

## Community Wellbeing Board – from Cllr Izzi Seccombe (Chairman)

### Conferences, Meetings and External Events

1. On 19 January Cllr Richard Kemp and Mayor Cllr Kate Allsop represented the Community Wellbeing Board at a meeting with Board Members of NHS Clinical Commissioners to discuss future joint working.
2. On 26 January, Mark Lloyd and I met Stephen Dorrell, Chair of NHS Confederation and Niall Dickson, the newly appointed Chief Executive of NHS Confederation to discuss the scope for future partnership working.
3. On 8 February the LGA hosted a meeting of partners across the social care and support sector to progress discussions on a new social movement/campaign for adult social care. The aim of the campaign is to secure a more sustainable settlement for social care in the next Spending Review in 2020. By having a long lead-in time, and harnessing the voices of the entire sector - most particularly people with lived experience - the intentions are to: raise awareness of what social care is and why it matters; highlight the importance of quality in the sector; and be clear about the scale of funding pressures facing the system and their impact. A further meeting is being planned to maintain momentum on this important piece of work.
4. On 15 February, I addressed the East Midlands Councils to give views on the challenges facing local health and care systems.

### Suicide Prevention

5. Cllr Richard Kemp gave evidence at the [Health Committee Inquiry into suicide prevention](#) on 21<sup>st</sup> January, highlighting that 95 per cent of councils now have a suicide prevention strategy in place. Cllr Kemp also spoke at the National Suicide Prevention Conference on 7<sup>th</sup> February on the role of local government in suicide prevention.

### Supported Housing

6. We held a very successful consultation engagement event with 60 councils on 11 January, helping to inform the [LGA's response](#) to the future funding of supported housing consultation, which we submitted in good time for the deadline of 13<sup>th</sup> February. I also independently chaired the first DCLG Task and Finish Groups on roles and responsibilities with regards to the future of supported housing on 26<sup>th</sup> January at the Chartered Institute for Housing. I chaired the second of three meetings on 16 February here at the Local Government Association.

### Work and Health Unit Green Paper

7. We submitted a response to the Work and Health Unit's '[Work, Health and Disability Green Paper](#)' on 17 February.
8. The Green Paper has significant cross-over with issues around mental health and adult social care.

2 March 2017

### Publications

9. In February 2017 Cllr Richard Watts (Chair of the Children and Young People Board) and I jointly launched a publications on children's health; [Improving outcomes for children and families in the early years: a key role for health visiting services](#).
10. In February 2017 I launched a publication on health and wellbeing; [Working with faith groups to promote health and wellbeing](#).

### Discussion with MIND

11. Chief executive of MIND, Paul Farmer CBE, came to speak with members of the Community Wellbeing Board on 16 February. Paul led the NHS 5 year forward view mental health taskforce work and has now been asked by the Prime Minister to lead on a new project looking at employment and mental health. Paul was very positive about the broad role that councils play on mental health and mental wellness, and offered his supported in the development of a new LGA report on mental health and councils.

### Special Meeting on Children and Young People's Mental Health

12. I chaired a Special Meeting on Children and Young People's Mental Health with Lead members of the Community Wellbeing Board and Children and Young People Board on 23 February to learn more from a number of speakers on key issues for children and young people's mental health. Speakers included The Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP, young people who have experience of mental health and wellbeing services and Pooky Knightsmith, Vice Chair of the Children and Young People's Mental Health Coalition. Members used the session to determine next steps and activities in relation to children and young people's mental health across both Boards, including an LGA campaign to raise awareness of key issues.

### Press Releases and Statements

13. We have recently made public statements on reports by the [All Party Parliamentary Group on Smoking and Health](#), [Royal Society of Medicine linking 30,000 excess deaths in 2015 to cuts in health and social care](#), [Age UK on the health and care of older people](#), [NHS England on delayed transfers of care figures](#), [Office for National Statistics figures on alcohol-related deaths](#) as well as the [National Audit Office report on health and social care integration](#).
14. Cllr Jonathan McShane was interviewed on BBC Radio 4's You and Yours programme about the proportion of funding for mental health services which comes from local government.
15. The LGA has warned that the Care Act faces failure unless government announces new money for social care, as part of the association's Budget submission to the Treasury. I was interviewed live on LBC and Cllr Jonathan McShane also appeared on Good Morning Britain to discuss this further, more information on this can be found [here](#).



## Councillors' Forum

2 March 2017

**Contact officer:**

Mark Norris

**Position:**

Principle Policy Adviser

**Phone no:**

020 7664 3241

**E-mail:**

[mark.norris@local.gov.uk](mailto:mark.norris@local.gov.uk)