

Children and Young People Board

Agenda

Tuesday, 12 September 2017
11.00 am

Rooms A&B, Ground Floor, Layden House,
76-86 Turnmill Street, London, EC1M 5LG

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

www.local.gov.uk

This meeting is



Guidance notes for members and visitors

Layden House, 76-86 Turnmill Street, London, EC1M 5LG

Please read these notes for your own safety and that of all visitors, staff and tenants.

Welcome!

Layden House is located directly opposite the Turnmill Street entrance to Farringdon station, which is served by the Circle, Hammersmith & City, and Metropolitan lines as well as the Thameslink national rail route.

Security

Layden House has a swipe card access system meaning that a swipe enabled security passes will be required to access the lifts and floors 1-5.

Most LGA governance structure meetings will take place on the **ground floor** of Layden House which is open access and therefore does not require a swipe enabled security pass. **Access** to the rest of the building (floors 1-5) is via swipe enabled security passes.

When you visit Layden House, **please show your Local Government House security pass to reception** and they will provide you with a temporary pass which will allow you access to floors 1-5 if required. **Please don't forget to sign out at reception and return your security pass when you depart.**

If you do not have a LGH Security Pass, please email [member services](#) with your name and a recent photo and a pass will be made for you. You can pick this up from the Layden House reception desk on your next visit.

Fire instructions

In the event of the fire alarm sounding, vacate the building immediately via the nearest fire exit onto Turnmill Street and take the next turning on your left – Benjamin Street to St John's Gardens.
DO NOT USE THE LIFTS.
DO NOT STOP TO COLLECT PERSONAL BELONGINGS.
DO NOT RE-ENTER BUILDING UNTIL AUTHORISED TO DO SO.

Soft Seating Area

There is a small soft seating area on Floor 2 which will also operate as an 'Open Council' area for visiting members and officers from member councils. Please note however that unlike Open Council, this area does not have tea and coffee facilities, nor access to computers.

Toilets

There are accessible toilets on the Ground Floor, 2nd and 4th floors.

Accessibility

If you have special access needs, please let the meeting contact know in advance and we will do our best to make suitable arrangements to meet your requirements.

Parking is available at the rear of the building for Blue Badge holders, accessed via the Turks Head Yard, North underpass. Disabled WCs are situated on the ground and 4th floors. An induction loop system is available in the 5th floor conference venue. For further information please contact the Facilities Management Helpdesk on 020 7664 3015.

Guest WiFi in Layden House

WiFi is available in Layden House for visitors. It can be accessed by enabling “Wireless Network Connection” on your computer and connecting to LGA-Free-WiFi. You will then need to register, either by completing a form or through your Facebook or Twitter account (if you have one). You only need to register the first time you log on.

Further help

Please speak either to staff at the main reception on the ground floor, if you require any further help or information. You can find the LGA website at www.local.gov.uk

Why have the LGA’s Headquarters moved?

The LGA has temporarily relocated from Local Government House (LGH) in Smith Square to Layden House in Farringdon, effective from Monday 31 October 2016. This is to allow extensive refurbishment work to be carried out to LGH.

The refurbishment works will see the ground floor conference centre and all meeting rooms fully refurbished. Floors 1, 2 and 3 will be upgraded and released for commercial letting to enable the LGA to maximise the income from this building as part of its drive for financial sustainability. A new and larger Open Council will be located on the seventh floor. The refurbishment is expected to last for twelve months and we expect to be back in LGH by October 2017.

We appreciate your understanding and flexibility during this time.

Children & Young People Board
12 September 2017

There will be a meeting of the Children & Young People Board at **11.00 am on Tuesday, 12 September 2017** Rooms A&B, Ground Floor, Layden House, 76-86 Turnmill Street, London, EC1M 5LG.

A sandwich lunch will be available directly after the meeting.

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.

Political Group meetings:

The group meetings will take place prior to the meeting. 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.

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

Location:

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

LGA Contact:

Alexander Saul
0207 664 3232 / alexander.saul@local.gov.uk

Carers' Allowance

As part of the LGA Members' Allowances Scheme a Carer's Allowance of up to £7.50 per hour is available to cover the cost of dependants (i.e. children, elderly people or people with disabilities) incurred as a result of attending this meeting.

Social Media

The LGA is committed to using social media in a co-ordinated and sensible way, as part of a strategic approach to communications, to help enhance the reputation of local government, improvement engagement with different elements of the community and drive efficiency. Please feel free to use social media during this meeting. **However, you are requested not to use social media during any confidential items.**

The twitter hashtag for this meeting is #lgacyp

Children & Young People Board – Membership 2017/2018

| Councillor | Authority |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Conservative (8) | |
| Cllr Roy Perry (Vice Chairman) | Hampshire County Council |
| Cllr Natasha Airey | Windsor & Maidenhead Royal Borough |
| Cllr Ryan Brent | Portsmouth City Council |
| Cllr Susie Charles | Lancashire County Council |
| Cllr Matthew Golby | Northamptonshire County Council |
| Cllr Dick Madden | Essex County Council |
| Cllr Laura Mayes | Wiltshire Council |
| Cllr Roger Gough | Kent County Council |
| Substitutes | |
| Cllr John Riley | Hillingdon London Borough Council |
| Cllr Janet Walton | Borough of Poole |
| Labour (7) | |
| Cllr Richard Watts (Chair) | Islington Council |
| Cllr Megan Swift | Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Cllr John Kent | Thurrock Council |
| Cllr Bob Cook | Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council |
| Cllr Andy Moorhead | Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Cllr Anntoinette Bramble | Hackney London Borough Council |
| Cllr David Mellen | Nottingham City Council |
| Substitutes | |
| Cllr Imran Khan | Bradford Metropolitan District Council |
| Cllr Brigid Jones | Birmingham City Council |
| Liberal Democrat (2) | |
| Cllr Lucy Nethsingha (Deputy Chair) | Cambridgeshire County Council |
| Cllr Carl Cashman | Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Substitutes | |
| Cllr Christopher Coleman | Cheltenham Borough Council |
| Independent (1) | |
| Cllr Gillian Ford (Deputy Chair) | Havering London Borough Council |
| Substitutes | |
| Cllr Julie Fallon | Conwy County Borough Council |
| Cllr Ruth O'Keeffe | Lewes District Council |

Agenda

Children & Young People Board

Tuesday 12 September 2017

11.00 am

Rooms A&B, Ground Floor, Layden House, 76-86 Turnmill Street, London, EC1M 5LG

| Item | Page |
|---|---------|
| 1. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest | |
| Confidential | |
| 2. Children's Social Care Improvement - Verbal Update | |
| Edwina Grant, LGA National Children's Improvement Adviser, and Alison Michalska, President of ADCS, will be attending the CYP Board to lead a discussion focussed on Children's Social Improvement. | |
| 3. Children's Social Care Task Group - Update | 1 - 14 |
| 4. Education Reset - Verbal Update | |
| Non-Confidential | |
| 5. County lines exploitation | 15 - 20 |
| 6. Membership, Terms of Reference and Appointment to Outside Bodies | 21 - 30 |
| 7. CYP Board Policy Priorities for 2017-2018 | 31 - 34 |
| 8. Note of the Previous Meeting | 35 - 39 |

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday, 12 October 2017, 5.30 pm, Bay View Room, BIC, Bournemouth NCAS

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**Children & Young People
Board**

12 September 2017

County lines exploitation

Purpose

For discussion and direction.

Summary

The Children's Society will attend the meeting to outline the work that they are engaged in on county lines. This report provides background for their presentation and outlines other work that is underway, as well as suggesting how the LGA could respond. Cllr Joe Caluori, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families at Islington Council, will also attend to update members on recent work on this issue across London and ongoing efforts to develop a more co-ordinated approach nationally.

Recommendation

Members are asked to consider how this work can be progressed in partnership with the LGA's Safer and Stronger Communities Board, following the suggestions in paragraph 17.

Action

Officers to proceed as directed.

Contact officer:

Ian Dean / Lucy Ellender

Position:

Senior Adviser (CYP) / Adviser (SSCB)

Phone no:

020 7665 3878 / 020 7664 3321

Email:

ian.dean@local.gov.uk / lucy.ellender@local.gov.uk

County lines exploitation

Background

1. County lines is a term used for urban gangs and organised crime groups extending drug dealing activities beyond their urban area into suburban, market and/or coastal towns using dedicated phone or “deal” lines¹. Lines can also be run within a smaller geographical area. County lines is a cross-cutting form of harm which can involve drugs, violence, gangs, safeguarding, criminal and sexual exploitation, modern slavery, trafficking and missing persons, often involving vulnerable children and young people.
2. It is a widespread issue. Feedback from police forces in England and Wales to the National Crime Agency (NCA) on the issue in 2016 showed that 71 per cent of respondents reported established county lines activity in their areas and 12 per cent reported an emerging picture of activity². While gangs from London dominate activity, the NCA’s report highlighted an emergence of gangs from other areas using the county lines model.
3. The Children’s Society have recently begun a new national child sexual exploitation/child sexual abuse prevention service, commissioned by Norfolk Police for the whole of England and Wales and funded by the Home Office. They are working within regional organised crime units (ROCU³) on scoping work around these issues, with the aim of creating strategies looking at a range of issues, but tailored towards local needs. They will also create toolkits which will help professionals work in response to particular vulnerabilities. A part of this work is focussed on harm caused through county lines exploitation.
4. The Children’s Society have also recently advised on the production of a new short film on county lines, which is currently being made into a feature length. They will speak about some of the issues that they have identified through their national service and previous work on county lines.

What is county lines exploitation?

5. Typically urban gangs move to establish new bases in areas outside of their urban areas to facilitate the selling of drugs – normally heroin or crack cocaine but also other drugs such as cannabis or cocaine⁴. This may be done for a range of reasons. There may be less of an established market or capable competition, thus potentially increasing profits

¹ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/626770/6_3505_HO_Child_exploitation_FINAL_web_2_.pdf

² <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/753-county-lines-gang-violence-exploitation-and-drug-supply-2016/file>

³ ROCUs form an important part of the national policing network, providing a range of specialist policing capabilities to forces to help them to tackle serious and organised crime effectively

⁴ <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/753-county-lines-gang-violence-exploitation-and-drug-supply-2016/file>

and operating outside of an area in which they are known, and which may be targeted by enforcement activities, providing a perception of increased anonymity.

6. The phone line is central to the operations of the gang in the new area. In 2015 the NCA stated that this can often be a long standing number, running for years or even decades that is then marketed to users within the area using a variety of methods⁵. However, the NCA's most recent report from 2016 noted that there has been an emerging trend of changing the deal number⁶.
7. Gang members engage in marketing of the deal line, including introductory offers such as buy one get one free⁷. Once a market is established and a brand name for the drug line known, those at the top of the hierarchy within the gang will typically seek to use others as runners, seeking to reduce the risk to themselves. The exploitation of children or vulnerable adults to carry drugs or cash is a typical feature of county lines activity. Boys, girls and vulnerable men and women can all be at risk of exploitation. This may be referred to by members as "going country"⁸ and children as young as 12 have been identified as being exploited, however the typical age is 15-16 years old⁹.
8. Gangs are known to target vulnerable children and adults. The Home Office's guidance on county lines published in July 2017 outlined the following factors which heighten a person's vulnerability:
 - 8.1. Having prior experience of neglect, physical and/ or sexual abuse
 - 8.2. Lack of a safe/stable home environment, now or in the past (domestic violence or parental substance misuse, mental health issues or criminality, for example)
 - 8.3. Social isolation or social difficulties
 - 8.4. Economic vulnerability
 - 8.5. Homelessness or insecure accommodation status
 - 8.6. Connections with other people involved in gangs
 - 8.7. Having a physical or learning disability
 - 8.8. Having mental health or substance misuse issues
 - 8.9. Being in care (particularly those in residential care and those with interrupted care histories).
9. Typically gangs target children from urban areas who are then trafficked to the new location. This has been reported as being via trains but can also be via private hire cars and taxis. They transport drugs and money as well as selling drugs from 'trap houses' – locations where drugs are made or sold and gang associates base themselves. They may be subjected to other forms of exploitation including child sexual exploitation. They

⁵ <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/620-NCA-Intelligence-Assessment-County-Lines-Gangs-and-Safeguarding/file>

⁶ <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/753-county-lines-gang-violence-exploitation-and-drug-supply-2016/file>

⁷ <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/620-NCA-Intelligence-Assessment-County-Lines-Gangs-and-Safeguarding/file>

⁸ <http://saferlondon.org.uk/2016/09/county-lines-i-need-know/>

⁹ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/626770/6_3505_HO_Child_exploitation_FINAL_web_2_.pdf

may also witness or experience a wide variety of other behaviours which could cause trauma including witnessing adult sexual behaviour, seeing drugs being injected, witnessing rapes, being victims of sexual or physical violence or sleeping in unsafe conditions around drug paraphernalia.

10. The exploitation of vulnerable adults can take a range of forms:

- 10.1. In establishing a base in a new area, gangs may target vulnerable adults, taking over their addresses through force or coercion. This is called “cuckooing”. Adults, who may already have drug dependency issues, may be given drugs to initiate a relationship and then may fall into debt bondage and/or further dependency which sees them having to work for the gang and being exploited.
- 10.2. 90 per cent of the police areas who responded to the NCA’s survey found that there was criminal exploitation of women. They may enter into what they regard as a relationship with a gang member but then can be controlled and subject to domestic abuse¹⁰. The NCA found that the most common form of assistance was the use of their address, followed by holding and running drugs. They were also employed to book hotels and hire cars, identify local addresses for cuckooing, act as drivers and sometimes enforcers. They may have children themselves who can then be exposed to the activities of gang members.

Councils

11. In January 2017, nineteen London Boroughs wrote to the Home Secretary to highlight the importance of tackling county lines at a national level. They called for a national strategy and action plan, arguing that the geographical spread of county lines exploitation meant that a national approach was necessary to tackle the issue effectively.
12. This work was co-ordinated by Islington Council, and Cllr Joe Caluori will attend the meeting to provide further details. Some additional information is, however, available at: www.islington.media/r/6442/call_to_protect_london_s_vulnerable_young_people_from

LGA Activity

13. Safer and Stronger Communities Board Members heard from the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner in January 2017 and agreed that we would jointly produce a guide for councillors on modern slavery. That guide will highlight the issue of county lines exploitation. Members also agreed that the LGA would highlight further case studies on modern slavery and trafficking which could also include county lines. The LGA Children and Young People Board is currently working on guidance for councillors on youth justice, which will also include case studies and guidance around county lines. Additionally, the LGA will be looking to produce a series of workshops on modern slavery to highlight the issue and increase awareness.

¹⁰ <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/753-county-lines-gang-violence-exploitation-and-drug-supply-2016/file>

14. The LGA was involved in the Home Office's recently published guidance on county lines to support practitioners:
www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/626770/6_3505_HO_Child_exploitation_FINAL_web_2_.pdf. The LGA is also a part of the cross-government county lines working group, responsible for developing an action plan and overseeing its implementation. The working group is seeking to raise further awareness about county lines with local authorities, and is also keen to collate examples of different approaches and good practice from councils.
15. Gangs' links to violent crime will be explored as part of an LGA conference planned for this autumn.

Next steps

16. The cross-cutting nature of county lines exploitation is relevant to both the Children and Young People Board and the Safer and Stronger Communities Board, which is also considering this issue at their September meeting. We therefore propose taking forward this work jointly, and will prepare a joint paper summarising discussions and recommendations from both meetings with suggested actions for both Boards to agree.
17. Members may wish to consider:
- 17.1. The production of additional resources for different council departments around modern slavery and trafficking.
 - 17.2. How this issue is considered within the regional workshops on modern slavery.
 - 17.3. Whether the LGA should consider calling for a national strategy and action plan, supporting the work that is already underway in a number of London Boroughs.
 - 17.4. What more the LGA could do to raise awareness of this issue amongst our members, and to support the development of a coherent and co-ordinated national response.
 - 17.5. How the LGA could encourage greater joined up working at a local level between the relevant authorities.

Implications for Wales

18. Councils in Wales are subject to the Modern Slavery Act 2015. The Welsh Government is tackling the issue of modern slavery specifically through the employment of an Anti-Slavery Coordinator, responsible for making Wales hostile to slavery and to co-ordinate the best possible support for survivors. The Welsh Government has also set up the Wales Anti-Slavery Leadership Group with membership from the Home Office, the National Crime Agency, Welsh local authorities and the WLGA amongst others.

Financial Implications

19. The development of new council resources may require incur financial cost, however this is likely to be met within existing team budgets.

Membership, Terms of Reference and Appointments to Outside Bodies

Purpose

For decision.

Summary

This report outlines the terms of reference and membership for the LGA's Children and Young People Board for the 2017/18 meeting cycle. The report also identifies outside bodies to which the Board is asked appoint for the 2017/18 meeting cycle.

Recommendations

That the Board:

1. Formally note the terms of reference and membership for the LGA's Children & Young People Board and the list of Board dates for 2017/18 (attached as **Appendices A, B and C** respectively).
2. Formally re-appoint those members already in post, and appoint members to the outside bodies described in **Appendix D**, ensuring that the bodies to which they wish to appoint accurately reflect LGA priorities.
3. Receive appropriate feedback from members representing the Board on outside bodies over the previous meeting cycle.

Action

Officers to inform outside bodies of any changes in, or confirm continuation of LGA representatives.

Contact officer: Ian Keating
Position: Principal Policy Adviser
Phone no: 020 7664 3032
E-mail: ian.keating@local.gov.uk

Membership, terms of reference and Appointments to Outside Bodies

Children and Young People (CYP) Board terms of reference, membership and meeting dates 2017/18

1. Members are invited to agree the Board's terms of reference for this year (attached as **Appendix A**). Members are asked to formally note the membership and the Board's Lead Members for 2017/18 (as detailed in **Appendix B**). In addition Members are asked to note the meeting dates for the 2017/18 cycle (attached as **Appendix C**).

CYP outside body appointments

2. The LGA benefits from a wide network of member representatives on outside bodies across all Boards. These appointments are reviewed on an annual basis across the Association to ensure that the aims and objectives of the outside bodies remain pertinent to the LGA. A database for centrally recording all the information relating to appointments is held by the Member Services team.
3. A list of the organisations to which the Board will appoint member representatives for the 2017/2018 meeting cycle is attached at **Appendix D**. Members are asked to nominate the appointments for this meeting cycle, which are to be made in proportion with political representation across the LGA.
4. Members are asked to **re-appoint** those councillors who are remaining in post. These are;
 - 4.1. Cllr Richard Watts (Labour) – Children's Improvement Board
 - 4.2. Cllr Gillian Ford (Independent) – Improving Mental Health for Looked After Children: Expert Group
 - 4.3. Cllr Roy Perry (Conservative) – Howard League for Penal Reform Advisory Board on decriminalising children in residential care
5. Members are asked to **appoint** councillors to current vacancies. These include;
 - 5.1. National Youth Agency – This was previously held by Cllr Liz Hackett-Pain (Conservative)
6. The Adoption Leadership Board appointment is held by Cllr Chris Coleman (Liberal Democrat) who is now a substitute member of the Board. Members are asked to **appoint** a councillor who is still in post as a full member of the Board.

Financial Implications

7. There are no substantial financial implications arising directly from this report. Reasonable travel and subsistence costs will be paid by the LGA for expenses incurred by a member appointee, whilst carrying out a representative role on an outside body on behalf of the LGA.

Appendix A

Terms of Reference: Children Young People Board

1. The purpose of the Children and Young People Board is to engage with and develop a thorough understanding of the issues within its brief and how legislation does or could affect councils and their communities. The Board's brief is to provide strategic oversight of all the LGA's policy and improvement activity in relation to the wellbeing of children and young people, including education and social care.
2. The Board should seek to involve councillors in supporting the delivery of these priorities (through task groups, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), regional networks and other means of wider engagement); essentially operating as the centre of a network connecting to all councils and drawing on the expertise of key advisors from the sector.
3. The Children and Young People Board's responsibilities include.
 - 3.1. Ensuring the priorities of councils are fed into the business planning process.
 - 3.2. Developing a work programme to deliver the business plan priorities relevant to their brief, covering lobbying campaigns, research, and improvement support in the context of the strategic framework set by Improvement & Innovation Board and events and linking with other boards where appropriate.
 - 3.3. Sharing good practice and ideas to stimulate innovation and improvement.
 - 3.4. Representing and lobbying on behalf of the LGA including making public statements on its area of responsibility.
 - 3.5. Building and maintaining relationships with key stakeholders.
 - 3.6. Involving representatives from councils in its work, through task groups, Commissions, SIGs, regional networks and mechanisms.
 - 3.7. Responding to specific issues referred to the Board by one or more member councils or groupings of councils.
4. The Children and Young People Board may:
 - 4.1. Appoint members to relevant outside bodies in accordance with the Political Conventions.
 - 4.2. Appoint member champions from the Board to lead on key issues, with responsibility for liaising with portfolio holders on key issues that require rapid response/contact with councils.

Quorum

5. One third of the members, provided that representatives of at least 2 political groups represented on the body are present.



**Children and Young People
Board**

12 September 2017

Political Composition

6. Conservative group: 8 members
 7. Labour group: 7 members
 8. Liberal Democrat group: 2 members
 9. Independent group: 1 members
10. Substitute members from each political group may also be appointed.

Frequency per year

11. Meetings to be held five times a year.

Reporting Accountabilities

12. The LGA Executive provides oversight of the Board. The Board may report periodically to the LGA Executive as required, and will submit an annual report to the Executive's July meeting.

Children & Young People Board - Membership 2017/2018

| Councillor | Authority |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Conservative (8) | |
| Cllr Roy Perry (Vice Chairman) | Hampshire County Council |
| Cllr Natasha Airey | Windsor & Maidenhead Royal Borough |
| Cllr Ryan Brent | Portsmouth City Council |
| Cllr Susie Charles | Lancashire County Council |
| Cllr Matthew Golby | Northamptonshire County Council |
| Cllr Dick Madden | Essex County Council |
| Cllr Laura Mayes | Wiltshire Council |
| Cllr Roger Gough | Kent County Council |
| Substitutes | |
| Cllr John Riley | Hillingdon London Borough Council |
| Cllr Janet Walton | Borough of Poole |
| Labour (7) | |
| Cllr Richard Watts (Chair) | Islington Council |
| Cllr Megan Swift | Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Cllr John Kent | Thurrock Council |
| Cllr Bob Cook | Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council |
| Cllr Andy Moorhead | Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Cllr Anntoinette Bramble | Hackney London Borough Council |
| Cllr David Mellen | Nottingham City Council |
| Substitutes | |
| Cllr Imran Khan | Bradford Metropolitan District Council |
| Cllr Brigid Jones | Birmingham City Council |
| Liberal Democrat (2) | |
| Cllr Lucy Nethsingha (Deputy Chair) | Cambridgeshire County Council |
| Cllr Carl Cashman | Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Substitutes | |
| Cllr Christopher Coleman | Cheltenham Borough Council |
| Independent (1) | |
| Cllr Gillian Ford (Deputy Chair) | Havering London Borough Council |
| Substitutes | |
| Cllr Julie Fallon | Conwy County Borough Council |
| Cllr Ruth O'Keeffe | Lewes District Council |



Children and Young People Board

12 September 2017

Appendix C

Meeting Dates 2017/18

| DAY (2017) | DATE | TIME | Room at Local Government House (LGH) or Layden House |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|---|
| Tuesday | 12 September 2017 | 11.00 – 13.00 | Rooms A&B, Layden House |
| | | | |
| Thursday | 12 October 2017 | 17:30 – 18:30 | Bournemouth, NCAS |
| | | | |
| DAY (2018) | | | |
| Wednesday | 10 January 2017 | 14.00 – 16.00 | Rathbone Rooms 1&2, Local Government House |
| | | | |
| Tuesday | 13 March 2017 | 11.00 – 13.00 | The Westminster Suite 8.1, Local Government House |
| | | | |
| Thursday | 14 June 2017 | 11.00 – 13.00 | Rathbone Rooms 1&2, Local Government House |

Children and Young People: Outside Bodies

Appendix D

Appointments to LGA bodies

| Organisation / contact details | Background | Representatives | LGA Contact Officer |
|---|---|---|--|
| National Youth Agency Contact: Jaede Todner Email: jaedet@nya.org.uk | The Agency aims to advance youth work to promote young people's personal and social development, as well as their voice, influence and place in society. | 1 Vacancy | Louise Smith, Adviser louise.smith@local.gov.uk |
| Adoption Leadership Board Contact: Maria Atkins (Business Support Officer) Email: maria.atkins@cva.org.uk | The ALB was jointly developed by Government, local authorities and the voluntary sector to provide national leadership to the adoption system, improve its performance and tackle the key challenges it currently faces. | 1 position Cllr Chris Coleman (Lib Dem) Cheltenham Borough Council | Ian Dean, Senior Adviser ian.dean@local.gov.uk |
| Children's Improvement Board | The CIB is a partnership between the LGA, the Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS), the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) and the Association of Independent LSCB Chairs (AILC), bringing together senior political and officer leadership to consider issues related to performance and improvement in children's services. | 1 position Cllr Richard Watts (Lab) Islington Council | Clive Harris, Senior Adviser clive.harris@local.gov.uk |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>Improving Mental Health for Looked After Children: Expert Group</p> <p>Contact: Andrew Parkinson Email: andrew.parkinson@tlap.org.uk</p> | <p>This expert group is a project within the Social Care Institute for Excellence. It has been commissioned by the Department of Health to improve the mental health and emotional wellbeing support for children and young people in the care system by developing care pathways, models of care, quality principles and innovative products and plans.</p> | <p>1 position</p> <p>Cllr Gillian Ford (Ind) Havering Borough Council</p> | <p>Ian Dean, Senior Adviser ian.dean@local.gov.uk</p> |
| <p>Howard League for Penal Reform Advisory Board on decriminalising children in residential care</p> <p>Contact: Jenny Chambers Tel: 020 7241 7882 Email: Jenny.Chambers@howardleague.org</p> | <p>The Howard League has launched a two-year programme of work to end the criminalisation of children living in residential care. The work will be supported by this Advisory Board, chaired by the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP. The project follows research, published by the Howard League in March 2016, which found that children living in children's homes were being criminalised at higher rates than other boys and girls, including those in other types of care. The programme of work will explore best practice within the police service and the residential care sector and builds on the charity's work to keep as many boys and girls as possible out of the criminal justice system.</p> | <p>1 position</p> <p>Cllr Roy Perry (Con) Hampshire County Council</p> | <p>Ian Dean, Senior Adviser ian.dean@local.gov.uk</p> |

Proportionality Figures 2017/18

Members are asked to ensure that appointments for 2017/18 are in broad proportionality with the 18 Member political group makeup of the Board, which is as follows:

8 Conservative, 7 Labour, 2 Liberal Democrat, 1 Independent.

NB: Based on the LGA Political Proportionality Figures, the 5 seats available for appointments this cycle should be distributed as follows;

2 Conservative, 1 Labour, 1 Liberal Democrat, 1 Independent.

CYP Board Policy Priorities for 2017-2018

Purpose

For discussion and direction.

Summary

This paper sets out proposals for the Children and Young People Board's priorities and work programme for 2017-18. Subject to the Board's views, officers will develop a work programme to deliver these priorities.

Recommendation

Members are asked to discuss and agree the Board's priorities and work programme for 2017-18.

Action

Officers to take action as directed by members.

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Position: Principal Policy Adviser
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CYP Board Policy Priorities for 2017-2018

Background

1. LGA Boards are asked to consider their priorities for the coming year at their first meeting of the new cycle. Set out below are a list of priorities for discussion, based on the priorities identified last year, and adapted to reflect work that has been completed, recent developments in Government policy and issues raised by member councils.

Children's social care

2. In the coming year the Board should;
 - 2.1. Continue to urge government to act quickly to close the significant children's services funding gap and ensure that councils can continue to provide essential services for vulnerable children and families.
 - 2.2. Complete research to better understand local variations in spending on children's services, working with a sample of local authorities to develop a more complete picture while identifying areas of good practice and 'top tips' for the benefit of the wider sector.
 - 2.3. Produce guidance and resources to support local authorities in delivering consistently good outcomes for children and young people, highlighting current practice and research evidence on a range of topics including corporate parenting, achieving permanence for children, support for care leavers, youth justice and working with unaccompanied asylum seeking children.

Children's services improvement

3. When considering children's services improvement, the Board should lobby government to support sector-led improvement in children's services by committing to devolve a proportion of DfE's £300 million budget for improvement and innovation in children's services to councils.

The Council role in education and school improvement

4. Regarding the future of the Council role in education and school improvement, the Board should;
 - 4.1. Lobby for changes to government policy to allow councils to set up Multi Academy Trusts and allow maintained schools to support struggling academies if they have a good track record in school improvement.
 - 4.2. Continue to urge government to give Councils the same powers to direct academies to admit vulnerable pupils as they currently hold for maintained schools. In the

absence of legislative change in this area, the Education Funding Agency (EFA), which currently has the power to direct academies must make decisions in a transparent way which are in the best interests of children. Currently 88 per cent of council requests for direction are rejected, which suggests a greater EFA focus on academy freedoms.

Providing new school places

5. In the coming year the Board should;
 - 5.1. Argue for councils to have the lead role in commissioning new free schools to make sure they provide places where they are most needed and do not destabilise existing good and outstanding schools.
 - 5.2. Lobby for councils to have the same power to direct academies to expand to meet increasing local demand for school places if local agreement cannot be reached as they currently have for maintained schools.
 - 5.3. Continue to argue for the system for allocating schools capital to be urgently reviewed to allow schools and councils to work together to join up fragmented funding streams locally in a single local capital pot and provide best value for money in the spending of limited capital resources for schools.

School funding

6. When considering school funding, the Board should;
 - 6.1. Lobby the Government to retain an element of local flexibility in the implementation of a new national school funding formula.
 - 6.2. Make the case to Government for adequate funding for councils to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND in their communities.

Unaccompanied asylum seeking children

7. LGA policy in this area is led by the LGA Asylum, Refugee and Migration Task Group, made up of regional member and strategic migration partnership representation covering all of the English regions, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland. Cllr Gillian Ford, Deputy Chair of the Children and Young People Board, is a member of the Task Group, which reports to the CYP and the Community Wellbeing Boards. The Task Group will continue to push for clearer alignment between all the programmes that resettle asylum seekers and refugees to minimise the pressures on local authorities, local communities and vulnerable individuals, and is leading the LGA's response to the current review of UASC funding rates.

Children and young people's mental health and wellbeing (activities sit across both this Board and the Community Wellbeing Board)

8. In the coming year the Board should:

- 8.1. Respond to the green paper on children and young people's mental health, (due Autumn 2017), highlighting key issues from a local government perspective.
- 8.2. Host a round table discussion with representatives from DH, DfE, Health Education England and NHS commissioners and providers, to identify opportunities to build the capacity of providers to deliver services that achieve the transformative change described in Future in Mind.
- 8.3. Highlight to government (through the LGA campaign) the need for; a better balance of funding between early intervention and preventative mental health and wellbeing services and those services focusing on treatment and recovery; the key role of council's in preventing mental illness and promoting mental wellbeing; and the need for stronger accountability on spend and quality of services at a local level through Health and Wellbeing Boards.

Financial implications

9. The priorities will be delivered within existing resources.

Note of last Children & Young People Board meeting

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Title: | Children & Young People Board |
| Date: | Thursday 29 June 2017 |
| Venue: | 5th Floor Conference Suite, 5th Floor (South side), Layden House, 76-86 Turnmill Street,. London, EC1M 5LG |

Attendance

An attendance list is attached as [Appendix A](#) to this note

| Item | Decisions and actions | Action |
|----------|--|--------|
| 1 | Declarations of Interest | |
| | <p>Cllr Richard Watts could not be present to Chair for the opening of the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Roy Perry Chaired the meeting as Vice-Chair in the Chair, until Cllr Richard Watts arrives.</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p> | |
| 2 | Improving the effectiveness of the child protection system | |
| | <p>Edwina Grant, LGA National Children’s Improvement Adviser, introduced the item on a series of research reports examining the effectiveness of the child protection system which had been published by the LGA and Early Intervention Foundation. She explained that the report summarised the main findings from that work.</p> <p>Edwina gave a presentation to provide further background on the research. In particular she emphasised the importance of place, and taking local context into account when assessing the likely impact of an intervention or practice. Edwina also gave emphasis to how difficult local authorities were finding it to use and generate evidence due to a lack of analytical capacity, and the report’s recommendation that the DfE’s upcoming What Works Centre focuses attention on building local learning capacity as well as generating national evidence. Edwina stated that this would best enable local authorities to make the case locally for introducing new evidence based approaches.</p> <p>Tom McBride, Director of Evidence at the Early Intervention Foundation, also gave a presentation highlighting the research. He emphasised that this project had brought together 5 separate pieces of research relying on detailed, empirical evidence. He also stated that 2 of the pieces of research were more quantitative. From the key findings of the research he advised the priorities going forward should include building ‘evidence literacy’, working to fill any gaps in the evidence, to continue to support the use of evidence of effectiveness and to understand the needs of a local area.</p> <p>Cllr Richard Watts, Chair of the Board, arrived at the meeting and resumed Chairing the meeting.</p> | |

In the discussion which followed, the Board raised the following points:

- Cllr Madden emphasised gaps in the evidence available and that the Children's Social Care Task Group has undertaken a great deal of work ascertaining how to close gaps in the evidence available.
- Tom McBride advised that the EIF has a clear mandate to close gaps in the evidence and would be keen to be involved in the Task Group's work.
- A view was expressed that that the quality of local leadership will be of great importance in taking these priorities forward.
- A view was expressed that a priority for councils would have to be increasing the permanency of staff and achieving improved outcomes for children and young people without generating additional costs on the public purse.
- A Member raised a query as to how we could ensure raising evidence literacy amongst local leaders would reach all councillors, including opposition councillors.
- Tom advised that trustees are very interested in looking into how this priority can be actioned in such a way to reach all local leadership.

Decision

The Board considered the key findings of the research, provided comments and noted the report.

Action

Officers to incorporate feedback from the Board into future work.

3 Post-election lobbying priorities

Ian Keating, Principal Policy Adviser, introduced the report proposing key post-election priorities for consideration and discussion by the Board. It focused on education and children's services, but other issues which are a shared responsibility with other Boards, such as child and adolescent mental health and Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children, were also indicated in the report to continue as Board priorities. Ian highlighted that member councils wanted to see a greater focus on the gap in children's social care funding and on sector-led children's services improvement. Regarding the future of councils in education he emphasised the LGA should lobby for a change in policy to allow councils and maintained schools to set up Multi Academy Trusts. Also, regarding school funding, Ian emphasised the Board should prioritise the importance of local flexibility in the implementation of a new national school funding formula.

In the following discussion, Members raised the following points;

- Issues of school place planning were raised by Members, who advised this should be prioritised by the board going forwards.
- Members also expressed a view that improvement of Children's Centres should continue to be of interest to the Board.
- A view was also expressed that in the coming year strong relationships with central government would be needed to continue the board's agenda.
- Members asked that a greater focus on CAHMS should be included in the Board priorities.

The Chair stated that the Board had expressed their support of continuing to prioritise the Board's focus on school improvement. He emphasised that Board

members were supportive of CAHMS being included in the Board's priorities for the new political cycle. He also raised the importance of continuing to focus on the gap in Children's Social Care funding. The Chair also emphasised the importance of coming up with solutions to present to central government.

Decision

The board provided comment and noted the report.

Action

Officer's to incorporate the Boards comments into the Board priorities report for 2017/18.

4 End of Year Board Report

The Board noted the report.

5 Update on LGA Task Group: The Future of Children's Social Care Improvement

Cllr Dick Madden (Essex), Chair of the LGA Task Group: The Future of Children's Social Care Improvement, introduced the report. He expressed his gratitude to the members of the Task Group and the officers who had worked alongside the Task Group, he also emphasised that a lot of research had gone into their work. Cllr Madden provided an update on the work of the LGA's Member-led task group on the future of children's social care which had been tasked to develop an evidence-based vision for the future of children's social care services. Cllr Madden asked Board members for feedback on the draft plan included in the papers.

In the discussion that followed, Members raised the following points;

- The Chair gave his support to all points and suggested the plan also look more into how we can better recognise achievements.
- A view was expressed that recognising the crucial role of the Lead Member and Director of Children's Services and acknowledging the importance of a whole council approach to children's services were of particular importance going forwards.
- Alison Michalska, President of ADCS, expressed a view that it was clear from the ten point plan ADCS, DfE and the LGA were saying the same thing.
- Alison also indicated that the plan was rightly focused on good practice and the preservation of social care staff.
- The Chair expressed a view that the ISOS research was impressive and helpful.

The Chair also thanked the Cllr Madden and the Task Group for their work.

Decision

Members provided feedback and noted the report.

Action

Officers to incorporate Members feedback into the Task Groups vision for the future

of children's social care services.

6 Note of the Previous Meeting

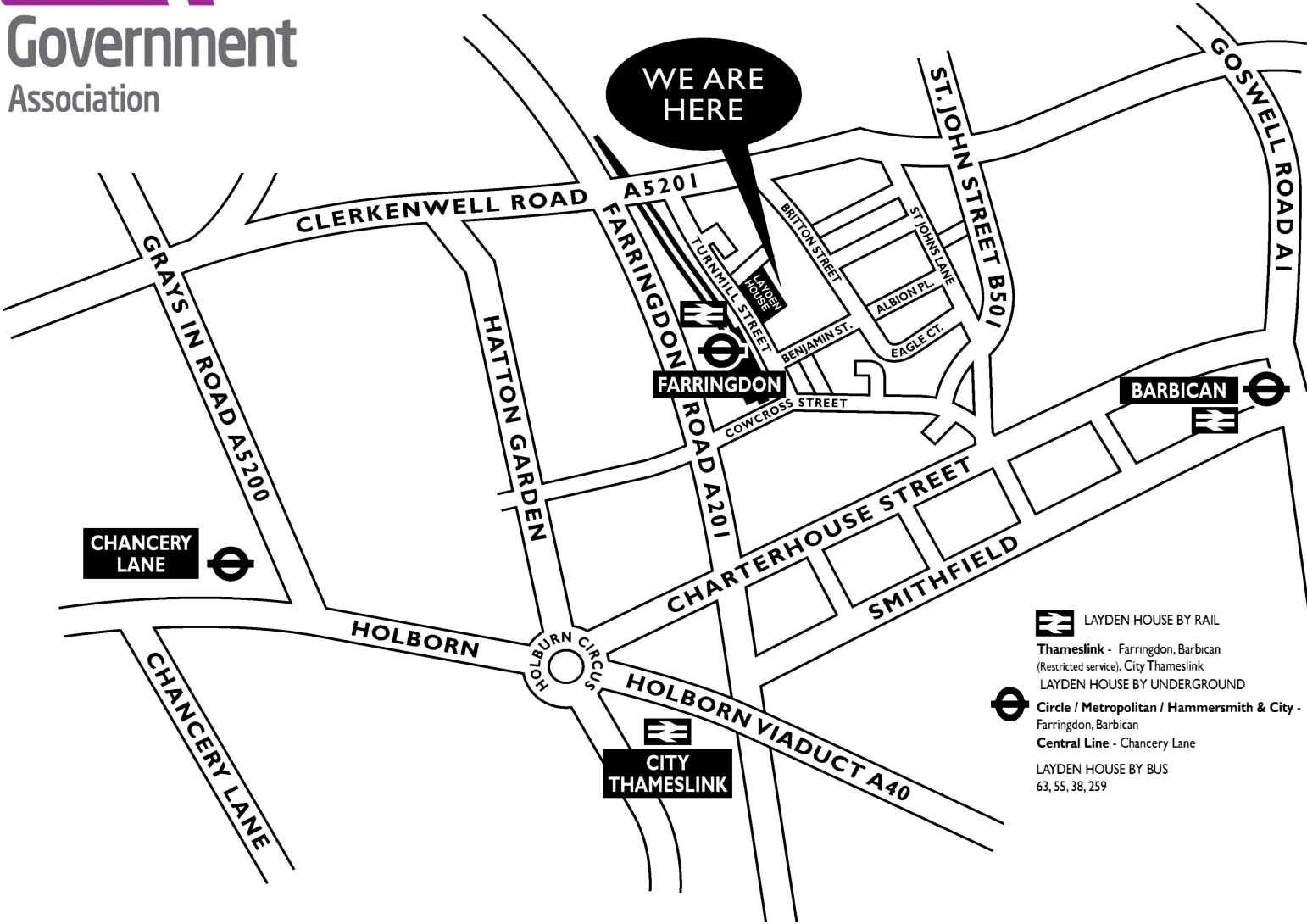
The Board agreed the note of the previous meeting.

As the last meeting of the year the Chair gave thanks to the Board, the Vice-Chairs and Deputy-Chairs for a successful year. In particular the Chair expressed his gratitude to Cllr Liz Green for her long service as Deputy Chair of the Board.

The Board also gave thanks to the Chair.

Appendix A -Attendance

| Position/Role | Councillor | Authority |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--|
| Chairman | Cllr Richard Watts | Islington Council |
| Vice-Chairman | Cllr Roy Perry | Hampshire County Council |
| Deputy-chairman | Cllr Gillian Ford | Havering London Borough Council |
| | Cllr Liz Green | Kingston upon Thames Royal Borough Council |
| Members | Cllr Gareth Barnard | Bracknell Forest Borough Council |
| | Cllr Ian Hudspeth | Oxfordshire County Council |
| | Cllr Dick Madden | Essex County Council |
| | Cllr Ian Parry | Staffordshire County Council |
| | Cllr John Kent | Thurrock Council |
| | Cllr Bob Cook | Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council |
| | Cllr Anntoinette Bramble | Hackney London Borough Council |
| | Cllr David Mellen | Nottingham City Council |
| | Cllr Paul Cullen | Richmondshire District Council |
| | Cllr Christopher Coleman | Cheltenham Borough Council |
| Apologies | Cllr Janet Walton | Borough of Poole |
| | Cllr Anne Burns | Cumbria County Council |
| | Cllr Roz Gladden | Liverpool City Council |
| In Attendance | Alison Michalska | Vice President |
| | Tom McBride | EIF |
| | Edwina Grant | LGA |



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**The Local Government Association will be based at Layden House whilst refurbishment takes place at their offices in Smith Square.*

Public Transport

Layden House is served well by public transport. The nearest mainline station is **Farringdon** (Circle, Hammersmith & City and Metropolitan Lines. It also has Overground lines)

Bus routes - Farringdon Station

- 63 - Kings Cross - Crystal Palace Parade (**Stop A/B**)
- 55 - Oxford Circus -High Road Leyton (**Stop E/K**)
- 243 - Redvers Road - Waterloo Bridge (**Stop E/K**)

Cycling Facilities

The nearest Santander Cycle Hire racks are on Theobold's Road.
 For more information please go to www.tfl.gov.uk

Car Parks

- Smithfield Car Park - EC1A 9DY
- NCP Car Park London Saffron Hill - EC1N 8XA