

Date:	20th November 2014
Classification:	General Release
Title:	Children & Young People Mental Health Task & Finish Group
Report of:	Tri-Borough Executive Director of Children's Services
Wards Involved:	All
Policy Context:	Health and Wellbeing
Financial Summary:	None
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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Children, Young People and Mental Health (CYPMH) Task and Finish Group's report presents a series of recommendations which aim to improve services for children and young people in the short to medium term. A summary of these recommendations is set out at the front of the full report attached at [Appendix A.](#)
- 1.2 The full report also frames the discussion for the Health and Wellbeing Board around the development of a new long-term vision for how children and young people access support for mental health illness across the borough.
- 1.3 Some key questions for the Health and Wellbeing Board to consider and discuss at the meeting are included in the Powerpoint presentation attached at [Appendix B.](#)
- 1.4 Healthwatch has also undertaken some qualitative research with service users to inform this work, summarised in the Powerpoint presentation attached at [Appendix C.](#)

- 1.5 Additionally, following criticism of children's mental health services at a national level Norman Lamb, Minister of State for Care and Support has established a CAMHS Taskforce which is scheduled to report in the spring of 2015. The taskforce has been asked to consider how children's mental health service can be 'overhauled' and improved. Any local initiatives therefore need to contain flexibility to accommodate national recommendations which will emerge in early 2015.

2. Key Matters for the Board's Consideration

- 2.1 To steer the development of a new vision, it is recommended that the Health and Wellbeing Board discuss the questions set out in the Powerpoint presentation at Appendix B.
- 2.2 It is also recommended that the Health and Wellbeing Board consider and endorse the immediate recommendations outlined in the full report attached in Appendix A.

3. Background

- 3.1 The CYPMH Task and Finish Group was commissioned by Westminster Health and Wellbeing December 2013 to consider how the Health and Wellbeing Boards could use their levers to improve outcomes for Children and Young People in relation to mental health and wellbeing.
- 3.2 This work was then extended across to Hammersmith and Fulham and Kensington and Chelsea on the advice of the Health and Wellbeing Boards in those boroughs.
- 3.3 The CYPMH Task and Finish Group were asked to focus its effort on three particular areas where it was agreed that more could be done to improve the outcomes for children and young people:
- i) Ensuring early intervention and prevention in relation to children and young peoples' mental health and wellbeing.
 - ii) Reducing the impact of parental mental health disorders on children and young people.
 - iii) The transition from children's to adult mental health services
- 3.4 The CYPMH Task and Finish Group has drawn on the expertise of professionals and clinicians from across the local health and care system including Children's Services, the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), schools and the experience of users of local Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) through the mental health charity, Rethink.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 N/A

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 The Task and Finish Group's report does not make specific recommendations for increases in funding. Children's mental health provision has however been described as the 'Cinderella of Cinderella services'. Children's mental health receives 6% of the national mental health budget.
- 5.2 In 'rethinking' the Westminster approach to children's mental health and emotional wellbeing, a business case may be required to either strengthen or re-align services and sources of support for families. Should this prove to be the case a separate report would be drafted and submitted to the appropriate local authority and/or clinical commissioning group committees.

If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact:

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APPENDICES:

- A: Full report of the Children, Young People and Mental Health Task and Finish Group
B: Presentation for the Westminster Health and Wellbeing Board
C: Presentation from Healthwatch research with service users.

BACKGROUND PAPERS: