explained that there were discrete teams within the DH, for safeguarding of children and for vulnerable adults. His attendance was in lieu of Karen Turner, Deputy Director, Children, Families and Maternity who could not attend due to prior engagements. Alan set out the government and his department's work in a number of areas:</p> <p><i>The Children and Young People's Health Outcomes Forum</i> – this body will report to the Secretary of State for Health the following week (w/c 30 July 2012), its report would be published with recommendations on how children's and young people's health and wellbeing outcomes can be improved in the new health system. The government will publish its response in September.</p> <p>Following the Munroe review, its recommendations and other stakeholder pressure regarding safeguarding arrangements for children in the new (post Health and Social Care Act 2012) NHS system, DH and DfE begun a series of co-produced work with stakeholders to address concerns about how safeguarding mechanisms will operate in the new health system.</p> <p>Much of this work is directed and influenced by the Extended Safeguarding Children Stakeholder Group, which will next meet</p>	

on the 20 September. Membership includes health organisations and a wider variety of partners in the new healthcare system, including Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Chairs, Local Authority Directors of Children's services (DCSs) and representatives from the LGA.

The new Safeguarding Accountability Framework – Development of the new Safeguarding Accountability Framework is a part of the work overseen by the Extended Safeguarding Stakeholder group, and is led by Ursula Gallagher, Assistant Director of Nursing, along with Jane Cummings, Chief Nursing Officer, NHS Commissioning Board (NHS CB) . The purpose of this workstream is to clarify the future roles and responsibilities for safeguarding with the NHS CB, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and the wider system. External stakeholders including the LGA will continue to inform this work.

Revised statutory guidance on safeguarding children - Work has continued on revising and reducing the statutory inter-agency “*Working Together to Safeguard Children*” guidance, which is currently out for consultation. The DfE consultation can be accessed via this [link](#) and is open until 04 September. Alan explained that the consultation addresses some health issues, but not all, as it is focused on reducing and improving the existing body of guidance. Alan added that it was felt that “*Working Together*” was the most important element of safeguarding policy to implement.

Working Together and Safeguarding Accountability Framework – Both documents are due to be published in Autumn 2012 (late October).

Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Authorisation - Alan reminded those present that some guidance already existed regarding CCG Commissioning processes and the CCGs' place in the new accountability framework. This guidance required that CCGs provide evidence of their local processes and measures to safeguard children in order to obtain authorisation. Evidence of safeguarding was to be tested through a 360° assessment process, to be led by the responsible local authority(s) in each CCG area.

In discussion it emerged that although some members were aware of this ongoing authorisation process, levels of actual involvement varied. It was explained that the normal procedure would be for the councillor with responsibility for health in each area to be involved in the process. Concerns were expressed

about the extent and nature of local authority involvement in the authorisation process, and that it was possible that some authorities may not be aware of their responsibilities and/or may not be fulfilling this process.

Other Existing guidance – Alan then reminded members of the board that local authorities should continue to use relevant advice in the existing legislation as the work to refresh the body of statutory guidance goes on.

Future Work – Alan concluded by identifying the Regulation of Children's health / the Safeguarding system as ongoing areas of work for his team. This will include scoping the role of the health service and other providers in the new arrangements for children's health and wellbeing.

In the following discussion, a number of points were made, summarised below:

- The letter from the Secretary of State for Health, received 11 July, confirms the department's commitment to ensuring safeguarding is an integral part of the reformed health system and its commitment to ensuring the new health system improves the health and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people. This represented progress for local government in getting its concerns addressed.
- A concern that whilst relationships were improving, the Department for Health and other central government departments would need to continue to treat local government as an equal partner in future – including a greater recognition of the LGA's role as a cross-party, political organisation, therefore in some cases a single elected representative at DH strategy forums may not be enough.

Decision

*Members **noted** the report and update provided.*

Action

Officers to seek further information on Local Authorities' role in authorising Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), including the level of involvement of elected members and an indication of the extent to which local authorities around the country are aware of their role and responsibilities.

Sam Ramanah

4, 5 Update on Children and Young People's health work programme and support offer

Samantha Ramanah, Adviser, LGA introduced this item and summarised her report. She explained that much work remained to successfully put the arrangements introduced in the Health and Social Care Act into practice. Work undertaken by the LGA over the last 12 months included:

- The updating of a number of products, including the ['Must Knows for Lead Members for Children's services'](#) document and the peer review methodology to incorporate the role of Health and Wellbeing boards and changes to JSNAs and JHWS
- Case studies and conferences to aid the development of expertise within the sector and spread good practice, including work on Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs) facilitated from the [Children and Young people's learning sets](#), co-produced with the DH, NHS Institute and NHS Confederation.
- LGA response to the revised guidance on children's safeguarding (in progress) and on the development of the Children and Young People's Health Outcomes strategy.
- Establishment of a forum on the LGA's Knowledge Hub facility to bring practitioners and resources together in one place, as well as a dedicated resource area on the LGA website under <http://www.local.gov.uk/childrens-health>.

Regarding the commissioning of services for the 0-5 age group, it was explained that the NHS Commissioning Board will continue to use existing Children's Partnerships until the transfer of this responsibility to local government in 2015. Samantha highlighted the need for government to provide further detail on the form of the arrangements post-2015, and during the transitional period.

The future work programme was then outlined, highlighting in particular:

1. Transition – Continuing to work with CCGs, local authorities and HWBs, to ensure they understand the reforms, their roles and responsibilities for commissioning and delivering public health services. Working with the NHS CB to mitigate the risks of fragmentation of commissioning services.

- Safeguarding – Continuing work to represent the sector's concerns to DH and ensure that these are addressed. A joint ADCS-LGA consultation on the revised safeguarding regulations is planned. A toolkit to clarifying different bodies' roles and responsibilities in the system..
- Children and Young People's Health Outcomes strategy – It was explained that DH had a number of proposals and constructive engagement was underway to ensure the strategy's recommendations are sufficient.
- Co-ordination – Greater co-ordination across children's health issues to provide a single place for stakeholders to discuss issues affecting children and young people arising from transition to new health arrangements.
- A series of public health conferences and products, between November 2012 and March 2013, to follow a life course approach to identify key success factors, key questions to ask, examine case studies and share good practice.

The members present then provided their feedback on the support offer, with the following suggestions made in discussion:

- It may be useful to investigate how Lead members with responsibility for Children and Young people (CYP) are using their accountability role.
- Councils should be urged to take a pro-active, prevention-based approach, and the LGA should reflect this stance.
- The work programme to include corporate social responsibility and work with partners in the retail/business sector on the children's health agenda.
- Engagement with children and young people should be a priority for those working in the new Public Health system
- Contribution of schools in the health agenda – Schools can have a direct impact on Health, especially free schools and academies, through school meals and curriculum.
- Focus should be given to alcohol which is one of local government's public health responsibilities and is an issue which has a big impact on CYP.
- The support offer needs to reach every member at every council i.e. concentrate not simply on Lead Members with responsibility for CYP / Health, but be accessible and

applicable to ward members too.

- Officers were urged to maintain a strong focus on safeguarding issues.
- The use of existing examples of shared leadership and collective responsibility elsewhere in local authority work to act as a model for the Health and Wellbeing boards e.g. successful Children's Trusts.

Decisions

1. Members **welcomed** the progress so far on the support programme and lobbying activity.
2. Members **approved** the proposed Children and Young People's health support offer to councils and their partners for 2012/13.

Actions

- Officers to organise an update for the Children and Young People Board in six months time.
- Officers to update the joint Board on developments within Children and Young People's health as and when required.
- Officers to respond to members' suggestions as outlined above and build into the Children and Young People's Health work programme wherever possible.

**Samantha
Ramanah**

6 Close

Cllr David Rogers and Cllr David Simmonds thanked those present and those participating via teleconference for their time and closed the meeting.