

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

### **Care and support reform**

1. The LGA, Association of Directors of Adult Social Services and Society of Local Authority Chief Executives have sent a joint submission in response to the Government's consultation, 'Caring for our future – implementing funding reform', which closed on 25 October. This was a comprehensive response that built on the two engagement events we ran in Leeds and London which were attended by more than 100 senior council members and officers. One of our main points was the suggestion that government considers setting up a separate national organisation to run the universal deferred payments scheme to help people meet the cost of care in their old age. This would help ensure that local government is not exposed to the financial (and reputational) risk involved. Cllr Mehboob Khan discussed this proposal on BBC Breakfast three days later.

### **Integration Pioneers**

2. The Government announced 14 Pioneer areas on 1 November. In order to promote and share learning from best practice examples of how integrated services can operate seamlessly, especially for older people and those with learning disabilities, the LGA has published the first four 'value cases for integration' in an [integrated care value case toolkit](#).

### **Winterbourne View Joint Improvement Programme Stocktake report**

3. The Winterbourne View Joint Improvement Programme has completed its Stocktake report which was published on 17 November. We received returns from all 152 Health and Wellbeing Board areas.
4. Councillor Sir Merrick Cockell, LGA Chairman with Norman Lamb, Minister of State for Care and Support, and Jane Cummings, Chief Nursing Officer for England, wrote jointly to local Health and Wellbeing Board Chairs, NHS regional Directors and Chief Executives to emphasise their key roles as local leaders in delivering the national Concordat in response to Winterbourne View. The letter notes that many commissioners have made marked progress in recent months in implementing the Concordat. However, much more work is needed from a wide range of partners to ensure all those with learning disabilities and challenging behaviour are placed in appropriate settings to support them to live full lives with dignity and respect.

### **Low Commission - the future of advice and legal support**

5. Lord Low of Dalston, Chair of the Low Commission attended the Community Wellbeing Board on 6 November to discuss the Commission's work on the future of advice and legal support, including a strategy for access to advice and support on social welfare law in England and Wales. While the Board agreed with the broad spirit of the Commission's aims, it voiced concern that any recommendations arising from it could place an extra burden on local authority resources which were already stretched by a reduced financial settlement. The Board stressed that any new responsibilities proposed would need to be adequately funded.

### **Community Wellbeing Board members at national events**

6. Several members of the Community Wellbeing Board have been involved in national events over the past month, maintaining the LGA's high profile on health and social care issues:
  - 6.1. I spoke at the **'Ready for ageing' roundtable** on 31 October. The roundtable was hosted by the LGA and introduced by Lord Filkin and was informed by the findings of the House of Lords Select Committee report 'Ready for ageing' that was published in early 2013. The roundtable was attended by senior leaders from public and private organisations and looked at the implications of an ageing population for local government in the near future. Key themes were the need for strategic understanding of ageing in local areas; leadership; public health's contribution to healthy life expectancy; housing and care and the opportunities presented by an ageing population. The outcomes of the discussion will help inform our future work in this area.
  - 6.2. Alongside other key public health stakeholders, Cllr Steve Bedser took part in a panel discussion as part of an **evening seminar on smoking cessation**, hosted at the Guardian Offices in London on 30 October. A follow-up report on the seminar by the Guardian can be found [here](#).
  - 6.3. Cllr Bedser also spoke at a Joint Public Health England and Local Government Association workshop on the **National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)** on 31 October. As part of his contribution, he spoke about how public health teams can work effectively with elected members to deliver the NCMP and reduce childhood obesity.
  - 6.4. Cllr Gillian Ford was a panel member for a Guardian [online debate about homecare](#) on 5 November. Other panel members included the Care Services Minister, Norman Lamb MP, and Emily Holzhausen, Director of Policy and Public Affairs at Carers UK. The discussion was wide-ranging and Cllr Ford made a number of important points including: the pressures posed by the funding environment local authorities are operating in; the importance of linking up care and support with housing as part of the integration agenda; and the key role of commissioning in securing a person-centred approach to homecare.
  - 6.5. Cllr Colin Noble spoke at a **Business Services Association Conference** on 14 November on the new landscape in health and social care commissioning to highlight the leadership role of health and wellbeing boards.

### **Public Health resources**

7. We have published a number of new public health resources over the past month, including:
  - 7.1. **Changing behaviours in public health: To nudge or to shove? A briefing for councils.** This briefing for councillors and officers explains how behavioural change

**Item 3b**

interventions or 'nudge theory' can help local authorities fulfil their public health responsibilities.

- 7.2. **Money well spent? Assessing the cost effectiveness and return of investment on public health interventions: A briefing for councils.** This briefing for councillors and officers explains the importance of assessing value for money in helping local authorities fulfil their public health responsibilities.
- 7.3. **Problem gambling: briefing for councillors.** This short briefing provides local councillors and chief officers with an overview of gambling and problem gambling. It also provides information on how local government can act to reduce the harm associated with problem gambling through existing legislation and guidance.
- 7.4. **Community Pharmacy – local government's new public health role.** This resource sheet focuses on the contribution of community pharmacy to local public health services. It includes information on local government statutory responsibilities for community pharmacy and several case studies that illustrate the potential of community pharmacy as a key public health resource.
- 7.5. **Social Care and Obesity: A discussion paper.** For the best part of 20 years the amount of obese people in England has been on the rise. Today one in four adults are obese, according to the Health Survey for England, compared to 15 per cent in 1993. This discussion paper considers the impact that obesity has on social care and the challenges facing social care now and in the future.

**Contact officer:** Sally Burlington  
**Position:** Head of Programmes  
**Phone no:** 020 7664 3099  
**E-mail:** [Sally.Burlington@local.gov.uk](mailto:Sally.Burlington@local.gov.uk)