

27 September 2019

Update on Other Board Business

Purpose of report

For information and comment.

Summary

Members to note the following updates:

- **Suicide prevention**
- **Specialist supported housing**

Recommendations

Members of the Community Wellbeing Board are asked to:

1. **Provide oral updates** on any other outside bodies / external meetings they may have attended on behalf of the Community Wellbeing Board since the last meeting; and
2. **Note** the updates contained in the report.

Action

As directed by members.

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Suicide prevention

1. The Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH), the Local Government Association (LGA), Public Health England (PHE) and the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) have jointly developed a public mental health support offer, starting with suicide prevention. On 17 June 2019, the government pledged £600,000 funding in 2019/20 for the suicide prevention sector led improvement (SLI) programme. This followed extensive engagement by Members to secure Ministers' support for a locally-driven approach to further strengthening local suicide prevention plans. A programme manager is in post and taking forward the programme of SLI activity agreed by Members at the March 2018 Community Wellbeing Board:
 - 1.1. National: a series of tools, products and events designed to provide wider and easier access to the good practice and learning and existing resources, consisting of: a webinar, masterclass, stream-lined prevention resource, case studies and 'Must Know' publication for Elected Members.
 - 1.2. Regional: funding to support and build capacity for SLI activity that will target a large number of local authorities who could further strengthen an already solid approach to suicide prevention with less intensive support. Allocated directly to ADPH networks to support their regional Suicide Prevention work depending on current priorities.
 - 1.3. Local: bespoke expert support for up to twelve local authorities and partners, who self-identified as facing delivery challenges around suicide prevention. Experts will deliver a 1-day workshop, where an action plan will be produced and follow-up support offered depending upon progress.
2. The national ADPH SLI Programme Board which has ADPH, LGA and PHE representation will manage this work on behalf of the collaboration with progress reports submitted to CWB Lead Members.

Specialist supported housing

3. The LGA, Association of Directors of Adult Social Care (ADASS), NHS England and NHS Improvement, supported by the Housing Lin, have published a joint briefing [note](#) for clinical commissioning groups (CCG), local authority learning disability commissioners and Directors of Housing in response to the Social Housing Regulator's statements and findings related to a number of specialist housing providers.
4. The regulator is concerned about the long-term financial viability of specialist supported housing (SSH) providers who rely solely or heavily, on the lease-based model of housing supply. This is where SSH Providers enter into long-term lease arrangements with investors or developers to deliver housing rather than acquire or own the housing stock directly and the regulator has therefore found a number of these providers to be non-compliant with the Social Housing Regulatory Standards. Many of the providers are widely involved in providing housing solutions for the population served by Transforming Care.

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5. The note emphasizes that the Regulator considers the risk lies in the *longer term* financial model when things change such as demand for the properties, public policy changes, welfare reforms or interest rates rises. The note also suggests some practical steps commissioners can take if they are considering entering into similar arrangements or have already done so. Following an initial meeting in July, we are hosting a roundtable on 24 September with relevant parties and the Regulator prior to issuing further advice on how commissioners approach the situation and what type of solutions and reassurance may be available to them regarding this much needed type of accommodation.