

Title of Report: **Children's Delivery Group Update**

Report to be considered by: Health and Wellbeing Board

Date of Meeting: 7th July 16

Purpose of Report:

- 1) To provide the Health and Well-Being Board with an update on the establishment and strategic focus of the Children's Delivery Group.
- 2) To seek the Health & Well-Being Board's review of the learning from recent safeguarding analysis activity (led by West Berkshire Local Safeguarding Children Board [LSCB]) and to seek the H&WBB's prioritisation of commissioning investment in response to this learning.

Recommended Action:

- A) West Berkshire Health & Well-Being Board (H&WBB) is asked to actively promote the Targeted Prevention vision for children, young people and families in West Berkshire and ensure that this vision informs the wider strategic priorities of the H&WBB (see Appendix 4).
- B) West Berkshire Health and Well Being Board is asked to consider the strategic challenge posed by West Berkshire LSCB regarding the identified gaps in service for children and young people awaiting ASD and ADHD diagnosis, and the adverse impact on these children and young people's life outcomes. The H&WBB is asked to consider the outcome of the Berkshire West Children's Commissioning Group ASD Appreciative Inquiry event on 23rd June and ensure that the children's workforce enact a more proactive response to the needs of these children.
- C) West Berkshire Health and Well Being Board is asked to note that the Future In Mind Local Transformation Plan includes a number of initiatives to improve the care pathway for children with ASD and ADHD that have been implemented since the period of the exclusions audit. Initiatives include providing additional capacity in the BHFT ASD and ADHD teams; commissioning the voluntary sector to provide additional support for families whose children are in the pre and post assessment phases and support through the Emotional Health Academy. There is a need to evaluate these initiatives and

to ensure that consistent evidence based approaches in the management of these children are adopted across the system (voluntary sector, Health Visiting, education, social care, Youth Offending Teams).

D) The Future In Mind Local Transformation Plan is due to be refreshed over the next few months. The Future In Mind Local Transformation Plans form part of the wider Sustainability and Transformation Plan.

Reason for decision to be taken:

The identified gap in service for children and young people awaiting ASD and ADHD diagnosis and the lack of consistent proactive local service provision is detrimentally impacting outcomes for West Berkshire's children. In addition, this gap in service is impacting on children's social, health and educational achievement and wider outcomes.

Other options considered:

The Appreciate Inquiry event is designed to enable an exploration of options and assets available across the local system.

Key background documentation:

See the associated Appendices linked to this report.

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Implications

Policy: Yes – the learning from this report should inform the strategic priorities and planning for the Health & Well-Being Board

Financial: Yes –the findings from this report should directly inform the prioritisation of financial resources for ASD and ADHD commissioning.

Personnel: No

Legal/Procurement: No

Property: No

Risk Management: The Health & Well-Being Board is asked to specifically note the risks associated with the unmet needs of children and young people with ASD and ADHD; including the long-term impact on their life chances.

Is this item relevant to equality?	Please tick relevant boxes	Yes	No
Does the policy affect service users, employees or the wider community and:			
• Is it likely to affect people with particular protected characteristics differently?		X	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Is it a major policy, significantly affecting how functions are delivered?		<input type="checkbox"/>	X
• Will the policy have a significant impact on how other organisations operate in terms of equality?		<input type="checkbox"/>	X
• Does the policy relate to functions that engagement has identified as being important to people with particular protected characteristics?		X	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Does the policy relate to an area with known inequalities?		X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outcome (Where one or more 'Yes' boxes are ticked, the item is relevant to equality)			
Relevant to equality - Complete an EIA available at www.westberks.gov.uk/eia			X
Not relevant to equality			<input type="checkbox"/>

Executive Summary

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report summarises the Terms of Reference (Appendix 1), the strategic priorities and workplan for the Children's Delivery Group (Appendix 2). It is essential that the wider priorities of the Health & Well-Being Board are effectively informed by and reflect the needs of children, young people and families within West Berkshire.
- 1.2 The Children's Delivery Group has been reassured by the effective multi-professional outreach emerging from the Building Community Together community conversations, which has significantly increased the ability of partnership services (i.e. Job Centre Plus, Sovereign Housing, WBC Family support services, Health Visiting, Emotional Health Academy, etc) to reach vulnerable children and families. This model is now being extended, with oversight from the Children's Delivery Group.
- 1.3 West Berkshire H&WBB is asked to note that following the establishment of the inter-agency Emotional Health Triage functions and the Emotional Health Academy (EHA), the number of children and young people waiting for Tier 2 Emotional Health support has reduced from 120 children in August 2015 to 0 children in April 16.
- 1.4 Each child continues to be individually monitored every six weeks and the early impact on improving outcomes associated with EHA support is very encouraging.
- 1.5 This report also highlights the recent learning from West Berkshire Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) analysis of our local children and young people excluded from school; and the significant number of children and young people within this cohort who were waiting for ASD or ADHD diagnosis. This analysis invited contributions from Reading LSCB partners too and is currently being considered by Reading LSCB. Please see Appendix 3 for further information.
- 1.6 Referrals into BHFT CAMHs have continued to rise year on year. Additional BHFT staff are now in post on the ASD and ADHD care pathways. The number of children and young people on the ASD and ADHD waiting lists reduced between the end of Quarter 3 and the end of Quarter 4. However the ASD diagnosis waiting list still accounts for 74% of the children waiting over 12 weeks to be seen. BHFT anticipates reaching a maximum waiting time of 12 weeks for ASD by October 2017. By way of comparison, nationally waits of 42 months are reported. Children waiting for ASD and ADHD assessment are offered CAMHs treatment for comorbidities such as anxiety when this is identified at CPE. Access to Speech and language therapy and occupational therapy advice is available and may be provided as part of the child's Education Health and Care Plan. Treatment for comorbidities is not contingent on ASD or ADHD diagnosis.
- 1.7 Staff on the BHFT ASD pathway have worked with Autism Berkshire and Parenting Special Children to develop workshops for families waiting for an ASD assessment. These workshops were piloted in 2015 and have been offered to all families waiting for an ASD assessment. These workshops will continue through 16/17, funded by Future In Mind investment and delivered at venues across Berkshire West. Autism Berkshire have also been commissioned to provide additional support for families whose teenager has ASD as this can be a particularly challenging period of time. Autism Berkshire are also commissioned to provide telephone helpline.

- 1.8 BHFT are about to launch additional telephone and online support for families who are awaiting ASD diagnosis.
- 1.9 Families and staff report that clinical advice on the management of ADHD and ASD is not consistently implemented in education settings and this can adversely impact upon outcomes.

2. Proposals

- 2.1 That West Berkshire Health & Well-Being Board partners better coordinate local professional advice and support for children with characteristics of ASD and ADHD to enable schools and families to manage these behaviours more effectively and improve outcomes for children and young people.

3. Equalities Impact Assessment Outcomes

- 3.1 Any decision to commission additional resources to respond to the needs of children and young people exhibiting ASD or ADHD related behaviours will improve the availability of support to vulnerable children and families. It will have direct applicability to improving outcomes for children who are vulnerable living in socially and economically disadvantaged households.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 In conclusion, the Children's Delivery Group recommends that the Health & Well-Being Board gives careful consideration to the identified risks associated with the unmet needs of children with types of presenting behaviour associated with ASD and ADHD (irrespective of whether they have a diagnosis). In particular, the Children's Delivery group requests that consideration of the risks associated with these children's educational engagement is fully considered.
- 4.2 The Children's Delivery Group would also welcome clarity on the regularity of reports to the Health & Well-Being Board

Executive Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Children's Delivery Group is a new sub-group of the Health and Well-Being Board, established in November 2015. It is focussed on achieving the following priorities for West Berkshire H&WBB (please see Appendix 2 for more detail):

We will promote emotional wellbeing in children and young people, through prevention, early identification and provision of appropriate services.

We will improve the health and educational outcomes of looked after children through prevention and the provision of high quality health and social care support and services.

We will improve the educational achievement of children on free school meals to bring them into line with the overall achievement of all children

The H&WBB is asked to note the following updates:

1.1i The delay in meeting the emotional health needs of West Berkshire children and young people is a significant strategic risk in West Berkshire (see previous report to H&WBB on 26 November 15 regarding Local Transformation Plans for child mental health).

The Children's Delivery Group is pleased to report that following the establishment of the inter-agency Emotional Health Triage functions and the Emotional Health Academy (EHA), the number of children and young people waiting for Tier 2 Emotional Health support has reduced from 120 children in August 2015 to 0 children in April 16. This is a significant achievement. Each child continues to be individually monitored every six weeks and the impact on improving outcomes associated with EHA support is very encouraging.

1.1ii The Children's Delivery Group is pleased to note that following financial support from the School Improvement service a new 0.5 Clinical postholder for the Emotional Health Academy, has been appointed to provide targeted emotional health support to Looked After Children.

1.1iii The Children's Delivery Group shares the concern of West Berkshire LSCB about the impact of the gaps in service associated with children on the diagnosis pathways for ADHD and ASD and the significant wait-times associated with these pathways. The Children's Delivery Group recognises that a number of child and family centred initiatives have started over recent months and that outcomes will be monitored over time. The recent LSCB analysis of local children excluded from school (see Appendix 3) highlights that children exhibiting behaviours associated with ASD or ADHD are disproportionately represented in the numbers of children excluded. This has a direct impact on the educational achievement of our more vulnerable children and is directly relevant to our work to 'close the attainment gap.'

There is a need to improve support services for these children and young people in school in order to reduce exclusions.

- 1.1 iv The recent H&WBB CAMHS Hot Topic session provided an opportunity for attendees to hear from CCG Commissioners, BHFT and West Berkshire's EHA about the current provision. Berkshire West Children's Commissioning Group held an extraordinary Autistic Spectrum Disorder Appreciative Inquiry event on 23 June 16. The event set out to 'understand the current challenges and to shape a better future for our children and young people.' Outputs of the event are currently being drawn together but emerging themes suggest that there is inconsistency of practice across organisations and that while a lot is being done in families there is a consensus view that not enough is being done in educational settings to ensure adjustment for those with autistic behaviours (with or without diagnosis).
- 1.1 v The Children's Delivery Group and LSCB recommend that the outcomes of the 23rd June 16 ASD Appreciate Inquiry event are reviewed by West Berkshire H&WBB and directly inform the commissioning and coordination of resources. West Berkshire H&WBB is likely to wish to review the sufficiency of local resourcing, once decisions about any collective Berkshire West resourcing have been reached.

1.2 The Children's Delivery Group also fulfils many of the functions previously associated with Children's Trust arrangements. In the first 12 months of operation the Children's Delivery Group will fulfil these strategic functions:

- 1.2i The co-design of **one shared partnership vision for Targeted Prevention services** (i.e. to provide strategic coherence in a time of staffing and resource reductions across early help and targeted prevention services). This is complete and attached in Appendix 4.

Following analysis of recent learning from children's services partners strategic analysis and audit work, it is proposed that Targeted Prevention activity and commissioning across the partnership needs to focus on and prioritise in order these top eight risks in West Berkshire, to reduce the likelihood of escalating need associated with these indicators of risk:

- Reducing the likelihood of exclusion from school
- Intervening early with domestic abuse or conflict
- Intervening early with emerging emotional health needs
- Intervening early with substance misuse
- Reducing the likelihood of a young person becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) or of unemployment in adulthood
- Intervening early with disrupted parent and child attachment
- Reducing the risk of Child Sexual Exploitation
- Responding quickly and effectively if a child goes missing.

These risk factors should directly inform the re-design and commissioning of Targeted Prevention services in West Berkshire.

- 1.2ii To **review, scrutinise and challenge, and wherever possible align, proposals for partnership re-design of Targeted Prevention services or the re-tendering/commissioning of these services.** This is designed to ensure strategic congruence and minimise the potential for gaps in services. Recent examples of review include Children's Delivery Group review of the re-design of Family Health & Well-Being Hubs (previously known as Children's Centres) and the newly re-designed and integrated Family Resource Service, Integrated Youth Support Service and Help for Families functions (i.e. at 24th May 16 meeting). This is ongoing.
- 1.2iii To develop a **consistent multi-professional understanding of the levels of need of our children and families** and to **co-design an early help assessment tool** to enable a more effective and consistent approach to assessing the needs, risks and strengths of children and families; to improve the effectiveness of assessment and planning across the workforce. This tool has been co-design and is currently being piloted by a range of services, including schools and voluntary sector partners, to ensure its effectiveness before it is rolled out. This is ongoing.
- 1.2iv In the context of the implementation of MASH (Children's Social Care, Thames Valley Police and Health function), **to ensure that referrers and enquirers are clear where to go to ask for help or advice regarding concerns about a child or family.** This is underway.
- 1.2v To **design a shared children's workforce strategy** that will enable common skills and development pathways for the children's workforce. This will start in the Autumn 2016.

The Children's Delivery Group will lead and implement a number of multi-professional lunchtime seminars to ensure that staff and volunteers have a consistent understanding of levels of need, the Targeted Prevention vision and priority risk factors; and new changes to the Targeted Prevention multi-professional services.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Terms of Reference of the Children's Delivery Group
- Appendix 2 - Strategic Priorities of the Children's Delivery Group
- Appendix 3 – West Berkshire LSCB analysis of exclusions from school
- Appendix 4 – Vision for multi-professional children's services Targeted Prevention

Consultees

- Local Stakeholders:** Thames Valley Police, Berkshire West Clinical Commissioning Group Federation, Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust, West Berkshire Communities Directorate, Public Health, Children & Young People's voluntary Sector Forum representatives
- Officers Consulted:** Senior Leaders in all of these agencies have been consulted.
- Trade Union:** N/A