

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 19 DECEMBER 2023

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (CAMHS) – UPDATE ON SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

1. The Board has requested an update on the progress made following the recommendations agreed by Cabinet in March 2023 in respect of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Scrutiny Report.
2. The CMR for Health and Wellbeing, the Director of Public Health, the Director of Childrens Services/Chief Executive, Worcestershire Children First (WCF), and representatives from the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board (ICB) have been invited to the meeting.

Background

3. In December 2019, the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) agreed to set up a Scrutiny Task Group *to investigate access to and the availability of appropriate mental health services for children and adolescents*.
4. Unfortunately, this work was interrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic and was restarted in December 2021.
5. The OSPB considered the Task Group's Scrutiny report on 27 February 2023 (attached at Appendix 1) and fully endorsed the recommendations and requested that an update be provided in 6 months' time.

Consideration by the Council's Cabinet and the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board

6. Given the cross-cutting nature of the subject matter and the collaborative way in which services are delivered, the responses to the Scrutiny Report of both the CMR for Health and Wellbeing and the ICB (attached at Appendix 2) were considered by Cabinet on 30 March 2023.
7. It was resolved that Cabinet:
 - (a) received the Scrutiny Report about Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, together with the responses from the Cabinet Members with Responsibility and the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board; and
 - (b) noted the Scrutiny Report's findings and recommendations and adopted the response of the Cabinet Members with Responsibility as the way forward.
8. At this meeting it was noted that the CMR for Health and Wellbeing felt that Children's mental health was of the highest priority and confirmed it would be

considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Children and Young Peoples' Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) to ensure a system wide collaborative approach would be taken. Discussion was also needed with strategic professionals.

Health and Wellbeing Board

9. On 23 May 2023, it was resolved that the Health and Wellbeing Board:
 - a) Received the Scrutiny Report about Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services; and
 - b) Agreed that the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, as a sub-group of the Health and Wellbeing Board, consider the report and responses of the Cabinet Member with Responsibility and Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board to ensure a system wide collaborative approach be taken.

CAMHS Action Plan

10. In May 2023, the CYPSP, as the subgroup of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) considered the recommendations of the Scrutiny Report agreed by Cabinet to ensure a system wide and collaborative response and identify a draft action plan. The Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Partnership Group (EWMH), a subgroup of the CYPSP and advisory group to the wider all age Mental Health Collaborative was tasked to further develop and finalise the action plan.
11. The EWMH group worked through the recommendations and identified the activities and solutions to be summarised into four key overarching actions. The updated CAMHS Action Plan was considered by the CYPSP in October 2023 and a revised final Action Plan was developed (attached at Appendix 3).

Mental Health Collaborative

12. In addition to the development of the CAMHS Action Plan, the Mental Health Collaborative has also continued to develop services to children and young people (CYP) with emotional health and wellbeing (EHWB) and mental health (MH) needs. The Mental Health Collaborative is a multi-agency partnership and had a dedicated meeting in October on the development of services CYP with EHWB and MH needs. The following points are the progress at Quarter 2 of 2023/24 of the activity of this subgroup and are interrelated with the development of CAMHS.
 - A. The CYP MH Transformation Plan for Worcestershire is now published and is attached at Appendix 4. The Delivery Plan was refreshed in September 2023.
 - B. The Worcestershire Urgent Care Pathway Protocol will be refreshed to include interface between agencies, pathways and escalation processes. The CAMHS clinical service operates 9am-5pm in Worcestershire with a CAMHS crisis home treatment service in place until 8pm, 7 days per week and a 24/7 crisis support service in place.
 - C. The 16-24 working group including CAMHS, Adult Mental Health Services (AMHS), Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE), Public Health,

Social Care, Education and Primary Care Network (PCN) continues to meet to establish clarity on access to services for young people and the robust transition arrangement for young people who continue to require mental health services. Transition Workers and qualified Youth Workers are in post working with a number of young people who require ongoing interventions in adulthood. Proposals will be presented to Collaborative forums to determine a future model.

- D. Wellbeing and Emotional support teams (WEST) continue to develop according to national programme. The next wave will include provision to colleges. Recruitment is underway for the new waves.
- E. Collaborative work continues with VCSE partners who deliver interventions in a number of schools where WEST is not available to provide some equity. VCSE partners deliver a range of interventions for school, colleges, CYP and families from a number of bases. A review of Targeted Services is underway to determine the roadmap and model.
- F. Collaborative Working with Education and Childrens Services to develop Guidance for Emotionally based school avoidance (EBSA).
- G. Collaborative working with Education, Inclusion and Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care Trust (HWHACT) to map access from an Education setting to interventions and services across Universal, Targeted and Specialist. Work to begin on reviewing, mapping and identifying gaps for Targeted interventions.
- H. Collaborative working in Worcestershire to meet the recommendations of the Cabinet and ICB in respect of the CAMHS Scrutiny Report.
- I. Link with VCSE partners and other agencies to review offer, gaps, demand, opportunities for CYP and families.
- J. The review and mapping of services and pathways for Neurodevelopmental assessments and post diagnostic support continues to determine future model.
- K. Revised CAMHS action plan November 2023, action to be incorporated into action of this subgroup and supporting subgroups of the CYPSP

Purpose of the Meeting

13. The Panel is asked to:

- Consider and comment on the progress of the wider Mental Health Collaborative partnership group and the revised CAMHS Action Plan
- Determine what further information or scrutiny is required; and
- Agree any comments to highlight to the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Wellbeing and the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 - [Scrutiny Report - Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services](#)

Appendix 2 – [Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Wellbeing Response and Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board Response](#)

Appendix 3 – CAMHS Action Plan (revised November 2023)

Appendix 4 – [Children and Young People Mental Health Transformation Plan for Worcestershire](#)

Contact Points

Tina Russell, Director of Childrens Services/Chief Executive, Worcestershire Children First, Email: trussell@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

Sonia Upton Associate Director for Children Young People & Families & Specialist Primary Care, Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust
Email: sonja.upton@nhs.net

Sue Harris, Director of Strategy and Partnerships, Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust, Email: susan.harris2@nhs.net

Samantha Morris, Interim Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager Tel: 01905 844963, Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

[Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on Monday, 27th February, 2023, 10.00 am - Worcestershire County Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

[Agenda for Cabinet on Thursday, 30th March, 2023, 10.00 am - Worcestershire County Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

[Agenda for Health and Wellbeing Board on Tuesday, 23rd May, 2023, 2.00 pm - Worcestershire County Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

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