

Children and Young People's Health update

Purpose of Report

To provide an update on the Children and Young People's Health work programme.

Summary

The report gives a summary of Government policy announcements and LGA work undertaken since March 2013.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the update and share their views.

Action

LGA staff to action as necessary.

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Background

1. A Children's Partnership (CP) has been set up to replace several Department of Health Programme Boards for children and young people. This has resulted in a single, more co-produced board covering improved integration of public health and care for 0–19 year olds. The CP will meet on a bi-monthly basis.
2. Membership of the CP includes the LGA, NHS England, Public Health England, Healthwatch England, Society of Local Authority Chief Executives, Department of Health, Health Education England and Association of Directors of Children's Services. Representatives are being sought from a national body for Clinical Commissioning Groups and from the Department for Education.
3. A scoping meeting took place with CP Members on 24 April to identify key priorities. At the meeting it was agreed that the following priorities would be taken forward:
 - 3.1 Early intervention;
 - 3.2 Integration;
 - 3.3 Safe transfer of commissioning for 0-5 year olds to local authorities in 2015;
 - 3.4 Good transitions for children and young people throughout the life course; and
 - 3.5 Understanding the new system and how best to make it work.
4. The CP will commission task and finish groups to take forward work on the abovementioned priorities. Within this a number of cross cutting themes will underpin its work. These will include; workforce, leadership, the voice of the child, using the evidence base, safeguarding, health inequalities, efficiencies and information sharing.
5. A set of common principles were identified to which all members would subscribe. These include the following; the UN Convention on rights of the child, a focus on what we can do together to provide a common voice to help local delivery, and underpinning work with a clear evidence base to improve health outcomes of children and young people.
6. The next meeting will focus on identifying the key pieces of work to be taken forward by task and finish groups.
7. Other ongoing work on children's health includes:
 - 7.1 delivering the final two public health events and resource sheets on the councils' role in tackling mental health (March) and teenage pregnancy (April);
 - 7.2 working with Public Health England to produce a briefing for elected members on the National Child Measurement Programme;
 - 7.3 publishing a joint LGA and DH briefing for Lead Members for Children's Services on the School Nursing Offer; and
 - 7.4 continuing to share knowledge and information about children's health issues on the Knowledge Hub for Health and Wellbeing Boards and on the LGA's dedicated webpage for children's health.