

Community Wellbeing Programme Board – Report from Cllr David Rogers (Chair)

1. On 15 October Lead Members of the Community Wellbeing Programme Board and Cllr Richard Kemp met with General Practitioner representatives to discuss ***Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS***, the Government's White paper on health reform. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how we can work together at national and local level to ensure that the proposals for reform are in the interests of the people and communities that GPs and councils serve.
2. This is the first time that senior members of the Local Government Group have met all of the national GP representative bodies, including the British Medical Association, Family Doctor Association, National Association of Primary Care, the NHS Alliance and the Royal College of General Practitioners. The discussions were constructive and positive and we expect to produce a joint statement of intent. This senior cross-sector group has agreed that we will meet again once the Health Bill has been published in order to discuss the scope for further joint action.
3. On 26 October Cllr David Sparks, Vice Chair of the LGA and Andrew Cozens, LG Group Strategic Lead on Adult Social Care and Health gave oral evidence to the **Health Select Committee** as part of their Public Expenditure inquiry. David and Andrew spoke alongside Richard Jones and Sarah Pickup from the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services. The Committee asked questions covering a range of topics including: reaction to the Spending Review; the efficiency agenda; and the interface between adult social care and health. The session went very well and key points were landed on the importance of community budgets, the scale of the financial challenge facing local government in meeting increased demand for adult care and support services, and the importance of close collaboration between health and social care. A full transcript of the evidence will be available on the Parliament website shortly.
4. At the National Children and Adult Services Conference in Manchester, from 3 – 5 November, a refreshed **concordat on transforming adult social care** was launched. This builds on the Putting People First (PPF) agreement that was signed in 2007 by the LGA, ADASS, government and other key sector partners. Drawing on the experience gained from the PPF agenda over the last three years the Concordat sets out the areas where further action is required to drive forward personalisation. This includes, for example, self-directed supported through greater take up of Personal Budgets, more focus for those who self-fund their care and support and the development of an efficient and responsive care market.

