

9 September 2014

Welcome, Declarations of Interest and Terms of reference

Purpose

For discussion and direction.

Summary

For members to note the membership (set out on the page before the agenda in this pack) and Terms of Reference of the Board

Recommendation/s

Members note the membership of the board and the Terms of Reference

Action/s

Officers respond accordingly to members direction

Contact officer: Michael Edley
Position: Member Support Officer
Phone no: 020 7664 3137
Email: Michael.edley@local.gov.uk

Terms of reference

1. The purpose of the Community Wellbeing Board is to engage and develop a thorough understanding of the issues within their brief and how legislation does or could affect councils and their communities, in particular with regard to the growing integration of health and social care services.
2. The Board works to support local government in delivery of its public health, as well as issues relating to an ageing society and the reform and funding of adult social care.
3. It is also responsible for maintaining a close relationship with the work of the Asylum, Refugee and Migration Task Group.
4. The Community Wellbeing Board's responsibilities include:
 - 4.1. Representing and lobbying on behalf of the LGA including making public statements on its areas of responsibility;
 - 4.2. Building and maintaining relationships with key stakeholders;
 - 4.3. Ensuring the priorities of councils are fed into the business planning process;
 - 4.4. Developing a work programme to deliver the business plan priorities relevant to their brief, covering lobbying campaigns, research, improvement support in the context of the strategic framework set by the Improvement & Innovation Board and events and linking with other boards where appropriate;
 - 4.5. Sharing good practice and ideas to stimulate innovation and improvement;
 - 4.6. Involving representatives from councils in its work, through task groups, Commissions, Special Interest Groups, regional networks and mechanisms;
 - 4.7. Responding to specific issues referred to the Board by one or more member councils or groupings of councils.
5. The Community Wellbeing Board may:
 - 5.1. Appoint portfolio holders from the Board to lead on key issues and
 - 5.2. Appoint members to relevant outside bodies

Supporting Councils' improvement

6. Leading members from LGA Boards and members of the Improvement and Innovation Board participated in a workshop on 2 June to discuss the future of sector led improvement and the role of the LGA Boards in the light of the outcome of the LGA Governance review that the Improvement and Innovation Board should take responsibility for all improvement activity.

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7. At the workshop members felt that the Improvement and Innovation Board should hold an “overarching” umbrella remit on LGA improvement activity, providing the strategic framework for the approach to sector led improvement and maintaining oversight of the support provided. Individual Boards would continue to lead on improvement activities and support within their “service” areas. This approach builds on the expertise already held by existing Boards and the established linkages/relationships already developed at political and officer level.
8. In order to give effect to this and to help the Improvement and Innovation Board develop and maintain a strategic overview, it agreed on 15 July that:
 - 11.1 Officers be asked to coordinate the flow of business through the Boards so that the Improvement and Innovation Board is invited to express strategic views about any significant improvement issues before other Boards;
 - 11.2 During the year the Improvement and Innovation Board receives suitably timed progress reports on the major improvement programmes, for example:
 - Children’s: around the Annual Ofsted report;
 - Corporate/Finance: around Budget time;
 - Adults/Health: around the annual TEASC report of performance in adult social care; and that
 - Relevant Board Chairs would be invited to attend; and
 - 11.3 As far as possible, the Improvement and Innovation Board meets towards the end of each quarterly cycle of meetings so it can consider any significant issues put before other Boards and then report back to Boards at their next meeting.
9. It is not the intention that these arrangements should limit or delay the work of individual Boards but that our approach to supporting councils’ improvement across a wide range of subject areas should be consistent and coherent and that the lessons we learn about what works for improvement in one area should inform our wider approach.
10. The Improvement and Innovation Board will take updates on service improvement issues from time to time and would need to be involved, for example, if there was any suggestion of moving away from our core principles of sector led improvement in any area.
11. The Improvement and Innovation Board has also agreed to review and refresh the LGA’s current approach to sector led improvement in the light of the recent evaluation and in the context of the forthcoming General Election. The Board will be keen to engage councils and a wide range of stakeholders in this process, including other LGA Boards.
12. In addition the Leadership Board on 16 July approved the LGA campaigns for 14/15, including a campaign on sector led improvement. This will provide an opportunity for the LGA to refresh the way it communicates councils’ improvement and our efforts to support them.