

Community Wellbeing Board – report from Cllr Katie Hall (Chair)

Integration Transformation Fund

1. A major achievement for the LGA over the last year was the Government's commitment to a £3.8 billion pooled budget to fund a single pooled budget for health and social care services to work more closely together in local areas. On 9 August the LGA along with NHS England published our planning 'vision' for the 'Integration Transformation Fund', including a roadmap for local areas to plan in the run up to the fund taking full effect from 2015/16.
2. Our press release emphasised how the money could act as a catalyst for the transformation local government wishes to see, provided that the Government and key partners recognise the crucial role of health and wellbeing boards in local decision making on health and care and assurance.
3. Officers and Board Lead members will continue to attend regular Ministerial integrated care meetings throughout the year as the integration transformation fund and integration pioneers projects continue to develop.

Better health outcomes for children and young people pledge

4. It remains hugely concerning that childhood mortality in this country is among the worst in Europe. The transfer of public health responsibilities begun last year puts local authorities and health and wellbeing boards in a prime position to tackle the poor health outcomes experienced by children and young people. Over the summer The Local Government Association, Department of Health, Royal College for Paediatrics and Child Health and the Children and Young People Health Outcome Forum have jointly written to Lead Members for Children's Services and Chairs of Health and Wellbeing Boards to urge them to sign the 'Better health outcomes for children and young people' pledge.
5. The pledge sets out a number of shared ambitions which seek to put children, young people and their families at the heart of decision-making; highlight preventative action and early intervention; and established person-centred services which are clearly accountable and well-led. It is hoped that working in that way can lead to reduced child deaths, whilst improving children and young peoples' long-term health and mental health as well as providing better care and support for the most vulnerable.
6. Health and wellbeing boards are encouraged to sign up to the pledge and also to share their learning. Email a short description of what your local authority is doing or planning to do to improve health outcomes for children and young people to Samantha.Ramanah@local.gov.uk.

Health Visitors and transfer of responsibility for public health for 0-5 year olds

7. April 2015 will mark the last public health function to transfer to local government; local authorities will take on responsibility for commissioning children's public health services for under 5 year olds and commissioning the health visiting service and Family Nurse Partnership.
8. The LGA is working with colleagues in councils and local authority principal advisers to support and inform councils to implement the new duty. LGA Leadership are also

negotiating a transition and assurance process for the 2015 transfer that provides effective assurance to Ministers regarding Health Visitors and other top governmental priorities whilst delivering a proportionate and collaborative approach appropriate for local government.

Meeting with NHS Confederation

9. I met with Michael O' Higgins, the Chair of the NHS Confederation on 3 September to build on the good working relationship between our organisations, including building a strong relationship at national level with representatives of clinical commissioning groups, and gaining maximum value for each organisation from the partnerships and forums both organisations are already involved in. Work will continue to coordinate our support to health and wellbeing boards (HWBs) and clinical commissioning groups (CCGs).

Ageing well, dementia and musculoskeletal health

10. Meetings have continued over the summer to ensure that local government's work to improve health and care services is recognised and that Government and charity initiatives take the needs of older people into account. Cllr Gillian Ford attended a Ministerial roundtable on the Vulnerable Older People Plan, in support of work being undertaken by the DH/ADASS/LGA.
11. Cllr Gillian Ford also spoke to the Alzheimer's Society Conference on the subject of dementia friendly communities. Cllr Ford emphasised the importance of councils and service providers designing their services with end-users in mind, and with the involvement of people with dementia at all stages. She highlighted how this was in keeping with one of the key messages of the LGA's 'Rewiring public services' campaign – that all health and social care should be consistently coordinated around the needs and wishes of the individual. Changes are needed at both a national and local level so that public services can help communities to meet people's future needs and aspirations.
12. Cllr Doreen Huddart represented the Board at a Public Health England hosted roundtable which looked at the impact of arthritis and musculoskeletal health which will feed into PHE's three-year priorities setting process.

Looking forward

13. As the new Chair of the Community Wellbeing Board I look forward to getting to grips with the many challenges and opportunities which local government faces across the Board's remit. Board Lead Members have already begun discussions on our priorities for the forthcoming year, and this will be the focus of our first board meeting.
14. I would also like to welcome the new faces from around the country on the board, and pass on behalf of the team, pass on my thanks for the work of those Councillors who are no longer on the board, and who contributed hugely to the work undertaken last year.

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