

18 October 2018

## **Community Wellbeing Board – from Cllr Ian Hudspeth (Chairman)**

### **Conferences, meetings and external events**

1. In July Cllr Izzi Seccombe OBE attended a discussion on rural loneliness hosted by DEFRA.
2. In August, in partnership with ADASS, we provided comments to the DHSC on the Autism Self-Assessment Framework (SAF). The DHSC published the SAF in September 2018. Councillor Jackie Meldrum attends the national Autism Strategy Board.
3. In September, Cllr Meldrum spoke on the LGA Green Paper to the Think Local Act Personal (TLAP) Building Community Capacity Group.
4. On 18 September Councillor Richard Kemp participated in an Accountable Care Journal panel debate on integration, emphasising that we need a place based and person centred approach to integration that is locally led by all system leaders.
5. The LGA, Association of Directors of Public Health and Public Health England wrote to Directors of Public Health on 1 October to encourage them to complete a voluntary self-assessment of local suicide prevention plans. The findings will help us to develop sector-led support and share good practice.
6. On 8 October I was delighted to give the keynote speech at a joint LGA / Centre for Ageing Better conference about how housing adaptations can help keep people healthier and happier in their own homes for longer. A new good practice guide was launched.
7. I spoke at a number of events at Conservative party conference where I had the opportunity to highlight our recent social care green paper. On Monday 1 October, I spoke at two events organised by the Salvation Army and at another organised by Independent Age event on the future of adult social care. I also spoke on a panel at an event organised by Centre for Progressive Policy event on safeguarding the NHS for the next 70 years. Other speakers at the event included Dr. Sarah Wollaston, Chair of the Health and Social Care Committee. On Tuesday 2 October, I spoke on a panel at an event organised by Carers UK on the future of care and the role of family and the state.
8. Cllr Izzi Seccombe OBE also attended a working dinner organised by IPPR/Gilead Sciences on a 10-point plan for better health and care for the 2020s and spoke at an IPPR fringe debate on social care.

### **Publications and correspondence**

9. On 31 July we published our green paper on the future of adult social care and wellbeing, *The lives we want to lead*. In the absence of the Government's own green paper (and following further delay to this), we launched our own green paper to stimulate a nationwide debate about how best to fund the care we want to see in all our communities for adults of all ages and how our wider care and health system can be better geared towards supporting and improving people's wellbeing.

18 October 2018

10. The response to our green paper has been an enormous success. There have been more than 15,500 views of our green paper, the 'easy read' version has been downloaded more than 400 times and our facilitators and communications packs have been downloaded more than 360 and 430 times respectively. We have received more than 500 submissions to our consultation questions and the Twitter debate, through #FutureofASC, has reached more than 4 million people. Accompanying videos we produced have been watched more than 72,500 times. We have conducted public polling as well as focus groups as part of the consultation process.
11. The Chairman wrote to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor and the Secretaries of State for both Housing, Communities and Local Government and Health and Social Care to highlight our green paper and the Political Group Offices engaged with MPs and Peers. Colleagues briefed LGA Vice Presidents and we presented on our green paper at a dedicated parliamentary event in September. As part of our wider campaigning around the LGA Social Care Green Paper, we have also interviewed a number of key Parliamentarians, asking them why social care is important for the nation.
12. Our green paper has enjoyed similar success in the media. On the day of the publication's launch, the green paper achieved 26 episodes of national coverage. This included Cllr Izzi Seccombe being interviewed on BBC radio stations, Cllr Marianne Overton being interviewed live on Sky News and Sky News Radio, Cllr David Simmonds appearing on the BBC Victoria Derbyshire Show and BBC Radio 5 Live, and Cllr Richard Kemp being interviewed on several regional BBC radio stations. The green paper was covered in print media, including The Telegraph, The Independent and The Guardian, The Sun and The Mail. Cllr Izzi Seccombe wrote about the launch of our green paper in The Times Red Box and the Municipal Journal and Cllr Nick Forbes wrote a comment piece in The Daily Express. Carers World Radio broadcast a special programme dedicated to our green paper in September.
13. Senior LGA Members and officers have spoken about our green paper at several recent national events and conferences.
14. Colleagues are now busy analysing all received submissions and we will publish our response to the consultation in November at the annual National Children and Adult Services Conference.
15. I co-signed a letter to Ministers alongside 20 other voluntary sector organisations which called for urgent clarification on sleep-in payments in the light of continued confusion over Government guidance and the Social Care Compliance Scheme given the Court of Appeal case. The letter also emphasised the need for a long-term solution to funding the social care workforce that will ensure fair pay.
16. The LGA submitted written evidence to the House of Lords Committee on Economic Affairs as part of its inquiry on the future of adult social care in England. The submission highlighted our recent green paper on adult social care.
17. The LGA has submitted written evidence on sexual health to the Health and Social Care Committee. Our submission highlighted the record demand for sexual health services which are adding to the existing pressures faced by local authorities, particularly as public health budgets continue to be constrained by the £533 million reduction to the public health grant.

18 October 2018

18. We also continue to engage Parliamentarians over the Mental Capacity (Amendment) Bill which is currently undergoing its Committee stage in the House of Lords. Local authorities will be given additional responsibilities under the new Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards process to work with partners to protect the rights of people who lack capacity on their care decisions. Whilst we welcome the Bill, we have concerns about it will be implemented. Colleagues have briefed Peers about our concerns and also attended a briefing event with Parliamentarians.
19. We briefed MPs ahead of a debate in the House of Commons on asylum accommodation contracts. Our briefing highlighted the important role that councils play in supporting and delivering the many programmes for refugees and asylum seekers and their desire to find sustainable solutions that minimise pressures on them, their communities and vulnerable individuals.

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