

## **Community Wellbeing Board –from Cllr Izzi Seccome (Chair)**

### **Health and Wellbeing**

1. The final 2013/14 health and wellbeing board (HWB) chairs/vice chairs Leadership Essentials was held in February again proving to be a most valuable and well received development opportunity for attendees, many of whom are clinical commissioning group (CCG) representatives. I fully support the direction of the 2015/16 grant funded sector led improvement programme to engage more fully with CCG leaders in developing HWBs to reach their full potential post-election.
2. Community Wellbeing Board lead members Cllrs Katie Hall and Gillian Ford are now trained, alongside a cadre of HWB chairs, to lead the Leadership Essentials programme next year.

### **Future of Health and Wellbeing Boards**

3. The LGA is currently working with NHS Clinical Commissioners to develop a shared and ambitious vision for the future of HWBs in leading the development and oversight of integrated health and care services locally. We will be launching our vision at the LGA Annual Conference in July. In developing our proposals we are keen to hear the views of local councils, HWBs and CCGs on the opportunities and challenges facing HWBs and what needs to change at national and local level for them to reach their full potential. If you would like to know more about this initiative, please contact [alyson.morley@local.gov.uk](mailto:alyson.morley@local.gov.uk).

### **Inquiry into the role of health scrutiny in integration plans**

4. The LGA is working with the Centre for Public Scrutiny on a project to assess the extent to which health scrutiny is involved in developing, assessing and improving local scrutiny plans and identify how their contribution could be improved. As part of this we have organised three local inquiry days in Devon, South Tyneside and Wiltshire. We will be publishing a report on the key findings in March.

### **Five Year Forward View into Action: planning for 2015/16**

5. In December, NHS England, Monitor, Trust Development Authority, Public Health England, Health Education England and Care Quality Commission published 'The Forward View Into Action'. It includes commitments to prioritise action on preventative interventions to improve people's health and wellbeing, and also on how the bodies intend to implement the new models of care. These new models of care include developing multi-specialty community providers, integrated primary and acute

care systems, viable smaller hospitals, and models of enhanced health in care homes.

6. The LGA welcomes the emphasis on developing solutions for the whole health and care economy and prioritising prevention. We also welcome the NHS recognition that different localities require different models of care. We will continue to highlight the interdependencies across health and social care, and the importance of strong system leadership through HWBs to drive transformation locally. We expect “forerunner” areas to be selected soon and will work with NHS England to ensure that local government is properly engaged in them.

#### **0-5 Public Health**

7. In December 2014, the Department of Health published draft local authority funding allocations for 0-5s public health commissioning responsibilities. The estimated total local authority allocations on a half-year basis for 2015/16 are £425 million, including an additional £36 million to pay for the costs of the commitment to increase the numbers of health visitors and Family Nurse Partnership places. We have worked with partners to help ensure that the draft allocations reflect the costs of projected expenditure on 0-5 commissioning in each local authority area for 2015/16. We also secured an extra £2 million for the costs of commissioning the new services.

#### **LGA Ageing Task and Finish Group**

8. The fourth and final Task and Finish Group on Ageing took place on the 10 February. This meeting, which was attended by over 20 representatives from the National Forum on ageing, was extremely productive. There was considerable consensus concerning the core themes and messages to emerge from the work of the group. The meetings have explore a wide range of issues, all of which are of real strategic importance to local government, from supporting older people to live healthier, more fulfilling lives; councils' strategic place-shaping role; and the opportunities for local government to deliver an enabling, community and asset based approach to an ageing population. Other core inputs for the work; a literature review, national call for evidence and consultation work with older people across the country have now been completed, and the task now is to finalise the report from the group. The final report, which will be published in June 2015, will set out a series of clear policy proposals, to inform the future work and campaigns of the LGA, and for consideration by an incoming government.

### **Housing for Vulnerable Adults (Integrated Approaches) Task and Finish Group.**

9. The first meeting of the Task and Finish group on housing for vulnerable adults was held on the 22 January. The second meeting of the group will be held in March. The Task and Finish Group is exploring the critical role of housing in integrated health, care and support. The group is reviewing the challenges which local authorities and their partners are facing in this area, and to identify any possible solutions, alongside our potential role, at the LGA, in supporting local authorities in this area. A number of key inputs into this work have already been completed. These were four regional seminars, which brought together senior staff from local authorities and health in order to review examples of integrated approaches from their region and to explore what was currently working well in their areas, where challenges remained and how these might be overcome. And an informal advisory group, comprising key experts (and LGA partners) in the field of housing, care and support. The aim of the Task and Finish Group is to identify the LGA's main concerns, priorities and findings, and to set out a future work programme for the LGA in this area. A good practice report, bringing together the key themes and examples of practice from the regional seminars will be produced by the end of March 2015.

### **Mental Health**

10. A joint LGA and ADASS research project on how local authorities and their partners are implementing the mental health crisis concordat has been completed. The key findings from the research, which includes examples of positive practice that local councils and their partners are involved in, will be launched at a seminar on the 24 March at Local Government House. The main aim of the research was to gather examples of emerging practice that local authorities and their partners are taking forward, in respect of the commissioning and delivery of services and support for those experiencing a mental health crisis and to bring these together into one place.
11. The research demonstrates a high level of commitment amongst local authorities and their partners to develop high quality and innovative solutions to meeting the needs of people at risk of developing mental health crisis. To further support local authorities and their partners review and develop their practice in this area, the LGA will be holding a policy review meeting on the 24 February, to discuss the development of a self-assessment framework for local authorities and their partners in respect of mental health. We will also be holding a round table discussion on the 5 March to discuss the wider strategic responsibilities of local authorities to enable people with mental health problems to live more fulfilling lives within their local communities

### **Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)**

12. On 2 February 2015, the Minister of State for Care Services, Norman Lamb MP, replied to a joint LGA and ADASS letter to the Minister from 22 January on the financial impact of new responsibilities for Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards following the Supreme Court judgement in March 2014. This letter is part of ongoing communication with government flagging the need for an urgent response to our funding concerns. The LGA and ADASS estimate that the additional annual cost to councils arising from DoLS is £98 million at minimum. David Pearson, ADASS President, and I met the Minister on 25 February to discuss the need for Government to fund this as a new burden.

### **Towards Excellence in Adult Social Care-National Progress Report in Adult Social Care: progress with adult social care priorities England 2013-14 (published February 2015).**

13. A report into progress in adult social care priorities 2013-14 has been published jointly by the Local Government Association and the Association of Directors of Social Services. It shows that sector led improvement is working well:

- Social care related quality of life is improving
- The proportion of people who say they have control over their daily life increased between 2011/12 and 2013/14.
- The proportion of people using social care who receive self-directed support and those who receive direct payments is increasing. However, reflecting the austerity of the age, the number of people receiving care is reducing year on year.
- The proportion of adults with learning disabilities who live in their own home or with their family and those in contact with secondary mental health services who live independently is improving.
- Some 44.5 per cent of people who used services reported that they had as much social contact as they would like.

14. However, the report also highlights areas where more work is required, including working with local employers to help more adults with learning disabilities and those in contact with secondary mental health services to gain paid employment. The report has commentary from the sector including how it is addressing key priorities. The report can be found here:[http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/publications/-/journal\\_content/56/10180/6993817/PUBLICATION](http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/publications/-/journal_content/56/10180/6993817/PUBLICATION)

### **Show Us You Care Campaign**

15. In the run up to the General Election, and thinking beyond that to the next Comprehensive Spending Review, it will be important to make sure that the financial pressures facing adult social care are firmly in the national spotlight. To help achieve

this the LGA's 'Show Us You Care' campaign is being refreshed and will focus predominantly on funding for adult social care. This subject, including the high profile issue of winter pressures, has been a key feature of the Community Wellbeing Boards media work since the beginning of the year. An overview of this work is shown below.

16. We have been active in the media as part of the campaign. Recent activity includes a [letter](#) co-signed by LGA Chairman Cllr David Sparks and key health and social care partners warning about the impact of spending cuts on NHS and social care. This made the front page of The Observer. And a proactive [release](#) highlighting the impact that adult social care funding pressures will have on other council services was covered extensively in print, radio and TV.

#### **Winter Pressures**

17. Councils around the country are working with NHS partners to address the pressures on the NHS this winter. On 16 January, DH announced £25m funding for Councils to address delayed transfers of care. Following LGA lobbying, the Government allocated an extra £12m to councils, to ensure that every area had some funding to help cope with the unprecedented demands on the system.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funds-to-kickstart-joint-working-with-nhs-and-councils-this-winter>. We have been active in the media on this subject and an example of a recent press release highlighting the importance of investing in adult social care to alleviate pressures on health is available [here](#).

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