

Community Wellbeing Board – report from Cllr David Rogers OBE (Chair)

Leadership of the new health system

1. On 24 July, the Chief Executive of the LGA, Carolyn Downs, Cllr Gareth Barnard and I all spoke at a high-level seminar to develop a shared vision of leadership of the new health system, in which councils have a central role to play. We will be working with the NHS Commissioning Board, Public Health England, the Department for Health and many other key stakeholders to support the development of a new approach to system-wide leadership for health improvement.

LGA and NHS Commissioning Board Concordat

2. Following approval by the LGA Executive, the concordat between the LGA and the NHS Commissioning board has now been signed off by both organisations, and will be launched on 29 October at a dedicated one-day event. The Concordat defines how both organisations will work together in the forthcoming year and beyond. The document was drafted jointly with input from the Chairman and Chief Executive of both organisations and the Community Wellbeing Board. Furthermore Local Government Chief Executives from the Health Transition Task Group have contributed comments throughout the process.
3. The overall joint priorities for year one will be:
 - 3.1 shared system leadership;
 - 3.2 joint planning; and
 - 3.3 sector led improvement and innovation.
4. Delivering integrated commissioning and integration of services around patients and communities are the key themes running through the Compact.

Adult Social Care Campaign

5. As part of our 'Show Us You Care' campaign we have sent out a survey to all Lead Members for Health / Adult Social Care and other key stakeholders in the third and private sector, asking for reaction to the care and support white paper. Results will be available shortly. You can take the survey as an individual at:
<http://www.local.gov.uk/show-us-you-care>

Public health funding

6. The LGA has submitted its response to the Committee on Resource Allocation (ACRA) regarding the proposed distribution formula for public health funding to local government, following the LGA Executive discussion on finance. We will continue to lobby hard for a greater quantum of resource to enable local government to invest in public health and preventative strategies and for a more equitable distribution formula.

Health and Wellbeing Board simulation events

7. The first of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) Simulation events took place in the East of England Region on the 04 September. These events, commissioned by the LGA, are delivered by the Institute of Local Government Studies and the Health Service Management Centre at the University of Birmingham.
8. The Simulations provide an opportunity for HWB Members to explore challenges and understand the inherent complexities and conflicts of interest within their roles. Board members will gain insight into how well they are working together in dealing with realistic dilemmas and challenges. A further five are scheduled in other regions during September and October.

Looking forward

9. There have been a number of changes to the membership of the Community Wellbeing Board this year, and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new and returning members to the Board. I would also like to put on record my thanks for those councillors no longer on the Board, who contributed hugely to the work undertaken last year.
10. The coming year will see councils continue to face the reality of continued cuts to budgets across service areas and efficiency challenges, together with the demographic pressures which make the case for reform of Adult Social Care so compelling. The assumption of responsibility for Public Health in 2013 will be a key moment, which I am confident the sector can seize with success. I look forward to the challenges and opportunities the year ahead will bring.

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