

External meetings, outside bodies and other CWB Business updates

Purpose

For information and comment.

Summary

Members to note the following updates:

- External meetings and Outside bodies; and
- Other CWB Business updates:
 - 'Deprivation of Liberty' Safeguards
 - Transfer of 0-5s Public Health Commissioning
 - Learning Difficulties and Mental Health
 - Children's Mental Health
 - Autism
 - Alzheimer's and Dementia
 - FGM Working Group
 - Tuberculosis Briefing
 - Housing and Health
 - Moving More Living More

Recommendation/s

Members are asked to:

1. Provide oral updates on any other relevant outside bodies/external meetings they have attended on behalf of the CWB since June 11; and
2. Note the updates contained in this report, especially that relating to the deprivation of liberty Safeguards where members are asked to indicate any financial or other pressures that their own authorities may be experiencing that can inform future work

Action/s

As directed by members.

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External meetings and outside bodies

1. Carolyn Downs took part in a panel discussion on the future of health and social care integration with Norman Lamb and other senior figures at the NHS Confederation Annual Conference on 5 June.
2. Cllr Gillian Ford attended the Planning for Care Roundtable of the APPG for ageing and older people on 18 June and an Ageing Well, Public Health Perspective workshop on 20 June.
3. On 3 July Cllr Gillian Ford was a speaker at the Westminster Briefing on The evolving role of HWB Boards.
4. Elaine Atkinson attended CSA Expert Seminar on Eligibility 10 July
5. On 2 July, The Local Government Association and NHS Confederation outlined their shared ambition for health and social care integration in a new report [All Together Now: Making integration happen \(PDF, 16 pages, 105KB\)](#). This will be used to engage partners and key influencers who work in health and social care to gain support for a joint action plan that will significantly develop how integration is rolled out at national level. We would be interested in hearing your views on the proposals.

Please contact Alyson.morley@local.gov.uk for more information.

6. Councillor Colin Noble chaired a major conference in June looking at the often controversial subject of food. With the return of public health responsibilities to local government, councils' food responsibilities now stretch right the way across the food-chain, from ensuring food safety and hygiene and the integrity of composition and labelling, through to the broader strategic goals of helping people to lead healthy lives and reducing obesity. Councils' food work encompasses many different teams, including public health, environmental health and trading standards, and reaches out to different stakeholders, including consumers, producers and retailers. With presentations from Public Health England, British Retail Consortium, Chartered Institute of Environmental Health topics discussed included obeseogenic environments, food labelling, planning and regulating takeaways and tackling the impact of obesity on children and young people.

Annual Conference

7. **Local Government Ombudsman Fringe Session on Complaints** – Cllr Colin Noble represented the CWB at the Local Government Ombudsman fringe session on complaints. The session focused on the need for local complaints services that are transparent, effective and accessible in order to respond to people's concerns about services, and to use trend data on complaints to drive improvements in services. Cllr Noble promoted "Advising Residents About Health and Social Care Complaints: A guide for councillors" recently published by the LGA and the Centre for Public Scrutiny to provide councillors with information on their role in helping residents access complaints systems. He also emphasised the need for councillors to use complaints information to identify which services require improvements.

8. **Simon Stevens, Chief Executive of NHS England** – used his first plenary session at the LGA Conference to announce his commitment to promoting joint health and social care personal budgets. From April 2015, frail and vulnerable people will be able to use individual pots of money to spend as they see fit on health and social care services such as carers, physiotherapists and psychotherapy sessions, in order to improve their health, wellbeing and independence and to reduce the need for hospital admissions. He anticipated that some budgets will be as little as a few hundred pounds, though most are likely to get more than £1,000, with a small number who have very complex needs receiving much more than that. The session was chaired by Cllr Katie Hall who emphasised the LGA’s commitment to working in partnership to escalate the pace and scale of integration and personalisation of health and social care services. She also promoted “All Together Now: The future of integration” the joint LGA and NHS Confederation vision and strategy for integration. Members raised a number of challenging questions for Simon, focusing particularly on recent changes to the Better Care Fund and the implications for adult social care.

Other CWB Business update

‘Deprivation of liberty’ safeguards

9. The LGA and ADASS are working jointly to explore the financial implications of the Supreme Court Judgment in the case of “P v Cheshire West and Chester Council and another” and “P and Q v Surrey County Council”.
10. The judgment changes the legal definition of Deprivation of Liberty in a way which clearly increases the burdens on local authorities under the Mental Capacity Act (2005). Feedback from local authorities and others is that the expanded duties, outlined in the Judgement, has had and will continue to have, an immediate and substantial impact on local authority resourcing and finances. This raises substantial risks for local authorities in the course of this financial year, and that the financial costs will result in other services having to be cut in-year.
11. In addition to the significant and long term cost implications for local authorities, there is the increased risk that local authorities cannot meet their statutory duties due to lack of capacity and funding. The sector has consistently maintained the need for a person-centred response to the Judgement and the lack of funding has implications for some of the most vulnerable in our society who are not receiving the necessary legal protection created to ensure that their liberty and best interests are promoted.
12. Using evidence collected from a recent survey of local authorities on the impacts of the Judgement, Government will be formally approached to request that this pressure is funded as a new burden and also to ensure that vulnerable people are not being unlawfully deprived of liberty due to pressures on the system.
13. In the short term, the sector is working together to mitigate some of the pressures around workforce capacity but in the long term, a funded revision of current legislation will be necessary to further clarify the current responsibilities of local government and to alleviate some of the pressures across the system.

Transfer of 0-5s public health commissioning to local authorities

14. Sir Merrick Cockell, Chairman of the LGA wrote to leaders, portfolio holders for health, lead members for children's services, chairs of health and wellbeing boards updating members on progress of the transfer. Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive of the LGA also wrote to senior officers in similar terms. Local authorities were asked to respond to a feedback template with details of joint plans and to share their concerns about issues they are experiencing at the local level.
15. We understand DH ministers are likely to want to mandate universal aspects of the healthy child programme (set out in Healthy Lives Healthy People in 2011). However, at the time of writing we had not received confirmation about mandation.
16. NHS England have received initial returns from Area Teams on the finance and contracting picture in local areas. A second commission is due to be sent out in July to Area Teams and local authorities to break down this information further and to seek an agreed local view of contracts and funding. The information will be used to formulate draft funding allocations which will be consulted on in the autumn.

Learning difficulties and mental health

17. The Department of Health has launched a consultation on proposed changes to the Mental Health Act Code of Practice and is seeking views on proposed changes to the Code of Practice. The consultation is open until 12 September 2014.
18. **Children's** The LGA is working with ADASS to understand the implications of the Cheshire West Supreme Court Judgement. We are seeking an urgent meeting with the Department of Health to discuss how to manage these pressures and the very significant cost implications for social care services.

Mental health

19. Following discussions at the Children's Health and Wellbeing Partnership about concerns for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services the Partnership agreed to set up a task and finish group to address some of the key issues. The scope and purpose of the task and finish group is currently being scoped out. An update will come to the Board when further details are available.

Autism

20. As part of *Think Autism*, the Department of Health's update to the adult autism strategy, the National Autism Society has produced and, on 7 July, launched a guide to help local authorities better involve people with autism in their local planning and implementation. *Think Autism* emphasises the importance of people with autism being meaningfully involved with local autism strategies and gives local authorities and other partners guidance on involving and engaging people with autism, both through Autism Partnership Boards and through wider consultation.

<http://www.autism.org.uk/~media/NAS/Documents/Working-with/Autism-strategy/It-Involves-Us.ashx>

Alzheimer's and Dementia

21. On 17 June, the LGA welcomed the launch of the Alzheimer's Society Dementia Friendly Technology Charter, which aims to help people with dementia live at home for longer. Cllr Ford had been very active in the development of this charter. It aims to improve access to life-changing technology including products and home modifications for people living with dementia. It aims to bring to the attention of those providing technology, commissioners of services, health and care practitioners and people living with dementia and their carers the benefits that technology can bring alongside the full range of technologies that are available to ensure that these are used to complement the personal care and support that people need.
22. **Creating a dementia-friendly community in your local authority: Sharing the learning from Yorkshire and beyond.** Cllr Sir Merrick Cockell chaired this session at the Annual Conference, as part of his 'Call to action' for council leaders to support their local communities to become more dementia-friendly. The workshop drew on JRF's learning from its programme Dementia without Walls, which is supporting dementia friendly initiatives across the UK. In the workshop, Philly Hare, the Programme Manager shared JRF's learning so far focusing specifically on a local authority perspective. She reviewed why LAs should commit to becoming dementia friendly, what LAs can learn from the experience of councils in Yorkshire such as York, Bradford and others and what can elected members and lead officers do to support the development of dementia friendly communities in their areas.
23. **Dementia Friends Information Session, Annual Conference.** This session was introduced by Cllr Gilliam Ford. Building on the morning's workshop, this Dementia Friends Information Session was specially designed for lead members and lead officers attending the Conference, to enable those attending to increase their knowledge about dementia, the ways it affects people and to review what local authorities can do to help. Those attending the session, will be able to become a dementia friend – and in doing so, help contribute to the target of 1 million people becoming dementia friends this year.
24. A new guide for Health and wellbeing boards was published on 2 July. **Called "Health and Wellbeing Boards: leading local response to Winterbourne View**, the guide was developed by a working group including NHS Confederation, the Local Government Association, NHS England, Regional Voices and the Winterbourne View Joint Improvement Programme. It seeks to provide practical information and guidance to HWBs to make a real difference by helping reshape local services to improve health outcomes for children and adults with learning disabilities and/or autism who have mental health conditions or behaviour that challenges You can download the guide at this link:

<http://www.nhsconfed.org/resources/2014/07/health-and-wellbeing-boards-leading-local-response-to-winterbourne-view>

FGM Working Group

25. The Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) working group, which includes Cllrs Lisa Brett, David Burbage and Janet Daby from the Safer Communities Board along with Cllr Gillian Ford from the Health and Wellbeing Board and Cllr David Simmonds from the Children and Young People's Board met at the start of June to discuss how councils and the police could work together better to tackle FGM with the Association of Chief Police Officers lead on FGM, Commander Mak Chishty from the Metropolitan Police. The working group also heard from the London Borough of Newham about the specialist FGM service they have established, and members then considered the tool kit for councils that the LGA will be producing to assist them in their work to reduce and prevent FGM.

Tuberculosis Briefing

26. The UK now has one of the highest incidence rates of any Western European country, with 8,751 cases of TB reported in 2012. A new publication has been produced by the LGA and Public Health England (PHE) to address questions that councillors and officers may have on Tuberculosis and its burden in the UK. Responsibility for public health transferred from the NHS to local authorities in April 2013 under the wider shakeup of the health service councils have a critical role in protecting the health of their population.
- <http://www.local.gov.uk/documents/10180/5854661/Tackling+Tuberculosis+-+Local+government%27s+public+health+role/20581cca-5ef1-4273-b221-ea9406a78402>

Housing and Health

27. Poor housing costs the NHS at least £2.5 billion a year in treating people with illnesses directly linked to living in cold, damp and dangerous homes. Treating children and young people injured by accidents in the home costs A&E departments across the United Kingdom around £146 million a year. Among the over 65s, falls and fractures account for 4 million hospital bed days each year in England, costing £2billion. Over 25,000 people die each year in the UK as a result of living cold temperatures much of this is due to living in poorly heated homes.
28. This month we launched our new Housing and Health publication, commissioned by the LGA describes how public health in a number of councils has started to use the opportunities of a local government setting to improve health and wellbeing. The case studies were chosen because they show a range of ways in which public health in councils is approaching health and housing. They include councils spread across England, covering both rural and urban environments and with varying levels of deprivation and affluence. The case studies in this document demonstrate that local government is enthusiastically embracing the new opportunities of the public health reforms, and imaginatively responding to local issues.

Moving More, Living More Regional Forum

29. LGA, UKactive, Public Health England and the County Sports Partnership Network have established the Moving More, Living More Regional Physical Activity Forums across England. Held throughout July with over 700 delegates these nationally-resourced, locally determined regional strategic fora were designed to increase understanding, prioritisation and commitment to cross-sector, long-term action to increase physical activity and reduce physical inactivity in local communities. These inaugural meetings included an opportunity to shape the national physical activity implementation framework to be published late 2014.

Forthcoming events

30. **2 September, 2014:** Maternal Health and Wellbeing, NCB Seminar examining key influences, NCB Seminar examining key issues, impacts and routes to better health for children and their mothers.
31. **18 September 2014:** Making better spending decisions on public health: Getting to grips with value for money –
32. **2 October 2014:** Making every contact count: taking every opportunity to improve health and wellbeing in local populations –
33. **11 - February 2015:** LGA's Annual Public Health Conference –
34. Finally, this year's Leadership Essentials events are underway. The first took place on 24 and 25 June 2014 with further events planned for 14 and 15 October and 13 and 14 November 2014 at the Warwick Conference Centre in Coventry. Supporting HWB and adult social care portfolio holders and Chairs is a central objective of our 2014/15 Health and Wellbeing System Improvement programme. These events, led by LGA peers who are HWB chairs, provide an opportunity for chairs and vice-chairs to come together to have space to think and reflect, share experiences, network and actively learn from each other through the tried and tested two-day residential Leadership Academy model.

Other issues

35. On July 3, The LGA and the Centre for Public Scrutiny published a Councillors Guide to help them support residents who wish to make a complaint about a health or social care service. It provides basic information and sources of further advice to aid councillors in their case work and signposting to other agencies. The LGA and CfPS are committed to supporting councils to improve the accessibility, responsiveness and transparency of local complaints systems and this guide will help councillors have a better understanding of what they can do. 'Advising Residents about Health and Adult Social Care Complaints: A Guide for Councillors' is available at:

http://www.local.gov.uk/care-support-reform//journal_content/56/10180/6301395/ARTICLE.