

Overview of Responses and Recommendations

Budget Proposals 16/17: Primary Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (PCAMHS)		Cathy Burnham - Principal Educational Psychologist	19 January 2016 Version 2 (Exec)
Proposal:	To reduce the funding for this service.		
Total budget:	£80,000	Recommended officer saving 16/17:	£40,000 (50%)
Initial proposed saving:	£40,000 (50%)	Final recommendation to Executive 16/17:	To proceed with this savings proposal, without any modifications.
Nos of responses:	Eight comments were received, including, two from Parish Councils, one from the Berkshire Healthcare Trust and one from a school governor.		
Key issues raised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was some support for the change to a potentially better system that would reduce the very long waiting times. • There was support for an earlier intervention model. • The concerns were mainly about the level of specialist clinical support available in a new and unproven system and worries that the changes will affect the most vulnerable. • Funding should remain and be diverted into the new service 		
Equality issues:	Care should be taken to include those who have been waiting a long time under the old system. The most vulnerable will be most at risk		
Suggestions for reducing the impact on service users:	Suggestion	Council response	
	Maintain the current level of service	The level of support for children, young people, families and schools is likely to increase significantly and provide a quicker, earlier intervention.	
	Increase the service	The new system will have the potential to grow more trained emotional health workers	
	Add the current £80k to the development of the new service	This would be helpful but savings have to be made across a wide range of services	
	Increase the clinical support within the new system	NHS concerns about using non clinical staff have been addressed. The model will include 2 specific clinical posts to offer intensive support for the higher need young people, along with clinical supervision funded by CCGs. In addition, the recruitment	

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		process for the Emotional Health workers has revealed several highly trained and experienced individuals. Therefore the EH workers are likely to have a higher degree of training and knowledge than initially anticipated.	
Alternative options for applying the saving in this area:	Suggestion	Council response	
	None were received		
Suggestions for how others may help contribute:	Voluntary sector can play their part		
Officer conclusion as a result of the responses:	The concerns of the very small number of responses have been noted and can mostly be addressed. The £40k proposed budget cut should not be a barrier to making this systemic change.		
Officer recommendation as a result of responses:	Feedback has not uncovered any further issues which would prevent the council from proceeding with this proposal. It is therefore recommended to implement this proposal with no changes.		

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