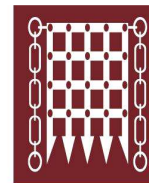


Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: Next steps for children's services in England - funding, service redesign and the future for inspections

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 16th November 2017

Venue: Central London



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Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Ramsbotham
- 9.05 - 9.15 **Children's services: the policy context**
Dr Jo Finch, Reader in Social Work and Deputy Director, Centre for Social Work Research, University of East London
- 9.15 - 10.10 **Responding to funding pressures in children's services: best practice in early intervention, commissioning and leadership**
In view of reports of a potential £2 billion funding gap in children's services by 2020 and concerns regarding increased dependence on unstable sources of funding, how can the new government address concerns about the impact on service provision for vulnerable children, particularly in terms of the future of early intervention services? In light of Ofsted's finding that strong leadership is vital for improvement in children's services, what should be the next steps for developing high-quality leadership and what examples of best practice exist? How can data be used to improve efficiency and effectiveness in decision-making in children's services? Given the financial pressures on children's services, what are the most promising new approaches to commissioning to improve value for money?
Peter Hay, former Strategic Director for People, Birmingham City Council
Tom Symons, Principal Researcher, Nesta
Wajid Shafiq, Chief Executive Officer, Xantura
Enver Solomon, Director of External Affairs, National Children's Bureau
Senior representative, health
Questions and comments from the floor with **Dr Jo Finch**, Reader in Social Work and Deputy Director, Centre for Social Work Research, University of East London
- 10.10 - 10.35 **Where next for the Innovation Programme?**
Following the announcement of funding for a second wave of projects under the Children's Social Care Innovation Fund, what is notable in the first round of evaluations that could be translated into lessons for other contexts, and what should be the policy priorities for the future of the programme? How can children's services create environments ready for innovation, and how can innovative projects be supported to produce long-term, sustainable changes?
Robert Mack, Children, Families & Young People Service Manager, Compass Service, Norfolk & Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Nicholas Yeates, Consultant Psychologist, Child, Family and Young Peoples' Mental Health Service, Norfolk & Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust
Pamela Dow, Chief Reform Officer, Catch 22
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 - 10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**
Lord Ramsbotham
- 10.40 - 11.05 Coffee
- 11.05 - 11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**
Rt Rev the Lord Bishop of Durham
- 11.10 - 11.35 **Priorities for inspecting children's services**
Lisa Pascoe, Deputy Director, Social Care Policy, Ofsted
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.35 - 12.30 **The future for service reform in children's social care: accountability, new service models and devolution**
Following concerns raised by the Education Select Committee in the last Parliament that the removal of children's services from local authority control is as yet unsupported by an evidence base, what has been the progress in areas where new models are being tested and what lessons can be learnt from their experiences? What should be the next steps for reforming failing services in local authority control; how might local authorities be better supported to undertake transformational change before services are transferred to independent trusts? What impact are the recent Metro Mayoral elections likely to have on devolution in children's services; how might greater autonomy for local authorities provide solutions to funding pressures facing local services? How can barriers to collaboration between local authorities in children's services, such as political differences, be overcome? In light of the development of Sustainability and Transformation Plans, what is the future of service integration in children's services and how might further integration be encouraged?
Paul Moffat, Chief Executive, Doncaster Children's Services Trust
Miranda Gittos, Head of Assessment and MASH, Westminster City Council
Lucy Butler, Director of Children's Services, Oxfordshire County Council
Maria Godfrey, Early Intervention Manager, Oxfordshire County Council
Abbie Rumbold, Partner and Head of Public Services & Mutuals and Health & Social Care, Bates Wells Braithwaite
Senior representative, local authority
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 - 12.55 **Policy priorities for children's services**
Senior speaker to be confirmed
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**
Rt Rev the Lord Bishop of Durham
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Director, Westminster Education Forum