

## Community Wellbeing Board: Annual Review of the Year

### Background

1. The profile and influence of the Community Wellbeing Board (CWB) has remained high this year with the Chair and other Board Members meeting with Ministers and other senior stakeholders to discuss policy issues on a regular basis. Engagement with key partners has been consolidated and these strengthened relationships have added weight to our lobbying. Members of the Board have given evidence to a number of select committees and all party parliamentary groups and have represented the LGA at numerous public, private and third sector conferences and events. The Board has also maintained a strong media presence with 35 press releases issued between July 2012 and June 2013. Since January, the CWB has been mentioned or quoted 54 times by national newspapers and broadcasters.

### Public Health and transition

2. A key priority area for the Board this year was to lead the development of a new system of public health in partnership with local government's national partners, and to ensure that **that the transfer of responsibility for public health to local government was executed successfully.**
3. In October 2012, the LGA led a national stocktake of progress towards transition of public health and found that in 95 per cent of all areas, there was strong evidence of good progress. The LGA worked closely with the remaining 5 per cent of areas to ensure that they received the support they needed to prepare for transition. Over 3,500 staff were successfully transferred from Primary Care Trust (PCTs) to local government and our work continues both nationally and locally to ensure that they are fully embedded in the local government workforce.
4. As a result of LGA lobbying the Government increased their total allocation of the ring-fenced **public health grant from £2.2 billion (as originally proposed in summer 2012) to £2.66 billion for 2013/14.** We continue to work closely with the Department of Health (DH) to ensure that the allocation formula is transparent and fair and that any financial anomalies are put right.
5. The LGA published 'Getting in on the Health and Social Care Act 2012' in June 2012, which is a succinct guide to all the provisions of the Act. It is the most downloaded publication on the LGA website, with over 28,000 downloads. We have also delivered 15 public health conferences, and 15 publications to help councils understand their new public health responsibilities. Over 1,400 delegates attended the events.

### Health Improvement

6. As part of the LGA's commitment to sector led improvement we were successful in securing **a single funding grant of £1.925 million for 2013-2014** to the LGA from DH to support Health and Wellbeing Boards, public health and local Healthwatch to develop and begin implementation of a **health and wellbeing system improvement support programme.** A Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Health has been signed to formalise each partner's responsibilities.
7. As of 1 July 2013, the programme has recruited staff to the programme and successfully delivered three Peer challenges and agreed the programme for delivery of a further 13

through the year, with a waiting list for 2014. It has also delivered two national learning and leadership events; produced a partnership prospectus; continued the Healthwatch Implementation Team; developed a revised self-assessment toolkit for launch at the end of July; agreed a joint work programme with Healthwatch England; and established a comprehensive set of communication channels. In 2013/14 work will focus on devolving funding to accountable regional bodies for locally-specific support.

### **Adult Social Care funding and reform**

8. The Show us You Care campaign to achieve reform and sustainable funding for adult social care was the LGA's top campaigning priority during the 2012-13 business year. The Community Wellbeing Board has been successful in highlighting the importance of putting adult social care on a sound financial footing – both as a foundation for the wider reform of care and support, and for helping to secure the longer-term sustainability of local government as a whole. Our key messages featured prominently in the report of the Health Select Committee and the Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change.
9. We continue to **influence the pre-legislative and legislative process** as the Care Bill passes through Parliament and work with councils and parliamentary allies to ensure the model is workable for local government. We have already secured support from Peers for three amendments to address funding, integration, and quality.
10. The LGA worked closely with the sector, government departments and NHS England to make the case for **greater funding in the Spending Review**. We secured an excellent result – the continuation of the existing transfer from the NHS to social care (plus an additional £200 million), plus more than £2 billion to take forward integration at scale and pace. Our work also helped secure a separate pot of £335 million to fund funding reform.
11. Our commentary on care and support reform, published in autumn 2012 was extremely well received. We have worked closely with the Department of Health to inform the detail of funding reform and we are currently in discussions with the Department to establish a Joint Programme Office, led by the LGA, to oversee implementation of care and support reform.

### **Adult Social Care improvement**

12. Quality, safeguarding and improvement in adult social care have been prominent issues for local government this year. We have worked to deliver an effective programme of sector led support for adult social care, with three key streams: the Towards Excellence in Adult Social Care (TEASC) programme; an emerging sector-led improvement programme in relation to the Winterbourne View Review; and support for councils in their lead roles in safeguarding, which aims to decrease the incidents of abuse and neglect and support and to improve outcomes for them once concerns are identified.
13. The TEASC programme worked with councils previously judged 'adequate' for adult social care by the Care Quality Commission in 2010 to develop an improvement plan. The Programme Board launched its first report on progress in adult social care in England at the LGA's Annual Conference, along with a range of tools to aid analysis and improvement.
14. Funding of around £2.5 million has been secured for each year of the LGA and NHS England's two-year Winterbourne View Joint Improvement Programme. The programme will work with local areas across health and social care to ensure that the services are personalised, safe and local, and should result both in a movement away from the use of

long stay, large-scale hospital services and also lead to real and rapid change in the attitudes and culture. The Joint Improvement Programme Board has already held a series of national events to engage with commissioners and lead partners and developed a good practice guide on undertaking reviews of care plans. The programme is now asking local areas to complete a stocktake of progress.

15. The LGA Adult Safeguarding Programme has delivered a series of publications aimed at tackling current policy and practice challenges in Councils and local Safeguarding Boards. Peer challenges have been undertaken in a range of authorities and learning has been disseminated in order to further inform practice.

### **Integrated Care**

16. As integrated care has risen up the political agenda, we have signed a concordat agreement outlining joint priorities between NHS England and LGA and developed strong relationships and joint work plans with our national partners. An Integrated Care working group meets regularly, co-chaired by Carolyn Downs and Bill McCarthy (NHS England). Underpinning this work is a shared recognition that Health and Wellbeing Boards are at the heart of a joint approach to delivering whole system integrated care.
17. In partnership with National Voices and Think Local Act Personal the LGA has jointly developed a Narrative for integrated care to ensure the health and care system has a common understanding of integrated care. We have supported this work with analysis and resources for councils including a resource sheet on integrated care, signposting to existing evidence and case studies of good practice for Health and Wellbeing Boards. A further LGA-led, jointly sponsored piece of work will develop the evidence base for integrated care, including detailed value case summaries, and a toolkit for action.
18. The LGA has also secured a commitment to provide and alignment joint support for a cohort of 'Pioneers' to accelerate and share learning across the system with Members of the Community Wellbeing Board representing the sector at regular Ministerial meetings in support of this process.

### **Healthwatch and Citizen Engagement in Health**

19. The Community Wellbeing Board has worked to support councils to help ensure they have everything in place to set up robust and credible Local Healthwatch organisations by the 1 April 2013. We have made the case for additional Healthwatch funding for councils in letters and in meetings with Ministers; provided a series of local Healthwatch masterclasses for lead officers; established regional free-to-access networks of officers to provide support to local authority Healthwatch commissioning leads and key strategic partners; produced over 25 briefings providing elected members and officers with practical information on local Healthwatch; and held a series of regional simulation events that brought together key people from organisations that would have a direct relationship with a local Healthwatch.

**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)