



# Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel

## Minutes - 14 January 2015

### Attendance

#### Members of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel

Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre  
Cllr Paula Brookfield  
Cllr Peter O'Neill  
Cllr Christopher Haynes  
Cllr Martin Waite  
Cllr Daniel Warren  
Cllr Jasbinder Dehar  
Cllr Wendy Thompson (Vice-Chair, in the Chair)

#### Other Councillors present at the meeting

Cllr Greg Brackenridge  
Cllr Claire Darke  
Cllr Val Gibson

Hadeel A Ahmad  
Cyril Randles  
Portia Tsvangirai  
Mrs R Watkins  
Arnold Majecha

Parent Governor Representative  
Church of England – Diocese of Lichfield  
Parent Governor Representative  
Catholic Church Representative  
Wolverhampton Youth Council

#### Employees

Earl Piggott-Smith  
Emma Bennett  
Sarah Fellows  
Mai Gibbons  
Qadar Zadar

Scrutiny Officer  
Service Director - Children, Young People and Families  
Mental Health Commissioning Manager  
Senior Commissioning Officer  
Service Manager, Black Country Partnership Foundation Trust

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## Part 1 – items open to the press and public

*Item No.*    *Title*

- 1        **Apologies for absence**  
Apologies were received from the following
- Cllr Julie Hodgkiss  
Cllr Michael Heap  
Cllr Milkinder Jaspal

In the absence of the chair Cllr Julie Hodgkiss, Cllr Mrs Thompson chaired the meeting.

2 **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest received.

3 **Minutes of the previous meeting 4.11.14**

The minutes of meeting of 4 November 2014 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4 **Minutes of the previous meeting 12.11.14**

The minutes of meeting of 12 November 2014 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair, subject to the following changes

**Appendix 1 – Page 11 – Wolverhampton Youth Zone**

“Kashmire Hawker was disappointed at the further savings cuts aimed youth services and young people. Kashmire wanted reassurance that the impact of savings will be effectively monitored after they have been made”

**Ofsted Inspection Outcomes (April – October 2014) – Page 13**

“The panel commented about the concerns expressed from primary schools that they had not been properly supported by the school improvement team.”

5 **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 4 November 2014.

Cllr Michael Hardcare commented on the decision to place Deansfield School in special measures and the reference to the improvement action plan. Cllr Hardcare commented that the minutes should make clear that the local authority is not responsible for the implementation of the action plan.

Cllr Brookfield suggested that a report be presented to the panel meeting on 11.3.15 to provide an update on the school inspection report.

**Resolved**

Emma Bennett, Service Director, Children, Young People and Families, agreed to forward the concerns to the Director Education about the need to make clear that the responsibility for the implementing the action is for the school and the limited education role of the local authority in the process.

A report on school education inspection to be presented to panel meeting on 11.3.15

6 **Emotional and Psychological Well Being Services Strategy for Children and Young People 2013-2016**

Cllr Mrs Thompson welcomed the Chair of Health Scrutiny Panel and other members of the panel who had accepted an invitation to attend the meeting.

Sarah Fellows, Mental Health Commissioning Manager, Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group, Mai Gibbons, Senior Commissioning Manager, and Qadar Zada, Divisional Manager, Black Country Partnership Foundation Trust jointly presented a report. The presentation gave an update on progress of work being done or planned to assess and meet the mental health needs of young people in Wolverhampton.

The Mental Health Commissioning Manager briefly outlined the responsibilities of the different agencies working to develop and implement a new model for children mental health services. The Mental Health Commissioning Manager explained that fundamental changes in services were needed in how services were commissioned to meet the needs of young people.

Mai commented on the findings of a mental health needs analysis survey and the work being done to improve the support and deliver the right service at the right time and provide appropriate help to young people.

The Mental Health Commissioning Manager commented on the importance of providing a single point of access so that mental health professionals, parents and other agencies working with young people had clear information about the referral process.

The Mental Health Commissioning Manager commented on the concerns about the issue of young people accessing urgent care in cases involving self-harm. Young people in this situation are treated in accident and emergency by members of the crisis team. The Mental Health Commissioning Manager explained that extra funding has been provided to move young people to more appropriate care setting. In addition, there is a process to provide specialist care if needed.

The Mental Health Commissioning Manager explained the caseload had increased at Tier 4 levels and it was necessary to respond to this change in the number of young people needing specialist care. A new mental service will cover the age range 0-25 had been introduced to provide better care pathways for young people. A decision would be made by professionals about whether a young person was ready to be treated in an adult care setting or continue with the current care arrangements.

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The Mental Health Commissioning Manager explained that the lack of provision of Tier 4 beds was a national issue. Sarah explained that the work being done with authorities across the Birmingham and Black Country to provide better local provision

including the new Dept. Health funded pilot that Wolverhampton CCG is leading on across the Black Country.

The Mental Health Commissioning Manager explained that currently young people are referred to areas such as Sheffield was not suitable as it was difficult for family members to provide support needed and the travel costs involved. A revised model would aim to provide shorter stays in care at a closer location in the West Midlands region.

The Mental Health Commissioning Manager explained that care pathways at Tier 2 were an area of concern. A scoping paper is being drafted to look at giving additional support to schools. The information will explain to schools where they can refer young people, if there are concerns. The Mental Health Commissioning Manager explained that they had interest from the voluntary sector to provide support to young people at this level. GPs have raised the issue about provision at Tier 2 and the Mental Health Commissioning Manager is working with local authority colleagues to meet this need as CAMHS Tier 2 is commissioned by the Local Authority.

The Mental Health Commissioning Manager commented on the low numbers of young people from the BME community being referred to mental services when compared to the numbers represented at the adult mental health service. Sarah commented that work will be done next month to investigate the reasons for the low numbers of young people not seeking help.

The panel queried the progress of the adult mental health strategy and requested that a copy be made available. The panel queried the numbers of young people being supported at each of the tiers. Mai Gibbons, Senior Commissioning Manager gave a summary of the numbers and a profile of users. Mai explained that 22 young people were being treated at Tier 4.

The Senior Commissioning Manager commented that while there is a difference on the basis of gender, with more boys being referred at young ages, but this balance changes as more girls in the 14-16 age group are referred to CAMHS.

The Senior Commissioning Manager agreed to provide a breakdown of the referrals to the service. The Senior Commissioning Manager explained that work is being done to improve the quality of data about suicide attempts and self-harm as it can be difficult to get reliable information. The Senior Commissioning Manager explained that there were no suicides involving young people in the last 12 months.

Service Director Children, Young People and Families, commented on the planned changes to deal with long term vacancies and the extra resources provided by specialist social workers to support young people.

The panel expressed concern about the reliance of pump priming or non-recurring funding sources to deliver the mental health strategy and the link to waiting times. The panel requested to see information to better understand how well the service is meeting the demand.

The Mental Health Commissioning Manager commented on the challenge in delivering the HeadStart programme but was hopeful that Council would be

successful in its application for continued funding in the next round. Sarah commented the success of the peer mentor scheme and the delivery of mental resilience training. The pilots within schools are being delivered to the whole class to avoid stigmatising the issue of mental health and encouraging people to talk about the issue. The Mental Health Commissioning Manager explained that a focus of the service was make sure young people get the right help and support by asking the right questions.

The panel commented on whether a similar campaign to Wolverhampton's dementia friendly campaign should be done to promote discussion among young people about mental health issues, to avoid stigmatising and encourage more people to seek help.

The Mental Health Commissioning Manager commented on the work with schools and the use of websites to sign post people to sources of help. The Mental Health Commissioning Manager explained that the course was being delivered in a non-stigmatised way. At present ten schools were involved in the HeadStart programme. In addition the Mental Health Commissioning Manager explained that some of the pilot schemes will provide children with a 'place to go' i.e. resilience clubs and activities etc. as this was a clear need identified by adults and children as part of the consultation process prior to Stage Two bid submission.

The panel queried the future success of the programme due to the lack of guaranteed funding. The Mental Health Commissioning Manager expressed confidence in Wolverhampton getting further lottery funding based on the feedback received on the programme and the progress made. The Senior Commissioning Manager identified that the programme is working with key partners including the University of Wolverhampton to assess the impact of the training delivered in the schools that are involved. The Senior Commissioning Manager accepted that there is an issue of stigmatisation within schools and the 'resilience and self-efficacy training work done with young people aged 10 -14 years. The training is aimed at classes is aimed at individuals.

Kashmire commented on his experience of the HeadStart programme and its importance of young people getting the right help and support. Kashmire commented on the low numbers of young people getting help from CAMHS service. Kashmire suggested that it would be useful to compare the results for children from BME backgrounds to the actual numbers across the school age. The Senior Commissioning Manager commented on the change in the profile of people accessing the service, and they were now dealing with older children, and the service had to respond to this.

The Mental Health Commissioning Manager commented on the universal services provided in schools and the aim of the HeadStart programme to up skill young people. The Mental Health Commissioning Manager commented that while she cannot guarantee future funding from the lottery in round 3, but was confident of a positive response based on the progress to date. The Mental Health Commissioning Manager commented on the mental health issues concerning young unemployed and explained that there were discussions with Base 25 about providing support for young people, where issues relate to low level depression and anxiety.

The panel queried the work being done with schools to improve understanding of the issue. The Mental Health Commissioning Manager commented about the work being done to bring about a whole system change that will help to up skill more young people and encourage them to seek help.

The panel queried alternative funding options being considered that would enable the existing pilot projects to continue to be delivered. The Mental Health Commissioning Manager accepted that there was no guarantee but repeated her view that the programme had been well received by national lottery.

Qadar Zada, Divisional Manager, BCPFT, gave an overview of the current provision of support available to young people at the different levels. The Divisional Manager commented on the concern about the lack of local provision at level 4 and that as a result young people needing specialist provision were being placed in areas very far from family and friends. The Divisional Manager commented that as a result young people found it difficult to integrate back into their family after being away.

The Divisional Manager commented on the improvements to the clinical care pathways to improve treatment and support available to young people and to deliver a seamless service. The Divisional Manager commented positively on the work being done in Wolverhampton to improve the care and support available to young people and the model of working was something that other areas could follow.

The Divisional Manager commented on the work being planned over the next 12 months in 0-25 service across the west midlands. The panel commented on the concern about the transition from young people to adult services and welcomed the work to tackle this issue.

The panel thanked the witnesses for their contributions.

### **Resolved**

The panel requested that a draft schedule of the information requested is shared with members of the Health Scrutiny and Children and Young People Scrutiny. The panel will determine when they would like to receive information.

The panel accepted the following recommendations:

- to receive and updated progress report on work being done to scope and understand the underrepresentation of children and young people from black and minority ethnic groups in referrals to the CAMHS
- to receive a report from the Care Quality Commission on the findings of an inspection of mental health crisis care in Wolverhampton when available.

The meeting ended at 19:25