

Community Wellbeing Board – from Cllr Ian Hudspeth (Chair)

Conferences, meetings and external events

1. On 1 April the Prime Minister opened the Serious Youth Violence Summit at 10 Downing Street, bringing together partners from the health service, education sector, local government, criminal justice and the police. I represented the LGA at the roundtable focused on Health and chaired by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP. I highlighted the importance of taking a multi-agency approach to support vulnerable young people.
2. In April, I attended the inaugural meeting of the NHS Assembly, a broad-ranging advisory group set up to act as a sounding board for implementation of the NHS Long Term Plan. I have been appointed to the NHS Assembly in a personal capacity but clearly my LGA role is relevant and I am able to represent the views of local government in general, as well as my own perspective.
3. On 23 April Sarah Pickup, LGA Deputy Chief Executive, gave verbal evidence on behalf of the Community Wellbeing Board to the Commons Health and Social Care Committee inquiry on the legal proposals for implementing the NHS Long-Term Plan.
4. On 22 May I spoke about the LGA's social care and wellbeing green paper at the Alzheimer's Society annual conference. The focus of the session was about how to break the gridlock on social care reform; I talked about what we learned from our green paper consultation and the recommendations we put forward last autumn which were informed by the consultation.
5. On 29 May, BBC Panorama broadcast the first of two programmes about Somerset County Council and how it is coping with the challenges facing adult social care and support. The powerful and emotive programme shines an important light on the Council's adult social care system, the scale of the financial pressures it faces, and the difficult decisions that subsequently have to be made.
6. In our media response, we set out how years of significant underfunding of councils, coupled with rising demand and costs, mean that adult social care services face a £3.5 billion funding gap by 2025 just to maintain existing levels of provision. We further noted that the incredibly tough decisions Somerset County Council are forced to take about care and support – and the consequences for those affected and their families – are having to be taken by councils up and down the country on a daily basis. More and more people are increasingly unable to get the quality and reliable care and support which enables them to live more fulfilling and independent lives.
7. We reiterated that it is absolutely vital the Government uses its social care green paper and forthcoming Spending Review to work on a cross party basis to address the immediate funding crisis and set out how it plans to ensure that there is a sustainable, long-term funding solution that can deliver the prevention, care and support that people need. The second programme will be broadcast on 5 June.

6 June 2019

8. On 29 May the Lead Members of the Board and I met several senior members of the NHS Clinical Commissioners Board (NHSCC), including the two co-chairs, to provide policy direction and oversight to our joint work on integration. Our joint work with NHSCC continues to grow both on influencing the policy agenda for health and care and in providing development support to local political and clinical leaders.

Publications and correspondence

9. The [LGA submitted evidence](#) to the NHS consultation on proposals for legal reforms to implement the NHS Long Term Plan. Our response draws on the views of local and national health and care leaders. We convened a consultation session of senior local government and NHS representatives in March 2019 to share views with senior representatives of NHS England, the Department of Health and Social Care, and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. Our response reflects the discussion between NHS England and the LGA Community Wellbeing Board on the legal proposals.
10. At our Annual Public Health Conference on 21 March we launched our [health visiting publication](#) which shares good practice.
11. On the 25 March we launched a [joint publication](#) with Public Health England on supporting young parents to reach their full potential.

Press releases and statements

12. We have recently made public statements on [the latest NHS Digital figures on obesity, physical activity and diet](#), [the report on support for people living with arthritis](#), [the report by the Centre for Policy Studies putting forward proposals to secure the future of social care](#), [the report by the King's Fund warning that the adult social care system is being left at crisis point as a result of rising demand](#), [the latest ONS figures published on teenage pregnancies in England and Wales for 2017](#), [a consultation launched today by government on a public health duty to tackle serious violence](#), [the latest official statistics showing an increase in crack cocaine use in England](#), [the decline in children's health visitors](#), [an Age UK report on the social care burden on women](#), [an Independent Age analysis on care homes](#) and [Public health improving under councils, despite substantial cuts](#).

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