

Other Business Report

Purpose

For discussion and direction.

Summary

This report summarises the work of officers on 0 -5 Public Health Transfer, Child and Adolescent Mental Health, and National Children and Adult Services Conference (NCAS).

Recommendation

Members are asked to consider recommendations for Board activity over the year ahead.

Action

Officers to take action arising out of discussion, as directed by members.

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0 – 5 Public Health Transfer

1. In March we sent out a local authority self-assessment on the state of readiness for the transfer. We received a 100% response rate from local authorities, the results showed that 97% of councils are confident that commissioning arrangements will be fully operational in their council from 1st October 2015 and that there is good joint working with NHS England and providers to transfer these services.
2. It also showed 96% are very or fairly confident that their transitional arrangements are clear and achievable and 99% are confident about their governance arrangements.
3. Whilst it showed that there are high levels of confidence in many areas and few remaining issues, it identified the following outstanding issues;
 - 3.1 Data collection, reporting arrangements and concerns about the quality of data;
 - 3.2 Child Health Information Services (CHIS). Whilst the majority of councils are confident that CHIS is being improved (70%) and will achieve compliance (61%), regional feedback suggested that there is a perception locally that the system will not be improved by 2020 which is resulting in a lack of confidence;
 - 3.3 Concerns about the move from commissioning from a registered to a resident population and the implications this has on cross charging for resident populations that are registered out of area. This issue was consistently raised by the Regional Oversight Groups.
4. The LGA is following up with the few councils who expressed low confidence levels to offer support. We are also working with NHS England and Public Health England to address the above issues. PHE is developing proposals for an interim national reporting arrangement for data collection and will engage local authorities in June to seek their views on the proposals.
5. Local authorities also raised that they would like examples of good practice to be shared more widely to support them to transform and embed these services. The LGA is working with partners to share good practice with councils and develop support tools.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Update

6. In March the Department of Health and NHS England published the Report of the Children and Young People's Mental Health Taskforce, which sets out the changes which need to take place at both local and national levels to improve the system. CWB lead members played an active role in contributing to this work.
7. The Government announced in the budget a package of funding to improve child and adolescent mental health services. This included investing over £1 billion over the next 5 years to start new access standards, providing £118 million by 2018- 19 to

complete the roll-out of the Children and Young People's Increasing Access to Psychological Therapies, and investing £75 million over the next 5 years in maternal mental ill health services. The Department for Education will also provide an additional £1.5 million towards piloting joint training for designated leads in Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and schools to improve access to mental health services for children and young people, including the most vulnerable.

8. We have long called for more money to support children and young people's mental health services and we are pleased to see that there are plans to invest additional funding into these services which could improve much needed access to these vital services for thousands more young people. However, we still need to see the whole system properly funded and partners at both national and local levels working together to implement the recommendations from the Taskforce.
9. We are very keen to work with the Department and NHS England to take forward work on children and young people's mental health as a joint endeavour and are having early discussions to establish next steps. We are clear that a joint approach that promotes strong and accountable local leadership is needed to ensure there are coordinated commissioning arrangements to genuinely improve outcomes in children and young people's mental health.

National Children and Adult Services Conference (NCAS)

1. This year's NCAS conference will be taking place from the 14th – 16th October at the Bournemouth International Conference Centre. The new Chair of the LGA has been invited to open the conference and invitations have also been sent to Nicky Morgan MP, Secretary of State for Education, Edward Timpson MP, Minister for Children and Families and; Tristram Hunt MP, Shadow Education Secretary.
2. Confirmed children's sessions will include an education question time; discussion of the future of the inspection of children's services; a plenary session with Ofsted, a closed children's lead member session with Edward Timpson (tbc) and; CAMHS. Due to the General Election a number of slots have been held back for 'hot topic' sessions and Member's views on the subjects that should be covered in these sessions would be welcomed.
3. There are currently 347 delegates booked to attend the conference, which is approximately 80 more than at the same time last year.