

Policy and budget updates to October 2013

Strategic	
<p>Local Government Association and NHS England publish vision for £3.8 billion Integration Transformation Fund</p> <p>The Local Government Association and NHS England have published their planning vision for how the pooling of £3.8 billion of funding, announced by the government in the June spending round, will ensure a transformation in integrated health and social care. The Integrated Transformation Fund is a single pooled budget to support health and social care services to work more closely together in local areas. The fund totals £3.8bn in 2015/16. To access the funding, the LGA and NHS England require local areas (clinical commissioning groups and local authorities) to develop joint two-year plans of how the pooled funding will be used and the ways in which the national and local targets attached to the performance-related £1 billion will be met. These national and local targets are under development (Lamb pioneers), however LGA and NHS England have provided a number of pre-requisite conditions. The joint two-year plans must be in place by March 2014.</p>	All
<p>Public health ring fence extended</p> <p>Public Health England has announced that council's public health grants will be ring fenced for a third year, until 2015-16. The grants can be spent only on improving the health of the local population.</p>	All
<p>Southwark's 2013 local health profile published</p> <p>The Local Health Profiles for 2013 have been released. Southwark's key messages include continuing high levels of need across the population, including high levels of children in poverty and inequalities in life expectancy. Improvements include falling premature mortality rates, high attainment levels and continuing reductions in teenage conception rates. The report highlights priorities as including reducing alcohol misuse and childhood obesity, and improving the detection and management of long term health conditions.</p>	All
Health/Public Health	
<p>NHS health check implementation review and action plan</p> <p>The Department of Health (DH) has identified support for the successful implementation and scale-up of the NHS Health Check programme by local authorities as one of the small number of high impact actions for Public Health England to reduce preventable deaths. The NHS Health Check implementation review and action plan sets out key issues and a ten point plan to support the programme.</p>	Priorities 2 and 3
<p>Changes to the NHS to relieve pressure on A&E services</p> <p>The DH has announced proposals – starting with care for vulnerable older patients with complex health problems – aimed at reducing the need for repeated trips to A&E, and speed up diagnosis, treatment and discharge home again, when patients do need to go to hospital. It has made an extra £500 million funding available over the next two years - £250 million for 53 NHS trusts this winter.</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence
<p>Improving general practice - a call to action</p> <p>NHS England is consulting on the future of general practice services in England. The aim is to strengthen general practice's role at the heart of more integrated out-of-hospital services which deliver better health outcomes, more personalised care, excellent patient experience and the most efficient possible use of NHS resources. The consultation closes on 10 November.</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence
<p>New approach for failing NHS trusts</p> <p>The DH has announced plans to help prevent future failures of care and safety at NHS hospitals. More senior clinicians, as well as those from outside the NHS, will be recruited to manage NHS hospitals under a new fast-track leadership programme to include time at a leading business school. Graduates of the programme are expected to go on to make rapid entry and promotion to be NHS senior managers and</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence

chief executives.	
<p>The New Medicine Service (NMS) extended to 31 December 2013 The service provides extra support, advice and guidance through community pharmacies for patients that are newly prescribed a medicine for specific long-term conditions.</p>	Priority 2: healthier communities & tackling ill health
<p>Report into the implementation of personal health budgets From April 2014, everyone who receives NHS continuing health care funding will be able to request a personal health budget rather than receiving commissioned services.</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence
<p>Pilot: GP extended opening hours GP practices are invited to apply to a new £50m Challenge Fund to set up a pioneer programme of extended GP opening hours. Pioneers will be established in every region of the country – nine in total – which together are expected to cover up to half a million patients.</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence
<p>Free school lunch for every child in infant school Every child in reception, year 1 and year 2 in state-funded schools will receive a free school lunch from September 2014.</p>	Priority 1 and 2
Social care	
<p>Proposals for greater independence for the CQC Under the proposals, the Health Secretary will relinquish a range of powers to intervene in the operational decisions of the CQC. This means that the CQC will no longer need to ask for Secretary of State approval to carry out an investigation into a hospital or care home. It will also remove the Secretary of State's power to direct CQC on the content of its annual report.</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence
<p>Consultation on eligibility criteria for adult social care The Department for Health is seeking views on the practical details of how the changes to the funding system should happen and be organised locally, including on topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the capped costs system should work • How deferred payments should be administered • How people can be helped to make informed choices about their care and support <p>The reforms to care funding are one part of a wider programme that will put individuals' wellbeing at the heart of care and support services, and put them more in control of their lives. The consultation closed on 18 October.</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence
<p>Care Bill amendment in relation to 'wellbeing' As the Bill returns to Parliament, the government is moving to amend it to require councils to "have regard to the importance of promoting the wellbeing of adults" when commissioning services. This is in response to criticisms of the use of 15-minute care slots.</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence
Children, Young People, Families and Education	
<p>Prioritising the experiences of children who need help, protection and care - a new single inspection Ofsted has published its single framework for inspecting local authority services for vulnerable children, examining help, protection and care from the time it is first needed through to when a young person who is looked after has been successfully helped to start their life as a young adult. The inspection is universal and will be conducted in a three-year cycle. Effective from November 2013, the framework brings together</p>	Priorities 1 and 3

into one inspection: child protection; services for looked after children and care leavers; and local authority fostering and adoption services. Two other frameworks were published: inspecting voluntary adoption agencies and independent fostering services – effective immediately.	
<p>Consultation: SEN Code of Practice</p> <p>This consultation proposes how special educational needs (SEN) statements (for schools) and learning difficulty assessments (for young people in further education and training) will be replaced with single 0 to 25 education, health and care plans. Local authorities will be expected to integrate health, care and education input into assessments and service commissioning arrangements, and also involve children, parents and carers in that process. The consultation closes on 9 December.</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence
<p>SEN reform grant</p> <p>Local authorities are to receive a SEN reform grant to support implementation of the special educational needs reforms. The grant will be paid in October, with all non-pathfinder authorities including Southwark receiving £75,000.</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence
<p>£100 million to support the education of children in care</p> <p>From next April, the new “pupil premium plus” will increase funding to support children in care at school by £1,000 per pupil to £1,900. Children will be covered as soon as they enter care and 10,000 more children in care will benefit, bringing the total to 50,000.</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence
<p>Removal of adoption support powers</p> <p>Local authorities are to be stripped of powers to care for children once they have been adopted. Under new government plans control of post-adoption support will now be placed under a national service. It is reported that a new £20m fund will pay for such support, as part of moves towards a national system for adoption.</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence
<p>£19.3 million support fund for adoptive parents</p> <p>Adoptive parents will have access to new funding worth £19.3 million for children who have been victims of abuse and neglect. The Adoption Support Fund will pay for therapeutic services – such as cognitive therapy, play and music therapy, and intensive family support – helping children recover from previous experiences, bond with their adoptive families and settle into their new lives. Local authorities have a legal duty to assess the type of support new parents will need to help their adopted child.</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence
<p>Consultation: Improving permanence for looked after children</p> <p>The DfE is consulting on a range of proposals to strengthen the team around the looked after child, improve the status, security and stability of long-term foster care, and strengthen the requirements for returning children home from care. The consultation closes on 29 November.</p>	Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence
<p>Improving services for young carers.</p> <p>An amendment to the Children and Families Bill will give children and young people who care for family members an entitlement to a full assessment of their support needs. This will be achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extending the right to an assessment of support needs to all young carers under the age of 18 • Supporting local authorities to combine the assessment of a young carer with an assessment of the person they care for • Simplifying the law relating to young carers – making their rights and duties clearer to both young people and professionals 	Priority 1: giving children and young people the best start
<p>Pledge for better health outcomes for children and young people</p> <p>The Local Government Association, DH, Royal College for Paediatrics and Child Health, and the Children and Young People’s Health Outcome Forum have jointly written to lead members for Children’s Services and the chairs of Health and Wellbeing Boards to sign up to the</p>	Priority 1: giving children and young people the best start

<p>“Better health outcomes for children and young people pledge”. The pledge reinforces that children, young people and their families will be at the heart of decision-making, with a focus on key health outcomes and care coordinated around the individual. The pledge affirms that signatories are determined to improve key outcomes including reducing child deaths, prevent ill health, and improve mental health, support the most vulnerable groups to reduce health inequalities, and care and outcomes for those with long term conditions or a disability.</p>	
<p>Extension of early learning for 2 year-olds Next September, the number of 2 year olds qualifying for free childcare will be doubled to 260,000 (40% of 2-year-olds) by extending eligibility to families earning less than £16,190 per year and receiving working tax credits. Those who have been adopted, are in care or have a disability or special educational needs will also become eligible from next year.</p>	<p>Priorities 1 and 3</p>
<p>Serious Case Review - Daniel Pelka Coventry Safeguarding Children Board has been carrying out a serious case review into the circumstances of Daniel Pelka’s death. An independent expert review makes 15 recommendations for changes to current practice and processes, joint working and training across agencies in Coventry. These will continue to be monitored by the board with a clear timeframe to evidence improvements in local services.</p>	<p>Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence</p>
<p>Crime and justice</p>	
<p>Betting shop ban Southwark Council has banned new betting shops, payday loans firms and pawnbrokers from opening in its borough. Businesses in the borough will now not be able to change the type of business operating on a site without a fresh application to the council.</p>	<p>Priority 2: healthier communities & tackling ill health</p>
<p>Crime and justice</p>	
<p>In September the government announced a review into the police response to domestic abuse, to support continuing improvements in support.</p>	<p>Priority 3: improving outcomes for the vulnerable & independence</p>
<p>The government has introduced legislation to enact plans set out in its alcohol strategy. These include banning the sale of alcohol below VAT levels and introducing licensing authorisation processes.</p>	<p>Priority 2: healthier communities & tackling ill health</p>