

Meeting: Community Wellbeing Board

Date: 1 March 2023



Update paper

Purpose of report

For information

Summary

This report sets out other updates relevant to the Board, and not included elsewhere.

Recommendation

That Members of the Community Wellbeing Board are asked to:

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 Note the updates contained in the report.

Contact details

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Update Paper



Vulnerable people

1. In December 2022, the Community Wellbeing Board Lead Members agreed publication of a joint LGA/NHSE guidance 'Quick guide on accommodation based mental health, learning disability and autism support in adult community, crisis and acute services'.
2. In December 2022, the Community Wellbeing Board Lead members agreed publication of a LGA 'Get in on the act' briefing on the new Mental Health Act.
3. In February 2023, Cllr David Fothergill and Professor Louis Appleby (Chair of the National Suicide Prevention Advisory Group) published a blog on 'Breaking the link between financial difficulty and suicide' to highlight the importance of prioritising suicide prevention during financially difficult times.
4. On 8th February 2023, Cllr David Fothergill chaired a LGA webinar on 'No Homeless Veterans'. The event was to help councils identify and respond effectively to the needs of homeless veterans.

Public Health

5. On 17 January 2023, Cllr David Fothergill had a constructive meeting with the Minister for Primary Care and Public Health, Neil O'Brien MP. They discussed the public health grant 2023/24, supporting the economically inactive back to work and the tobacco plan and alcohol strategy. The Minister is keen to visit innovative programmes delivered by councils or in partnership with the NHS and others. Feel free to drop the office a line if you have any examples you may have we can share with the Ministers office.
6. In January 2023, Cllr David Fothergill published a joint blog with Sharon White, CEO of the School and Public Health Nurses Association and Alison Morton, Executive Director of the Institute of Health Visiting calling for urgent investment these vital public health nursing services.
7. On 11 February, Cllr David Fothergill was interviewed by BBC News following an LGA press release about the need to better regulate the sale of vaping products to those under 18 years of age.

Integration and devolution update

8. In December, the Community Wellbeing Board Lead Members agreed to sponsor the Devo Connect Health Devolution Commission in 2023/24. Cllr David Fothergill will represent the LGA as an advisory commissioner. Click on the following link for more information about the Health Devolution Commission: <https://healthdevolution.org.uk/>
9. In February, the Community Wellbeing Board Lead Members agreed to support a proposal to establish a joint NHS Confederation and LGA Health and Devolution Working Group to understand the opportunities and challenges for leaders in local government devolution areas and ICSs in aligning health and local government devolution. The City Regions Board and People and Places Board have also considered the proposal. So far, the CRB has approved the proposal and we expect clearance from the People and Places Board imminently. Each of the LGA Boards will have Member level representation on the Working Group, with Cllr David Fothergill representing CWB.
10. In November, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that the Rt Hon Patricia Hewitt would be conducting a review of the autonomy and accountability of integrated care systems (ICSs). The LGA submitted written evidence to the Hewitt Review: <https://www.local.gov.uk/parliament/briefings-and-responses/lga-response-hewitt-review-ics-accountability-and-autonomy> . On 13 January, Patricia Hewitt attended a special meeting of the CWB to hear the Board Members views on ICSs. In response to Patricia Hewitt's request for LGA representation on specific workstreams focusing on 5 aspects of accountability and autonomy, Cllr David Fothergill represented the LGA on the accountability, autonomy and regulation workstream.