

Children and Young People Board

Agenda

Wednesday, 17 June 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

www.local.gov.uk

This meeting is



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Children & Young People Board
17 June 2015

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Labour:	Group Office: 020 7664 3334	email: Labour.GroupLGA@local.gov.uk
Conservative:	Group Office: 020 7664 3223	email: lgaconservatives@local.gov.uk
Liberal Democrat:	Group Office: 020 7664 3235	email: libdem@local.gov.uk
Independent:	Group Office: 020 7664 3224	email: independent.group@local.gov.uk

Location:

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

LGA Contact:

Hannah Boylan
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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	London Borough of Islington
Cllr Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE	London Borough of Southwark
Cllr Bob Cook	Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
Cllr John Kent	Thurrock Council
Cllr Anne Burns	Cumbria County Council
Substitutes	
Cllr Tim Cheetham	Metropolitan Borough of Barnsley
Cllr Anntoinette Bramble	London Borough of Hackney
Conservative (7)	
Cllr David Simmonds (Chairman)	London Borough of Hillingdon
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	Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead
Cllr Peter Evans	West Sussex County Council
Cllr Thomas Garrod	Norfolk County Council
Liberal Democrat (2)	
Cllr Liz Green (Deputy Chair)	Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames
Cllr Peter Downes	Cambridgeshire County Council
Substitutes	
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

Children & Young People Board

Wednesday 17 June 2015

11.00 am

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Date of Next Meeting: Thursday, 15 October 2015, 11.00 am, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

Children and Young People Board: Review of the Year

Purpose

For discussion and direction.

Summary

This report sets out the Annual Review of activities of the Children and Young People Board for 2014-15.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the Review of the Year

Action

Officers to take forward as directed by members

Contact officer: Ian Keating
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Children and Young People Board: Review of the Year

Media

1. Between May 2014 and May 2015, the Children and Young People accounted for almost a quarter (23 per cent) of all LGA media coverage with 340 pieces of coverage.

Education

2. Our campaign for adequate powers and funding to support councils in their education and school place planning role has continued to attract a high profile in the media and in Parliament. Shortly before the Election, we launched a policy and case study report: [Making sure every child has a place at a good local school](#) which called for an end to two-tier school accountability.
3. Our annual analysis of the looming shortfall in school places as a result of sharply increasing demand in many areas continued to receive widespread press coverage and highlighted the pressure that councils continue to face in meeting sharply rising demand for school places. A further year's allocation of £1.2 bn schools capital for new places for 2017/18 was announced to allow councils to plan ahead with 3-year budgets. This followed an LGA campaign for three-year allocations to councils.

Post 16 participation

4. Our Hidden Talents campaign has continued to put councils at the centre of debate for boosting youth engagement in work and learning, regularly gaining high profile coverage in the media, in parliament and among the sector. Activity has included a range of research, analysis and reports available at www.local.gov.uk/post-16.
5. The activity has helped create conditions for the devolution of youth skills and employment funding and powers through a number of city and devolution deals. However it has not yet led to a significant change in the overall direction of government policy, as discussed in more detail in the report on youth unemployment, education and training elsewhere on the agenda.

Children's social care

6. We published new resources to help councils tackle child sexual exploitation, including key lines of enquiry for councillors to pursue and case study examples from around the country. These resources were launched at a high level CSE seminar in January 2015, which brought together over 100 council leaders, chief executives, lead members and directors of children's services and representatives from central government, health, police and the third sector.
7. We secured a £2m grant from the DfE Social Care Innovation Programme to establish a National FGM Centre, working in partnership with Barnardo's. The

National Centre will provide a knowledge hub and practice advice and support to councils and partner agencies across the country. A small number of pilot authorities will also have the option to delegate full social work responsibility for FGM cases to the Centre, under a sliding scale of support that will provide pilot councils with access to specialist social workers following an FGM referral.

8. We published comprehensive research into the role of local safeguarding children boards, finding that the work of boards is at risk from inequitable funding arrangements and the confused expectations of Ofsted and others. We have secured the support of ADCS, Solace and the Association of Independent LSCB Chairs in our call for government to urgently clarify the role that LSCBs are expected to play and the way they are funded.
9. We have successfully lobbied against regulations which would allow private companies to run children's social care services at a profit, ensuring that only non-profit making enterprises are eligible to receive full delegated authority from councils, and are continuing to work closely with government on reforms to key services such as secure children's homes, residential care and adoption.

Improvement

10. For 2014/15, we have held one new lead member induction and 3 political leadership essentials course (formerly leadership academies) for lead Members for children's services.
11. Working directly with councils, we have delivered 7 children's services peer reviews, 5 safeguarding practice diagnostics, 3 care practice diagnostics and 8 Local Safeguarding Children Board diagnostics. We have delivered 4 nationally accredited and quality assured courses for practitioners and associates engaging in peer review, challenge or diagnostic activity providing 65 new peers recruited for the delivery programme.
12. Following continued lobbying from the LGA and partners, Ofsted has announced that it will replace the onerous and resource intensive Single Inspection Framework with 'short, sharp targeted multi-agency inspections' which will be piloted before the end of 2015.

Funding and implementation of 0-5 public health responsibilities

13. The LGA worked with the Department of Health (DH) and NHS England to establish the expenditure baseline for commissioning services for 0-5 year olds in 2014/15 in advance of the transfer of commissioning responsibilities in October 2015. We were successful in securing an additional £2 million to address the identified funding gap. We also secured a commitment that every local authority will receive at least £160 per head (0-5). The additional spend for 2015/16 is likely to be £36m higher than 2014/15 in order to pay for the costs of the government commitment to increase the numbers of Health Visitors and Family Nurse Partnerships.
14. The LGA led a light touch self-assessment process for the transfer, supported by nine local government-led regional oversight groups. The 100 per cent response

showed high levels of confidence from councils about the transfer and strong joint working with NHS local teams and providers. The LGA has delivered nine regional events to support councils and is also developing briefings for members and officers to update them on the transfer and the opportunities to join up and transform services, in addition to delivering further events to support councils.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS)

15. The Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Taskforce was established in September 2014 to propose ways to make it easier for children, young people, parents and carers to access help and support and to improve how children and young people's mental health services are organised, commissioned and provided. In March, the DH and NHS England published the report of the Taskforce, which sets out the changes needed at both local and national levels to improve the system. CYP lead members made an important contribution to this work.

16. The LGA is keen to work with DH and NHS England to take forward work on CAMHS and are having early discussions to establish next steps.

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Priorities for the New Parliament

Purpose

For discussion and direction

Summary

Although there are specific items elsewhere on the agenda on Bills that impact on the Board's remit, Office Holders have asked for a more general discussion of the Board's priorities with the new government.

Recommendation

Members are asked to identify the key LGA priorities for working with and influencing the new government.

Action

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

Contact officer: Ian Keating
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Priorities for the New Parliament

1. Although there are specific items elsewhere on the agenda on Bills that impact on the Board's remit, Office Holders have suggested that the Board should have a more general discussion of the Board's priorities with the new government. The dynamics of working with a majority government elected with a clear mandate will be different from working with the previous coalition. So it will be important to identify areas where LGA work has a realistic chance of success and add value.
2. An initial discussion among Office Holders shortly after the Election identified a number of areas that might be considered:
 - 2.1. A focus on the importance of excellent school leadership and classroom teaching in raising school standards, rather than changing school structures; and the council role as employer of the majority of school staff in supporting excellence in schools
 - 2.2. Stronger council powers to turn around failing schools without asking permission from DfE and Ofsted
 - 2.3. Continued work on the evidence base comparing the performance of academies with council-maintained schools
 - 2.4. A clear LGA stance on the employment of unqualified teachers in academies and free schools
 - 2.5. A stronger role for councils in decisions about new free schools in their areas, to support their place planning duties and make sure public money is spent efficiently
 - 2.6. A role for councils in making sure that new schools are fit for purpose, high quality and value for money
 - 2.7. In the context of city deals and devolution, the important contribution that councils can make to improving local schools and skills provision to support local economies
 - 2.8. A greater role for councils in joining up early years and childcare provision
 - 2.9. A focus on better parenting to improve outcomes for children
 - 2.10. Continued work to support councils to respond to child sexual exploitation
 - 2.11. Continued work to support councils maximise the benefits of the transfer to councils of responsibility for children's public health services
 - 2.12. Continued work around safeguarding and the role of Local Safeguarding Boards
 - 2.13. A continued focus on improving fostering and adoption outcomes
 - 2.14. An offer coordinate multiple funding streams for early years, health, troubled families and safeguarding, as part of devolution deals
3. Members are asked to identify the key LGA priorities for working with and influencing the new government in the context of diminishing LGA staff resources.

The Education and Adoption Bill and Childcare Bill

Purpose

For discussion and direction

Summary

This paper summarises the provisions of the Education and Adoption Bill and the Childcare Bill which were among the first to be published following the Queen's Speech. It sets out the LGA views agreed for the LGA's Queen's Speech briefing, before full details of the proposals became available following the publication of the Bills on 2 and 3 June.

Recommendation

Members are asked to identify the key LGA priorities for lobbying on the two Bills.

Action

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

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The Education and Adoption Bill

1. The Education and Adoption Bill was published on 3 June but a date for the Commons Second Reading debate on the principle of the Bill had not been set at the time of writing.

Summary of the education provisions

2. The Bill creates a new category of council-maintained schools subject to intervention – ‘Coasting Schools’ - to be defined in regulations made by the Education Secretary.
3. The Secretary of State will be given similar powers to councils to intervene in maintained schools that are ‘eligible for intervention’ i.e. schools judged to be Inadequate by Ofsted or defined as Coasting. It is understood that these powers will be delegated to Regional Schools Commissioners. This will include the power to issue warning notices, withdraw financial delegation, appoint additional members to the governing body and replace the governing body with an Interim Executive Board (IEB).
4. If the Department for Education (DfE) uses these powers, a council will no longer be able to intervene in the school affected and any previous warning notices issued by the council cease to have effect. The rights of governing bodies to appeal against warning notices issued either by the council or the Secretary of State will be removed. The DfE will also be given new powers to give directions to a local authority about the membership, size and terms of appointment of IEBs.
5. It puts a duty on the Secretary of State to make an academy order to convert a school to become a sponsored academy if it is judged as Inadequate by Ofsted (currently this is an expectation, not a duty). She will have discretion over whether or not to issue an order for coasting schools, or those that fail to comply with a DfE warning notice. It puts duties on schools and councils to ‘facilitate conversion’ following the issue of an academy order.
6. The Explanatory Notes to the Bill acknowledge that the new powers for DfE to intervene in failing and coasting schools will result in an increase in public spending, to be considered as part of the normal Budget and Spending Review processes.

LGA view

7. Councils have taken a proactive role in supporting schools to become academies where this will help improve their performance, but are concerned that the Department for Education is unable to effectively support the rapid expansion in schools converting to academy status. DfE has acknowledged it lacks the capacity and local knowledge to oversee the 4,400 academies already in England. Councils, with their role at the heart of their community, are able to hold all schools in their areas to account for the quality of the education they provide and should be given the powers to do this.
8. Like-for-like comparisons of academies and maintained schools show that legal status on its own does not bring the improved performance we need to see. Four in five council-maintained schools are rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted, a higher proportion than for other types of schools, and this demonstrates that councils know what they are doing and are best-placed to drive school improvement.

9. The best way to intervene in struggling schools is to act swiftly and ensure there is strong leadership and good teaching. The focus of school improvement should be on the elements, like a great head teacher, which make up a good school, and what we can all do to make sure schools have access to these.
10. Councils know what works best for their local areas and are ambitious for all children in their communities. We want to be able to intervene quickly in any school without having to wait for permission and we need the powers to be able to do this.

Summary of the adoption provisions

11. The Bill gives the Secretary of State a new power to direct one or more English councils to make arrangements for any or all of their adoption functions to be carried one of the councils named, or by another adoption agency. She may name the adoption agency or council to carry out the functions on behalf of others, or instruct the named councils to make the decision. If the latter, councils are given the power to set up a new voluntary adoption agency for this purpose.
12. The Explanatory Notes indicate that DfE will be providing “some financial support for transition to regional adoption agencies” but says the reform is expected to produce longer term savings for councils.

LGA view

13. Finding loving homes for children is one of the most important jobs that councils do and there are already many excellent examples of councils working together on regional approaches to adoption across the country.
14. It is important that we now build on the success of recent years, which have seen record numbers of children adopted and delays cut significantly. This has been helped by the positive working relationship between independent adoption agencies and local and national government, and regional collaboration has been a strong feature of this success. But there continue to be delays in the courts and legal proceedings must be sped up to provide much-needed homes.
15. Regional adoption boards are now in place throughout England, collecting and sharing examples of good local practice and encouraging stronger joint working wherever possible. Collaboration works best when it is driven by all those involved in adoption, so the Government’s promise of financial and practical support for local areas to move forward with their own proposals is useful. Locally-led initiatives are far more effective than centrally-imposed structures and processes.
16. It is important that the ongoing focus on adoption does not distract from the importance of other types of long and short-term care for vulnerable children. Adoption is not right for every child, and local and national government must continue to strive to improve the experience of all children in care – whether they are being looked after by friends or family, in foster care or a special guardianship arrangement, or in residential care.

Childcare Bill

17. The Childcare Bill was published on 2 June and will start in the Lords, with Second Reading scheduled for 16 June 2015.

Summary

18. The Bill places a duty on the Secretary of State to ensure that childcare is available free of charge for qualifying children of working parents for 30 hours in each of 38 weeks in any year. This is in contrast to the existing legislation covering the 15-hour free entitlement for three and four year olds and disadvantaged two year olds, where the duty to secure provision is placed on councils.
19. A key issue will be the interaction of the two statutory frameworks, especially any discrepancy in eligibility. The additional 15 hours of free entitlement under the Bill is for children of 'working parents', a restriction not included in the current Childcare Act 2006. The definition of 'qualifying children of working parents' will be set out in regulations, as will the interaction between this Bill and regulations made under the 2006 Act.
20. Regulations will also allow the Secretary of State to establish a body corporate and impose functions on it in order to fulfil her duties under the Bill.
21. The Bill also places a duty on local authorities to publish information about available childcare and other services available for parents locally.

LGA view

22. To be able to improve the availability and quality of childcare for the under-5s, particularly in deprived areas, it is vital that the funding reflects the true cost of delivering places. Capital funding will also be required to allow councils to work with schools to expand provision where necessary to meet the commitment to 30 hours free childcare.

Conclusion

23. The LGA views set out in this report were agreed on the day of the Queen's Speech, before the Bills were published. The Board is asked to identify the key LGA priorities for lobbying on the two Bills now that further details are available.

Full Employment and Welfare Bill - youth employment, education and training

Purpose

For discussion and direction.

Summary

This paper summarises the main policy agendas relating to services supporting the engagement of young people in education and training and their transition from school to work. It analyses the potential impact on councils, including the impact of proposals included in the Full Employment and Welfare Bill.

Recommendations

1. Discuss the potential implications and opportunities for councils of government's agenda and the Full Employment and Welfare Bill for services supporting young people from school into the world of work.
2. Discuss the proposed areas of focus for the LGA, working with other Boards.

Action

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

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The Full Employment and Welfare Bill - youth employment, education and training

Summary of the Full Employment and Welfare Bill

1. The Full Employment and Welfare Bill, which is yet to be published, is likely to legislate for the reform of a number of services to young people, including to:
 - 1.1. Create duties on ministers to annually report on job creation and apprenticeships;
 - 1.2. Replace Jobseeker's Allowance for 18 to 21 year olds with a Youth Allowance time-limited to six months, after which individuals will be required to undertake an apprenticeship, training or community service;
 - 1.3. Remove the automatic entitlement of 18 to 21 year olds to Housing Benefit;
 - 1.4. Provide Jobcentre Plus support in schools to supplement careers advice;
 - 1.5. Freeze the main rates of a number of working-age benefits, tax credits and Child Benefit and reduce the level of the benefit cap.
2. The Bill, together with wider reforms, will impact councils on a number of ways which are summarised below together with some proposals for LGA activity for member discussion and direction.

Careers advice and Raising of Participation Age (RPA)

3. The Full Employment and Welfare Bill will legislate for Jobcentre Plus (JCP) advisers to offer careers advice in schools, despite having minimal experience working with young people under 18. This follows other policy initiatives – such as the establishment of a national careers company – to deal with wide concerns with the quality of careers advice in schools and colleges.
4. The proposals risk adding further complexity to an already very fragmented service landscape within which councils have very few levers to deliver on their statutory duties to support the raising of the participation age (RPA) to 18 years old this academic year; to track and reduce disengagement among 16 to 18 year olds; and to secure a good place in education and training for every young person.
5. A recently-published LGA survey shows that just 7 per cent of councils now feel they have the funding and levers to deliver on this duty¹. The survey found that the transfer of the responsibility to provide careers advice from councils to schools has had a significant impact, with 61% saying that it restricted their capacity to deliver their statutory duties to a great extent, compared to 26% who said school reforms 19% who said further education reforms were causing difficulties.
6. It is proposed the Board continue to present the case for public service reform that enables councils to hold the levers and funding to effectively carry out their statutory duties to young people.

16 to 18 further education and sixth forms

¹ http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/media-releases/-/journal_content/56/10180/7319911/NEWS

7. Government is unlikely to shift from the coalition government's policy on post-16 education, which established the Education Funding Agency to fund post 16 institutions on a national per pupil funding model unprotected from budget reductions. As a result, councils have no formal levers to influence post 16 provision. Almost all councils (95 per cent) felt this restricted their capacity to deliver on their statutory duties, 12 per cent to a great extent. Despite this, councils seek to work with schools and providers to plan provision around young people and inform courses that meet the needs of employers.
8. The Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill has paved the way for Greater Manchester to hold influence over Further Education, an opportunity welcomed by colleges and employers in the region and sought by other areas. Ofsted is also supportive of a stronger council role, recommending stronger and clearer arrangements of local accountability in post 16.
9. It is proposed that the Board continue to campaign for a greater council role in post 16 education, and work with the relevant LGA Boards to support councils wanting to gain powers over further education through the devolution deal processes.

Earning or learning 18 to 21 year olds

10. The Full Employment and Welfare Bill will legislate to replace Jobseekers Allowance for 18 to 21 year olds with a Youth Allowance time-limited to six months, after which young people will be required to undertake an apprenticeship, training or community service. The Bill will also remove automatic entitlement to Housing Benefit from 18 - 21 year olds.
11. Our assumption is that is that new Youth Allowance will be conditional on participation in education, training and/or employment programmes. There are risks that the Youth Allowance will have little impact if the services supporting young people towards work do not improve. For example almost 60 per cent of unemployed people do not claim JSA and so do not access official help, a figure which has doubled since 2012.
12. Councils do not have statutory duties for all young people over 18 but the majority do provide some support to vulnerable 18 to 25 year olds and have specific duties to support those with Special Educational Needs. The removal of Housing Benefit is likely to put more 18 to 21 year olds at risk of homelessness, placing additional pressures on council housing departments. Two thirds of existing young Housing Benefit claimants qualified because they are particularly vulnerable.
13. Before the election the LGA recommended creating a new Youth Offer, organised and planned locally by councils and JCP, to enable all young people over 14 years old to access independent careers and employment advice and work experience while in education, training or work. The offer would bind local partners into a commitment guaranteeing every young person support into training, an apprenticeship, or sustained employment².
14. It is proposed the Board, working with other relevant LGA Boards, build a positive and evidenced case for the role of councils in ensuring more vulnerable young people over 18 have the support they need to engage in education, training or work.

² http://www.local.gov.uk/economy/-/journal_content/56/10180/7151113/ARTICLE

Apprenticeships

15. Government has pledged to create 3 million apprenticeships over the course of the parliament, and the Full Employment and Welfare Bill will require ministers to annually report on job creation and new apprenticeships. There were 2.2 million apprenticeship starts over the last Parliament, however too few apprenticeships are school leavers looking for their first job, and too many are over 25s already in work with their employer.
16. Government is yet to set out how it will deliver 3 million apprenticeships, but there is a risk that the pursuit of numbers without reform of the system will not resolve issues with how local employers are engaged. The system's struggle to create opportunities for young people out of work will also place limits on the ambitions of the Youth Allowance.
17. Councils have proved to be most able to work both with local employers to create opportunities, and with schools, colleges and family services to help young people get the advice, experience and help to take opportunities³. A number of councils have had some devolved funding and national support of local apprenticeship hubs, however the system overall is not enabling or supporting such local efforts in the majority of places.
18. It is proposed the Board, together with other relevant LGA Boards, work positively with government to promote and the role of councils in creating quality apprenticeship places for young people, and make the case for greater levers to enable this in all places.

Recommendations

19. Members are asked to:
 - 19.1. Discuss the potential implications and opportunities for councils of government's agenda and the Full Employment and Welfare Bill for services supporting young people from school into the world of work
 - 19.2. Discuss the proposed areas of focus for the LGA, working with other Boards:
 - 19.2.1. to continue to present the case for public service reform to give councils the levers and funding to effectively carry out their statutory duties to young people;
 - 19.2.2. build the case for the role of councils in ensuring more vulnerable young people over 18 have the support they need to engage in education, training or work;
 - 19.2.3. continue to campaign for a greater council role in post 16 education and support councils to gain additional powers through the devolution deal processes; and
 - 19.2.4. work positively with government to promote and the role of councils in creating quality apprenticeship places for young people.

³ <http://www.ippr.org/publications/learner-drivers-local-authorities-and-apprenticeships>



Other Business Report

Purpose

For discussion and direction.

Summary

This report summarises the work of officers on 0 -5 Public Health Transfer, Child and Adolescent Mental Health, and National Children and Adult Services Conference (NCAS).

Recommendation

Members are asked to consider recommendations for Board activity over the year ahead.

Action

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

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Other Business Report

0 – 5 Public Health Transfer

1. In March we sent out a local authority self-assessment on the state of readiness for the transfer. We received a 100% response rate from local authorities, the results showed that 97% of councils are confident that commissioning arrangements will be fully operational in their council from 1st October 2015 and that there is good joint working with NHS England and providers to transfer these services.
2. It also showed 96% are very or fairly confident that their transitional arrangements are clear and achievable and 99% are confident about their governance arrangements.
3. Whilst it showed that there are high levels of confidence in many areas and few remaining issues, it identified the following outstanding issues;
 - 3.1 Data collection, reporting arrangements and concerns about the quality of data;
 - 3.2 Child Health Information Services (CHIS). Whilst the majority of councils are confident that CHIS is being improved (70%) and will achieve compliance (61%), regional feedback suggested that there is a perception locally that the system will not be improved by 2020 which is resulting in a lack of confidence;
 - 3.3 Concerns about the move from commissioning from a registered to a resident population and the implications this has on cross charging for resident populations that are registered out of area. This issue was consistently raised by the Regional Oversight Groups.
4. The LGA is following up with the few councils who expressed low confidence levels to offer support. We are also working with NHS England and Public Health England to address the above issues. PHE is developing proposals for an interim national reporting arrangement for data collection and will engage local authorities in June to seek their views on the proposals.
5. Local authorities also raised that they would like examples of good practice to be shared more widely to support them to transform and embed these services. The LGA is working with partners to share good practice with councils and develop support tools.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Update

6. In March the Department of Health and NHS England published the Report of the Children and Young People's Mental Health Taskforce, which sets out the changes which need to take place at both local and national levels to improve the system. CWB lead members played an active role in contributing to this work.
7. The Government announced in the budget a package of funding to improve child and adolescent mental health services. This included investing over £1 billion over the next 5 years to start new access standards, providing £118 million by 2018- 19 to

complete the roll-out of the Children and Young People's Increasing Access to Psychological Therapies, and investing £75 million over the next 5 years in maternal mental ill health services. The Department for Education will also provide an additional £1.5 million towards piloting joint training for designated leads in Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and schools to improve access to mental health services for children and young people, including the most vulnerable.

8. We have long called for more money to support children and young people's mental health services and we are pleased to see that there are plans to invest additional funding into these services which could improve much needed access to these vital services for thousands more young people. However, we still need to see the whole system properly funded and partners at both national and local levels working together to implement the recommendations from the Taskforce.
9. We are very keen to work with the Department and NHS England to take forward work on children and young people's mental health as a joint endeavour and are having early discussions to establish next steps. We are clear that a joint approach that promotes strong and accountable local leadership is needed to ensure there are coordinated commissioning arrangements to genuinely improve outcomes in children and young people's mental health.

National Children and Adult Services Conference (NCAS)

1. This year's NCAS conference will be taking place from the 14th – 16th October at the Bournemouth International Conference Centre. The new Chair of the LGA has been invited to open the conference and invitations have also been sent to Nicky Morgan MP, Secretary of State for Education, Edward Timpson MP, Minister for Children and Families and; Tristram Hunt MP, Shadow Education Secretary.
2. Confirmed children's sessions will include an education question time; discussion of the future of the inspection of children's services; a plenary session with Ofsted, a closed children's lead member session with Edward Timpson (tbc) and; CAMHS. Due to the General Election a number of slots have been held back for 'hot topic' sessions and Member's views on the subjects that should be covered in these sessions would be welcomed.
3. There are currently 347 delegates booked to attend the conference, which is approximately 80 more than at the same time last year.

Note of last Children & Young People Board meeting

Title: Children & Young People Board
Date: Wednesday 25 March 2015
Venue: Westminster Suite, 8th Floor, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

Attendance

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

Item	Decisions and actions	Action
1	Welcome and Declarations of Interest The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting. No declarations of interest were made.	
2	Early Years and Childcare The Chairman welcomed Ellen Broome at Jill Rutter, from the Family and Childcare Trust, to the meeting. Ellen Broome introduced the Family and Childcare Trust and explained that their aim was to make the UK a more family friendly society. The Trust are putting together a roadmap for the incoming government that calls for wholesale reform of childcare funding. A number of plans towards a better childcare system, which is fit for purpose, have been identified. In the short term, there is a need to improve the flexibility and quality of provision. In the medium term, provision in deprived areas should be tackled alongside an exploration of social enterprise and chain childcare models. An independent funding review is seen as a long term plan for improvement. The Chair thanked Ellen Broome and Jill Rutter for their presentation and invited members to comment. In the discussion that followed, a number of points were raised, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A need to establish the goal of childcare. There is a need for affordable care that provides a good early education and sometimes these can be competing.• The transition from early years to primary education and Key Stage 1 outcomes.• The impact of austerity measures on provision.• The Marmot Review 2010 .• The need for fair funding around the country.• The SEND agenda and care for disabled children.• Workforce development and a possible National Accreditation.	

- The impact of the Dedicated Schools Grant.

Action

Officers to continue the work in this area, taking direction from members' views.

3 Child Sexual Exploitation

Ian Dean and Peter Rentell introduced the report which provided members with an update on national activity to tackle child sexual exploitation, including the findings of the Casey review into Rotherham council and the proposals presented as part of the government's response to the Jay Report. The report also updates members on progress with the LGA's child sexual exploitation action plan following January's high level CSE summit.

In the discussion that followed, members raised a number of points, including:

- The need for communication with councils and the sharing of good practice.
- The robustness of scrutiny in Rotherham and other public sector bodies.
- The role of individual councillors in tackling CSE.
- Possible prosecutions of those in public office for neglect.
- The LGA CSE Resource pack
- Information sharing, particularly across borders.
- The complexity of cases, especially where victims do not consider themselves victims.
- The need for action where intervention is considered risky.
- The need for training for and strong leadership from councillors on the issue.

Action

Officers to continue the work in this area, taking direction from members' views.

4 Other Business Report

The Chairman introduced the Other Business report, which provided members with an update on Children and Adolescent Mental Health and the LGA campaign 'Investing in Our Nation's Future'.

Members discussed the need to promote and support the emotional wellbeing children and adolescents and the need for improvements to be made to the service as quickly as possible.

Decision

Members **noted** the report.

5 Note of the Previous Meeting

Members **agreed** the Minutes of the previous meeting on 8 January 2015.

Appendix A -Attendance

Position/Role	Councillor	Authority
Chairman	Cllr David Simmonds	Hillingdon London Borough Council
Vice-Chairman	Cllr Nick Forbes	Newcastle upon Tyne City 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 Bob Cook	Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
	Cllr John Kent	Thurrock Council
	Cllr Jane Scott OBE	Wiltshire Council
	Cllr Patricia Bradwell	Lincolnshire County Council
	Cllr Liz Hackett Pain	Monmouthshire County Council
	Cllr Tony Hall	North Yorkshire County Council
	Cllr Paul Cullen	Richmondshire District Council
Apologies	Cllr Richard Watts	Islington Council
	Cllr Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE	Southwark Council
	Cllr Anne Burns	Cumbria County Council
	Cllr Paul McLain	Gloucestershire County Council
	Cllr Ivan Ould	Leicestershire County Council
	Cllr David Bellotti	Bath & North East Somerset Council
In Attendance	Alan Wood CBE	
	David Hoare	
	Debbie Jones	
	Kath O'Dwyer	
	Ellen Broome	
	Jill Rutter	

LGA location map

Local Government Association

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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

For further information, visit the Transport for London website at www.tfl.gov.uk

Public transport

Local Government House is well served by public transport. The nearest mainline stations are: Victoria and Waterloo: the local underground stations are

St James's Park (Circle and District Lines), **Westminster** (Circle, District and Jubilee Lines), and **Pimlico** (Victoria Line) - all about 10 minutes walk away.

Buses 3 and 87 travel along Millbank, and the 507 between Victoria and Waterloo stops in Horseferry Road close to Dean Bradley Street.

Bus routes – Horseferry Road

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

Cycling facilities

The nearest Barclays cycle hire racks are in Smith Square. Cycle racks are also available at Local Government House. Please telephone the LGA on 020 7664 3131.

Central London Congestion Charging Zone

Local Government House is located within the congestion charging zone.

For further details, please call 0845 900 1234 or visit the website at www.cclondon.com

Car parks

- Abingdon Street Car Park (off Great College Street)
- Horseferry Road Car Park
- Horseferry Road/Arneway Street. Visit the website at www.westminster.gov.uk/parking

