

Community Wellbeing Portfolio – from Cllr Izzi Seccombe (Chair)

LGA / ADPH Public Health Conference

1. The annual LGA/ADPH public health conference took place on Wednesday 3 February and I was delighted to see many local politicians and Directors of Public Health — the people who represent the leadership of the public health system in places up and down the country. The conference showed us how these local leaders are focused on improving the health and prosperity of the people with real energy and commitment. 220 delegates were in attendance including Jane Ellison MP and Duncan Selbie, Chief Executive, Public Health England.

Child Obesity Strategy

2. The Department of Health is due to announce its new child obesity strategy which will likely look at the impact of physical inactivity, marketing, food formulation and the role the 'obesogenic environment' plays in contributing to a child becoming overweight and obese. The LGA is holding a [free conference](#) on 17 March to discuss the contents of the strategy.

Adult social care efficiency project

3. The LGA is re launching an [efficiency project](#) that aims to help develop innovative, efficient and sustainable approaches in care and health services. Councils are now being invited to bid to participate in the efficiency project.

Teenage pregnancy and young parents

4. On 3 February we released the publication 'Good progress but more to do: teenage pregnancy and young parents'. It is over 15 years since the then government launched its Teenage Pregnancy Strategy in response to England having one of the highest teenage pregnancy rates in Western Europe. Since then the under-18 conception rate has halved thanks to the [hard work of councils and their partners](#).

Public health transformation three years on

5. This year's compilation of [case studies](#) shows how local authorities continue to make progress on improving health and wellbeing and tackling health inequalities since public health was formally transferred from the NHS in April 2013.

Health Committee inquiry into Public health

6. Following our [written evidence submission](#) to the Health Committee, the LGA was called to give oral evidence to their inquiry into public health post 2013. Cllr Jonathan McShane represented the LGA and the Public Health Systems Group at the session, and he began by welcoming the transfer of public health responsibilities to local government. Cllr McShane stressed the importance of adequate funding for public health and ensuring local authorities retained the autonomy to make local decisions about how resources should be allocated.

Media Releases

7. In recent weeks I have responded to an [ADPH report on the impact of public health funding reductions](#), [NHS figures on delayed discharges](#) and a new [PHE report on life expectancy](#). You can read the full details of each on the LGA's website.

Leadership Essentials for Health and Wellbeing Board Chairs and Vice-Chairs – 13-14 July 2016

8. Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs) are a unique forum where clinical, political, professional and community leaders come together to meet local health challenges. As system leaders HWBs will be instrumental in developing a place-based approach to transformation and integration. The LGA has planned a [two day residential session in Coventry](#) on 13-14 July 2016 to support Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) chairs and vice chairs to meet these challenges by coming together away from the day job to reflect on the effectiveness of their HWB in the current context, actively learn from each other and share experiences through the LGA's tried and tested approach to leadership development. The session is led by member and Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) peers with input from national partners.

Combatting Loneliness

9. On 3 February I wrote in the Guardian on how loneliness needs to be recognised as a major public health concern. Deputy Chairman Cllr Peter Fleming also appeared on Good Morning Britain and ITV news bulletins talking about loneliness. Media interest followed on from the LGA publication 'Combatting Loneliness' offering guidance for councils to tackle the issue, published with Age UK and the Campaign to End Loneliness.
10. On 8 February 2016 Cllr Jonathan McShane gave an outline of the 'Combating Loneliness' report to the All Party Parliamentary Group on Ageing and Older People. The publication was produced in partnership with Age UK and the Campaign to End Loneliness.

Dementia 2020

11. In January 2016 Cllr Ford attended the PM Challenge on Dementia 2020. Also In January Cllr Ford attended the Dementia Friendly Communities Steering Group part of the implementation programme for the PM Challenge on Dementia 2020.

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