**Health and Care Bill Update for Co-Chairs, Steering Group and Management Team**

Children and Young People’s Health Policy Influencing Group

Following HPIG meeting yesterday (18/10/21) I wanted to update on HPIG Health and Care activity.

Edward Timpson tabled two amendments on HPIG’s behalf which were discussed together during the afternoon committee meeting on Thursday 16 September.

Edward had to step out of the meeting to attend the Westminster Hall debate on School Exclusions. However, he kindly arranged for Dr James Davies to move the amendments on his behalf. We are really pleased that James raised many of HPIG’s key messages and Alex Norris, Shadow Minister for Public Health, also spoke in support of the amendments.

Edward Agar’s response recognised the importance of meeting children’s needs and, as expected, highlighted the Government’s position that the legislation be as permissive and flexible as possible. The Minister also confirmed that the Department of Health, Department for Education and NHS England are developing bespoke guidance for babies, children and young people and stated their commitment to working with us to develop this.

HPIG are excited that our messages are being heard and we are finally seeing some progress both in Parliament and in the latest ICS guidance but we know there is still work to be done over the coming weeks and months as the guidance is developed and the Bill moves through Parliament.

At yesterday’s meeting we had the opportunity to feedback on the recently published Integrated Care Partnership guidance and shape the development of the bespoke Integrated Care System guidance for babies, children and young people.

Things for the NNPCF and PCFs to consider are:

**Bespoke guidance for babies, children and young people**

1. Which stakeholders should the Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) engage in the development of the integrated care strategy, and in decisions on the planning of children’s services?

2. How can Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) and ICPs best involve children and families who live in the area to ensure their voice is captured?

3. What balance should the Government strike between advising local systems on the membership of the ICP and the ICB, and recognising their local expertise in bringing together the right group?

4. What issues related to babies, children and young people should ICPs should aim to address in the integrated care strategy? (e.g. reducing health inequalities)

**Do the NNPCF have any good practice examples of how ICSs are delivering effectively for babies, children and young people and working with their local PCFs through the ICPs?**

**ICP Guidance**

1. Are the NNPCF/PCFs clear on the role and responsibilities of the ICP, and how they align with and relate to the relationship with the ICB?

2. What features should an ICP have if it is to understand and plan for the needs of babies, children and young people with SEND? Are there any barriers to achieving that?

3. How should a children’s representative on an ICP fully represent SEND children’s ideas, needs, and concerns? Should this be a parent representative from the PCF?

4. What are the opportunities and risks when aligning the ICP with existing structures, including Health and Wellbeing Boards and places?

5. What additional support and guidance would the NNPCF like to see from central government to support ICP implementation?

Further information and resources are available here: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/integratedcare/resources/>

Kay Moore

Policy Lead