

5 March 2014

Note of decisions taken and actions required

Title: Joint Children and Young People and Community Wellbeing Board
Date: Wednesday 5 March 2014
Venue: Westminster Room, Local Government House, Smith Square, London SW1P 3HZ

Attendance

Position	Councillor	Council / Representing
Chairman	David Simmonds	Hillingdon LB
Vice-Chair	Nick Forbes	Newcastle City
Deputy-Chair	Apu Bagchi	Bedford BC
Members	Roy Perry	Hampshire CC
	John Osman	Somerset CC
	John Merry CBE	Salford City
	Nicky Williams	Plymouth City
	Anne Western	Derbyshire CC
	Richard Watts	Islington BC
	David Bellotti	Bath & NE Somerset Council
	Patricia Bradwell	Lincolnshire CC
	Helen Powell	Lincolnshire CC/South Kesteven DC
Substitutes	Ivan Ould	Leicestershire CC
	Tony Hall	North Yorkshire CC
	Peter Evans	West Sussex CC
	Paul Cullen	Richmondshire DC
Apologies	Liz Green	Kingston upon Thames RB
	Paul Carter CBE	Kent CC
	Paul McLain	Gloucestershire CC
	Liz Hackett Pain	Monmouthshire CC
	Rita Krishna	Hackney LB
	Paul Lakin	Rotherham MBC

Officers: Helen Johnston, Sally Burlington, Verity Sinclair, Steven Service

Guests: Paula Lavis – Development Officer for the Children and Young People’s Mental Health Coalition, Amanda Allard – Assistant Director of the National Childrens Bureau, Andrew Webb – ADCS,

Item	Decisions and actions	Action by
Joint Children & Young People's and Community Wellbeing Board		
Welcome and introductions		
Cllr Katie Hall welcomed members and noted apologies from Cllrs Green, Carter, Bradwell, McLain, Hackett Pain, Krishna and Lakin on the Children and Young People's Board.		
1.	The transfer of 0-5s public health commissioning to local authorities in 2015 (internal discussion)	
Sally Burlington, Head of Programmes for Community Wellbeing introduced this item. She asked members to contribute to the LGA's negotiating stance on this issue by commenting on the questions within the report and on whether they felt that the key issues had been adequately identified in Paragraph 7.		
Members advocated building in flexibility over how outcomes were achieved rather than a prescription-based approach to mandation, as local areas were best placed to understand the way services needed to be delivered to achieve outcomes within their specific communities. In particular, members cited local issues such as the added complexity of service requirements in some rural areas and the demographic differences between local child populations as factors running against a "one-size-fits-all" approach.		
The Boards felt that significant integration risks needed to be recognised in the following areas:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On information-sharing, members commented that NHS England were unlikely to bring Child Health Information systems up to a gold standard before the transfer took place. They identified a need for partners to drive up standards in the interim.• Potential legacy issues, such as historic underspend or overspends on funding.• Overlapping timescales were considered to present a potential risk, with some members identifying a danger of going through budget and service transition at the same time.• Members highlighted that those areas already involved in high levels of integration were finding the amount of prescription from the NHS difficult. Health and Wellbeing Boards were seen to have an important role in commissioning a new approach to public health.• On the transfer of Public Health responsibilities, some members also expressed scepticism that the October 2015 date named by		

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Government would remain fixed, particularly in view of the forthcoming general election. However, Sally responded that it was likely the Government would want to ensure the transition had occurred before the election took place.

While members debated the extent to which NHS England would sufficiently improve CHIS, the Joint Board agreed that CHS and CHIS should remain the responsibility of, and be commissioned nationally by NHSE.

Decision

Members agreed that:

- LGA should support option 4 of the proposals suggested by DH, with an emphasis on mandating outcomes rather than systems and maximising local flexibility.
- CHS and CHIS should remain the responsibility of and be commissioned nationally by NHS England.

Actions

Officers to reflect the Board's comments in position going forward, adopting sign-off process and updates as outlined.

**Samantha
Ramanah**

2. Children's mental health

The Joint Board received a presentation from Paula Lavis, Coalition Coordinator for the Children and Young People's Mental Health Coalition on key issues facing Children and Young People's mental health.

Cllr Hall thanked Ms Lavis for her introduction and invited comments from members.

Members made the following points:

- On service demand, members emphasised that increasingly complex cases in the system and increasing levels of self-harm made it difficult to plan in terms of need. Money needed to be allocated more effectively to meet these rising demands.
- Some members felt that child carers were an important omission in the presentation, with evidence that this group were particularly vulnerable to mental health problems and associated factors such as isolation and depression.
- Bullying was identified as a key issue with members commenting that more needed to be done to address its underlying causes. It was also highlighted that children may avoid visiting the CAMHS nurse when they come to their school as they are stigmatized by their peers.
- Timescales were seen as a crucial issue. Members emphasised that a three month wait in some areas to see someone regarding a

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mental health issue was unacceptable.

- Members observed that the definition of “intervention” has changed over the years, with this being reclassified as a piece of paper in some instances. This raised questions regarding the value for money offered by the CAMHS service and made it difficult to scrutinise activity which had taken place and whether children and young people’s needs had been adequately served. Councillors asserted that it was time to stop considering outcomes alone and assess what was being done on the ground.
- While agreeing with much of the presentation’s analysis on what was wrong with the CAMHS service, members highlighted that further work was needed to identify what “good” looked like for the service.
- Members commented that the assertion in paragraph 5 of the report regarding groups “more at risk” of mental health problems risked generalising mental health problems across groups. They emphasised that the most vulnerable groups would vary according to area.
- Officers agreed to ensure that the LGA’s position going forward adequately reflects the full range of vulnerable groups at risk of mental health problems across local areas.
- On the issue of funding, members said that it was important to provide background evidence when quoting statistics such as spending £1 to save £84.
- Members requested more information on the terms of reference for the health committee inquiry on CAMHS.

Cllr Hall thanked members for their contributions and said these would be reflected in the select committee response.

Decision

Members **agreed** subject to seeing the terms of reference, that officers submit a response to the Health Committee inquiry on CAMHS.

Actions

LGA officers to:

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|------|--|-------------------------|
| i. | provide the Joint Board with further information on the terms of reference for the health committee inquiry on CAMHS | Samantha Ramanah |
| ii. | incorporate members’ comments in draft response to Health Committee Inquiry on CAMHS. Draft response to be sent to CYP and CWB Board portfolio holders for comment in advance of submission and circulated to members. | Samantha Ramanah |
| iii. | ensure LGA’s position going forward adequately reflects the full range of vulnerable groups at risk of mental health problems across | Samantha Ramanah |

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local areas.

- iv. circulate MHC presentation slides to Board members.

**Steve Service /
Verity Sinclair**

Special Educational Needs and Disability

3.

Amanda Allard, Principal Officer to the Council for Disabled Children presented to the Joint Board on the SEND reforms.

Following the presentation, Cllr Simmonds thanked Ms Allard and asked members to feedback any comments to LGA officers.

Members requested that the presentation be circulated to them following the meeting.

Actions

Members to feedback comments to LGA Officers.

Presentation slides to be circulated to Board members.

**Samantha
Ramanah
Steve Service /
Verity Sinclair**

The Joint CYP and CWB meeting came to a close. Members of the CYP board stayed for the rest of the agenda.

LGA Governance Arrangements

4.

Cllr David Simmonds introduced the report and a discussion on the new arrangements was held. Members argued that with the new committees covering such a wide remit, over less time lead members would have to do more to keep up the work of the board. Therefore the boards would need to have a stricter forward plan and decide which decisions would be left to the board and how these would be organised.

Other Business Report

5.

Helen Johnston introduced the report and invited members to comment. Members discussed amongst other things:

- **Improvement-** It was raised that with the Improvement and Innovation Board taking on all of the responsibility for improvement from September, this work would have to be done collaboratively between the boards where it relates to children's services. It was also important that ADCS and SOLACE were involved in these discussions.
- **Schools –** The letter from Cllr Simmonds to Rt. Hon David Laws MP regarding Free School meals was discussed. One member pointed out his dissatisfaction with the letter arguing that it should have included a thank you to the government for the money they were spending on the scheme. Others suggested the money was not sufficient in certain areas and schools were short on capital. A number of other issues including an increase in the number of

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children causing unfair distribution of funding and debates over what was counted as a nutritious meal were also discussed.

Decision

Members noted the report.

Action

Officers to take forward this work in light of Members' comments.

Notes of the last meeting and actions arising

6.

Cllr Paul Lakin, Cllr Paul McLain, Cllr Anne Western and Cllr David Bellotti all asked for the attendance records from 18th October to be amended to say they did attend the meeting. Cllr Neil Burden and Cllr Nick Forbes asked for the attendance records from 9th January to be amended to say they did attend the meeting.

The Board **agreed** the note of the last meeting.