

Children and Young People Board

Agenda

Thursday, 8 January 2015
11.00 am

Smith Square 3&4, Ground Floor, Local
Government House, Smith Square, London,
SW1P 3HZ

To: Members of the Children and Young People Board
cc: Named officers for briefing purposes

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This meeting is



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Children & Young People Board
8 January 2015

There will be a meeting of the Children & Young People Board at **11.00 am on Thursday, 8 January 2015** Smith Square 3&4, Ground Floor, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ.

A sandwich lunch will be available at 1.00pm

Attendance Sheet:

Please ensure that you sign the attendance register, which will be available in the meeting room. It is the only record of your presence at the meeting.

Pre-meeting for Board Lead members:

This will take place from **Time Not Specified** in Smith Square Rooms 3&4 (Ground Floor).

Political Group meetings:

The group meetings will take place from 10.00 -11.00am. Please contact your political group as outlined below for further details.

Apologies:

Please notify your political group office (see contact telephone numbers below) if you are unable to attend this meeting.

Labour:	Aicha Less: 020 7664 3263	email: aicha.less@local.gov.uk
Conservative:	Luke Taylor: 020 7664 3264	email: luke.taylor@local.gov.uk
Liberal Democrat:	Group Office: 020 7664 3235	email: libdem@local.gov.uk
Independent:	Group Office: 020 7664 3224	email: Vanessa.Chagas@local.gov.uk

Location:

A map showing the location of Local Government House is printed on the back cover.

LGA Contact:

Patrick McDermott
0207 664 3342 patrick.mcdermott@local.gov.uk

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The twitter hashtag for this meeting is #lgacyp

Children & Young People Board – Membership 2014/2015

Councillor	Authority
Labour (7)	
Cllr Nick Forbes (Vice-Chair)	Newcastle upon Tyne City Council
Cllr John Merry CBE	Salford City Council
Cllr Richard Watts	Islington Council
Cllr Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE	Southwark Council
Cllr Bob Cook	Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
Cllr John Kent	Thurrock Council
Vacancy	
Substitutes	
Cllr Anne Burns	Cumbria County Council
Cllr Tim Cheetham	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Conservative (7)	
Cllr David Simmonds (Chairman)	Hillingdon London Borough Council
Cllr Jane Scott OBE	Wiltshire Council
Cllr Patricia Bradwell	Lincolnshire County Council
Cllr Paul McLain	Gloucestershire County Council
Cllr Liz Hacket Pain	Monmouthshire County Council
Cllr Ivan Ould	Leicestershire County Council
Cllr Tony Hall	North Yorkshire County Council
Substitutes	
Cllr Ian Parry	Staffordshire County Council
Cllr Phillip Bicknell	Windsor & Maidenhead Royal Borough
Cllr Peter Evans	West Sussex County Council
Cllr Thomas Garrod	Norfolk County Council
Liberal Democrat (2)	
Cllr Liz Green (Deputy Chair)	Kingston upon Thames Royal Borough Council
Cllr David Bellotti	Bath & North East Somerset Council
Substitutes	
Cllr Peter Downes	Cambridgeshire County Council
Independent (2)	
Cllr Helen Powell (Deputy Chair)	Lincolnshire County Council
Cllr Paul Cullen	Richmondshire District Council
Substitutes	
Cllr Anne Hawkesworth	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Cllr Adrian Naylor	Bradford Metropolitan District Council

Agenda

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Thursday 8 January 2015

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Jonathan Bacon, Private Secretary to Isabelle Trowler, will discuss the work of the Chief Social Worker in tackling CSE.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 25 March 2015, 11.00 am, Westminster Suite, 8th Floor, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

Transfer of public health commissioning for 0-5 year olds

Purpose

For discussion

Summary

This report provides and update on the transfer of responsibilities for the commissioning of public health responsibilities for 0-5 year olds from NHS England to local government on 1 October 2015

Recommendation

Members are invited to discuss the issues raised in the report and to agree actions where this is required. Officeholders to the Board are meeting with officeholders to the LGA's Community Well Being Board after this meeting where this item will also be discussed.

Action/s

To be taken forward by officers as directed by members of the Board.

Contact officer: Samantha Ramanah
Position: Adviser, Community Wellbeing
Phone no: 020 7664 3079
Email: Samantha.Ramanah@local.gov.uk

Transfer of public health commissioning for 0-5 year olds

Progress summary:

- 1 We have made good progress on a number of national negotiations including:
 - 1.1 Following LGA arguments that there was insufficient funding to pay for local authorities' new commissioning responsibilities, the DH has confirmed that an extra £2 million will transfer to local government to fund the new burden on commissioning which is not fully covered by the resources transferring from NHS England. The resource is intended to pay for the post for a whole time equivalent for 6 months (October 2015 – March 2016).
 - 1.2 The DH has consulted us and partners on the draft regulations for the five mandated universal checks. We expect the regulations to make very clear that councils will not be expected to suddenly increase coverage of the mandated checks and can only be expected to take a reasonable approach to continuous improvement. We will continue to resist any expectation of a sudden uplift which constitutes a new burden. We are also pressing for greater clarity about current performance at local authority level, so councils have a clear baseline pre-transfer.
 - 1.3 We have received feedback from local authorities on a number of finance and contracting issues which we have fed into national discussions. We have been able to agree with NHS England key points such as the fact that overheads and Commissioning for Quality and Innovations (CQUIN), which are payments for quality, must be included in the funds to transfer. The draft funding allocations have been adjusted to reflect this.

Update on funding

- 2 In December the DH published draft funding allocations for local authority commissioning of 0-5 public health services from 1 October 2015 until 31 March 2016. We are pleased DH has listened to our concerns and confirmed an extra £2 million to fund local government commissioning responsibilities. However, we are seeking reassurance from DH that this funding will be a recurring cost. A one off amount is insufficient to enable local authorities to commission sustainable and high quality services for children and young people, which is at the very heart of the transfer.
- 3 We are aware of particular concerns in some areas that current allocations do not relate to need. We are seeking a clear view of how the funding will shift to a needs based formula over time and have expressed concern that this could take many years unless substantial extra funding is made available. We will provide an update when we have further information.
- 4 The indicative allocations are based on the returns from the NHS Area Teams about current spend on existing services and the expectation will be that current resources will be 'lifted and shifted' to local government. The DH has also introduced a 'floor'

allocation, meaning that the minimum allocation to any local authority will be not less than £160 per head of 0 – 5 population. Local authorities have been given five weeks to raise any concerns regarding their allocations. DH is seeking responses only to raise issues of factual accuracy, or where there is local agreement that a different figure is appropriate.

Update on assurance

- 5 The light touch assurance process which was due to be sent to local authorities for completion in the new year has now been rescheduled to March to allow councils to concentrate on commenting on the draft funding allocations. It will focus on:
 - 5.1 Leadership, vision and governance;
 - 5.2 finance and contracting;
 - 5.3 mandatory functions and
 - 5.4 information and IT
- 6 Support will be made available through sector-led Regional Oversight Groups involving local government, PHE and NHS England if required.
- 7 **Members views are sought on any concerns or issues that need to be raised with national partners to help ensure councils are able to jointly plan services for 2015/16 with NHS partners for a smooth transition on 1 October 2015.**

Update on support to local areas

- 8 The LGA has been working jointly with NHS England and Public Health England to support councils and areas teams with the transfer of commissioning responsibilities. This includes:
 - 8.1 Delivery of nine regional events to share key messages about the transfer;
 - 8.2 Developing a dedicated LGA web resource with support tools and updates: www.local.gov.uk/childrens-public-health-transfer and
 - 8.3 Setting up nine Regional Oversight Groups with membership from local government, PHE and NHS England local leads to provide sector led support.
- 9 The emphasis on transition is on a locally owned process, where responsibility for planning, delivery and locally assuring the 'sender' to 'receiver' functions sits locally. So far the programme has focused on the technical aspects of the transfer but from next year councils will have greater certainty about the resources available to commission these services and will be more focused on strategic planning and embedding these services.
- 10 **Members views are sought on what are the transformational opportunities available and how can we support councils to transform and improve these services?**

Improvement and intervention

Purpose of report

To summarise the performance picture across the country and to seek member views on how the LGA's improvement offer could be developed further in 2015/16 to reflect the needs of member councils.

Summary

Edwina Grant is the national children's improvement adviser working with the LGA and will attend the meeting. The paper sets out Ofsted results to date, provides an update on government models of intervention in councils where performance is deemed inadequate and summarises the improvement support provided by the LGA.

Recommendation(s)

Members are recommended to:

- Consider the performance picture for councils in children's services
- Note the children's improvement work undertaken this year and
- Consider how the LGA's improvement offer for 2015/16 could be developed further

Action

Officers to take action arising out any discussion, as directed by members.

Contact officer: Clive Harris
Position: Senior Adviser
Phone no: 020 7664 3207
E-mail: clive.harris@local.gov.uk

Introduction

1. Ofsted launched its Single Inspection Framework for council services that care for and safeguard children in November 2013. Since then a total of 34 inspections have been completed with the following results:
 - 9 councils have been found to be good
 - 18 are requires improvement and;
 - 7 councils are rated as inadequate
 - As yet no council has been judged to be outstanding
2. The Single Inspection Framework is onerous and resource intensive and the results to date show that the bar has been raised for children's services. As a result of being found inadequate, the Department for Education has placed 23 councils in intervention. Of these, 13 are subject to an improvement notice, which sets out what the council needs to do to improve. 10 councils have had a formal direction notice from the Secretary of State which means the council must adhere to the actions set out in the notice and must work with officials and government appointed advisers to improve services. 15 of the 23 councils have been in intervention for more than 12 months.

Department for Education models for intervention

3. The Department for Education (DfE) is working to develop alternative models for working with councils in intervention, which go beyond the appointment of an improvement board and chair and, in the most serious cases, the appointment of a children's commissioner and establishment of a Trust. Julian Le Grand was asked by Ministers to commission work on alternative models for driving improvement in children's services and we are awaiting an announcement on the conclusion of that work.
4. The Department has also tendered for children's experts to participate in their commissioning framework to work alongside councils in intervention. DfE officials have described this as a more transparent way of recruiting expert advisers. The tender includes a call for agencies to deliver improvement support such as diagnostics. LGA has raised concerns that we are all looking to recruit from a small group of professionals, and there has been speculation in the trade press about whether this cuts across sector led improvement.

Sector-led children's improvement

5. At the last meeting of the Children's Improvement Board (CIB) it was agreed by the LGA, Solace and ADCS that there was value in a regular meeting to discuss children's services improvement at the national level. A number of issues remain

unresolved and it is proposed that these are the focus of a national meeting with a view to reaching a consensual position on the way forward:

- Performance picture across the country;
 - Leadership and governance;
 - Early intervention and prevention;
 - Innovation and alternative approaches to children's services.
6. The first children's improvement meeting took place on the 2 October and was attended by the Chairman of the Children and Young People Board. It considered how the sector can provide support to councils to ensure they come out of intervention as quickly as possible. It was recommended that LGA develops advice for councils that find themselves in intervention drawing on learning from peer challenges.
7. Further meetings of this group are scheduled to take place in February, April and July 2015.

The LGA improvement offer

8. To support member councils to meet expectations, the LGA has developed a children's improvement offer which includes:
- 8.1 Safeguarding Peer Review - a 5-day review with a multi-disciplinary peer team, covering the context for safeguarding as well as practice.
 - 8.2 Safeguarding Practice Diagnostic - a 3-day social care peer diagnostic focused on practice to support councils in addressing performance risk.
 - 8.3 Care Practice Diagnostic - a 4-day social care and health peer diagnostic covering context and practice for the child's journey from adoption to leaving care.
 - 8.4 Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) Diagnostic - the LGA is piloting a 3 day diagnostic to provide LSCBs with an external view of the effectiveness and impact of the LSCB on safeguarding and protecting children in order to identify areas requiring improvement.
9. A total of 25 reviews and diagnostics were completed in 2013/14 and another 18 have been scheduled or completed up to February 2015.
10. Elsewhere, Children's Improvement Advisers (CIAs) have been appointed to work alongside the LGA's Principle Advisors in each region, strengthening our support to the sector and working closely with regional leads for children's services. Using their knowledge and expertise, CIAs are providing support and assistance to councils, as well as helping with integration of activity and information between regional and national level and across local partners.

11. To gain feedback from the sector on the children's services offer, the LGA will soon be consulting on the future of its sector-led improvement offer. *Taking stock: Where next for Sector-Led improvement?* will seek the views of the sector on all aspects of the LGA's improvement offer. Children's services specific questions will focus on whether any additional support is needed and how a sector-led approach to inspection could be developed.

Financial implications

12. Any changes to the children's improvement offer would have financial implications for the LGA and these costs would need to be understood before the offer was amended.

Other Business Report

Purpose of report

For information.

Summary

This report provides reports on other business relevant to the Board.

Recommendation

That the Board note the updates on:

1. Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
2. Careers advice to young people
3. Review of Youth Offending Teams (YOTs)
4. Parliamentary debate on the future of youth services
5. Youth participation and youth unemployment
6. Ofsted Annual Report
7. Autumn Statement

Action

LGA officers to action as necessary.

Contact officer: Helen Johnston
Position: Head of Programmes
Phone no: 0207 664 3172
Email: helen.johnston@local.gov.uk

Other Business Report

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

1. The new legal duties to reform the way support is provided for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in the Children and Families Act came into force on 1 September 2014. New duties on councils for young offenders with SEN in custody don't come into force until April 2015. Regulations and an amended code of practice are expected to be laid before Parliament early in the New Year.
2. A Department for Education (DfE) survey carried out in October 2014 shows that councils have made a good start in implementing the new duties and are involving parents and young people as key partners in local decision making. Making the transition to the new system will be a gradual process and it is recognised that achieving the cultural change through the reforms will take time. Transitional arrangements are in place for gradually transferring SEN statements and Learning Difficulty Assessments to Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans by April 2018. The LGA was successful in arguing for local areas to have discretion about when they transfer other children and young people to EHC plans. Only young people in Year 11 who are moving on to college or an apprenticeship or those in pathfinder areas with non-statutory plans must be transferred this school year. The guidance allows most of the transfers to take place from September 2015 to April 2018.
3. In June additional 'new burdens' funding allocations for 2014/15 of £45.2 million were made to support implementation of the reforms and funding for 2015/16 of £31.7m was confirmed in the Local Government Finance Settlement in December. Councils can choose how to spend these additional funding allocations across the two years to increase their capacity to take on their new duties.
4. From April 2015, the DfE is looking to encourage a peer support and challenge programme to drive quality improvement around the reforms. Total funding of £450,000 is available for this programme in 2015/16, with funding to be split between the regional leads. The deadline for expressions of interest to the DfE is 23 January 2015. This is a new approach – it is not just for pathfinders - and councils should consider how it might be incorporated into their existing peer support arrangements. The DfE is also tendering for delivery support to councils and their partners in implementing the SEN and disability reforms. It is envisaged that the delivery support contractor, once appointed, will be able to offer a range of support to the peer network regional leads.
5. The DfE is also calling for evidence from local areas to help them work out ways in which special educational needs and disability (SEND) funding can be distributed more fairly. A pack of data has been put together about children and young people with SEND, and how they have been funded and are funded now. The deadline is 27 February 2015.
6. The DfE is inviting councils submit an 'Expression of Interest' to take part in a pilot which will extend the powers of the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Tribunal to health and social care. The Government made a commitment during the

final Parliamentary stages of the Children and Families Act to carry out a review and report back by April 2017, following calls from the LGA and other groups for a single complaints process. We argued that it was confusing and time-consuming for parents to go through different processes depending on the nature of the complaint. We argued that councils shouldn't be the only organisations being held to account for the new integrated provision. The DfE is seeking 20 local areas to take part in the review which is due to start in April. The deadline for submissions is 12 January and further information is available from: lauren.kocan@education.gsi.gov.uk

Careers advice to young people

7. The Department for Education has announced the creation of a £20 million national employer-led Careers and Enterprise Company body to encourage greater collaboration between schools, colleges and employers. The LGA was quoted in reply, warning that 'another national agency, tasked with the impossible challenge of matching thousands of local schools with two million employers, is a wasted opportunity and resolve the skills gap'.

Review of Youth Offending Teams (YOTs)

8. The Ministry of Justice has announced a review of Youth Offending Teams (YOT), which is expected to start early in 2015. The CYP Board Chairman has written to the Andrew Selous MP, the justice Minister, to emphasise the success of the YOT model, to ensure the review looks to understand and build on what has underpinned this success, and to call for the range of partners contributing to that success be involved in designing and leading the review – including local government, police, and health.

Parliamentary debate on the future of youth services

9. On 3 December, Parliament held a Westminster Hall debate on the future of youth services following an early day motion, which now has 120 MP signatures, arguing for 'a statutory funded, wide-ranging and universal youth service with ring-fenced funding from central government which is delivered by local authorities'. LGA provided a briefing for MPs at the Westminster Hall debate, highlighting the difficult position councils are in, the risk of further budget reductions, and making the case for wider reform of services to young people.

Youth participation and youth unemployment

10. The LGA Destinations Data project held its first workshop in September and is now working with an identified list of good practice councils to develop a tool for councils wanting to improve how they use data to reduce disengagement and improve outcomes for young people - such as using data to develop shared strategies, building collaborative relationships that support schools and providers to focus on destinations, working with employers, and improving data management and sharing. The final workshop in January will bring together councils, government and Ofsted to shape the final report, the planning tool, and recommendations for the future use of destinations data.
11. The Board worked with the LGA City Regions Board to commission the National Institute for Economic and Social Research to assess a number of council schemes

supporting vulnerable young people and adults towards work. The research, to be published in early January 2015, has many lessons for government, finding that councils are having success by integrating services, valuing 'soft' outcomes, and working with employers. Councils are increasingly supporting a hidden group of vulnerable unemployed people that get no government help, more than half of all unemployed young people do not claim jobseekers allowance meaning they get no official government support to find a job.

Ofsted annual report

12. The Ofsted annual report for schools and further education and skills was launched on 10 December. The headline findings this year are that primary school standards are continuing on an impressive upward trajectory – with more than eight in ten schools now rated at least good, but that the overall rate of improvement in secondary schools has stalled. Teaching in the further education sector has improved but Ofsted is concerned that too many college courses are still not equipping learners with the skills that employers want and the economy needs.
13. The report raised concerns about the supply of teachers; at a time when pupil numbers are rising sharply the number of new entrants to teacher training has fallen by 16% since 2009/10 and was 7% below target in 2014/15. It also expressed concerns that too many academies are isolated – Ofsted analysis of academies that experienced a sharp fall in inspection grade last year shows that most had not made any arrangement for external support and challenge until it was too late and serious decline had set in. Finally, it highlighted the level of confusion in the system over the exact role of local authorities in relation to academies and their pupils.
14. Responding to the report, Cllr Simmonds said “Ofsted is intended to be a key part of the improvement of schools, and in the case of academy schools are the only people councils can call on to intervene when there are signs that standards are slipping. As well as asking questions of schools, Ofsted has questions to answer about whether its regime is bringing about the improvement we need to see. Mums and dads want to know that someone has their finger on the pulse of local schools and that can't be done from Whitehall. It is time for an independent review of Ofsted so that we can all be confident in the quality of judgments which at the moment seem to change at a moment's notice.”

Autumn Statement

15. In the Autumn Statement on 3 December the Chancellor confirmed that local services will not face additional cuts in 2015-16. He announced that the Government would remove employer National Insurance Contributions (NIC) for employers taking on apprentices under 25, with the aim of stimulating demand across employers and young people. For full details, see the LGA's on-the-day briefing: <http://www.local.gov.uk/documents/10180/5533246/On+the+Day+Briefing+Autumn+Statement+2014.pdf/bc59ad98-25f2-4188-a166-c0511d2d3ba2>

Note of last Children & Young People Board meeting

Title:	Children & Young People Board
Date:	Friday 31 October 2014
Venue:	Charter 3, Manchester Central - National Adult and Children's Services Conference

Attendance

An attendance list is attached as **Appendix A** to this note

Item	Decisions and actions	Action
1	Welcome and Introduction to the Children and Young People Board	
	Councillor David Simmonds welcomed Board members, Lead members from across the country and Edward Timpson MP to the meeting.	
2	Edward Timpson MP - Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families	
	Edward Timpson MP thanked members for the invitation to speak at the meeting.	
	The Minister noted the overwhelming role that Lead Members play in the leadership of Children's Services in their local area. Members are able to provide a clear steer and direction as to what makes a difference in their local area.	
	The provision of the highest quality care to children and young people is achieved through a stable workforce who are well trained, reliable and have clear lines of accountability.	
	There is a move towards multiagency inspection that reflects the fact that there is reliance upon other agencies, like health, in the provision of services.	
	The Innovation Fund, and the bids submitted to it, give a greater account of the importance of Children's Services. The support that the fund has received from both Cabinets and Chief Executives has been excellent.	
	The Minister welcomed feedback on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barriers that stifle innovation • Local Safeguarding Children's Boards 	
	Members discussed; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of Children's Services budgets • Access to the Innovation Fund • Notification processes when children move into a new area 	

- Mental health services for young people
- Regional foster networks
- The recruitment of social workers
- Improving parenting

Appendix A -Attendance

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
Chairman	Cllr David Simmonds	Hillingdon London Borough Council
Deputy-chairman	Cllr Liz Green	Kingston upon Thames Royal Borough Council
	Cllr Helen Powell	Lincolnshire County Council
Members	Cllr John Merry CBE	Salford City Council
	Cllr Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE	Southwark Council
	Cllr Jane Scott OBE	Wiltshire Council
	Cllr Patricia Bradwell	Lincolnshire County Council
	Cllr Paul McLain	Gloucestershire County Council
	Cllr Ivan Ould	Leicestershire County Council
	Cllr Tony Hall	North Yorkshire CC
Apologies	Cllr Nick Forbes	Newcastle upon Tyne City Council
	Cllr Richard Watts	Islington Council
	Cllr Bob Cook	Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
	Cllr John Kent	Thurrock Council
	Cllr Liz Hackett Pain	Monmouthshire County Council
	Cllr David Bellotti	Bath & North East Somerset Council
	Cllr Paul Cullen	Richmondshire District Council
In Attendance	Edward Timpson MP	

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LGA location map

Local Government Association

Local Government House
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Tel: 020 7664 3131

Fax: 020 7664 3030

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Website: www.local.gov.uk

Bus routes – Millbank

- 87** Wandsworth - Aldwych
- 3** Crystal Palace - Brixton - Oxford Circus

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Bus routes – Horseferry Road

- 507** Waterloo - Victoria
- C10** Canada Water - Pimlico - Victoria
- 88** Camden Town - Whitehall - Westminster - Pimlico - Clapham Common

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Central London Congestion Charging Zone

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