

Report from the Community Mental Health &
Care of Young People Task Group

**Cover Report for Draft Final Report - Community Mental Health &
Care of Young People Scrutiny Review**

Summary

1. This report presents Members with the final report (**Appendix 1**) from the Community Mental Health and Care of Young People Scrutiny Review.

Background

2. At a meeting in July 2012, the Lead Clinician from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), the Service Manager for the Youth Offending Team and the Assistant Director for Children's Specialist Services at City of York Council presented the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) with an introductory briefing on Community Mental Health Services in Care of Adolescents (particularly boys). The Committee agreed to proceed with a review and set up a Task Group to carry out the work based on the following aim and objectives.

Aim

3. To raise awareness of emotional and mental health issues for young people, and the services and interventions available, with a view to ensuring that the wider children's workforce are well informed and equipped to identify and respond to children and young people with emotional problems and/or emerging mental health issues.

Key Objectives

4.
 - i. To identify current levels of understanding and awareness of the importance of recognising early symptoms of emotional and mental health problems in young people
 - ii. To look at ways of disseminating learning from effective targeted emotional and mental health support in schools – with particular reference to the successful TaMHS (Targeted Mental Health in Schools) arrangements.
 - iii. To look at ways to further improve multi-agency working in relation to supporting the emotional and mental health needs of children and young people in the city. In particular, to consider how the developing Child and Adolescent Mental Health Strategy Action Plan 2013-16 (CAMHS) will support this objective.

Consultation

5. To help with the review a series of consultation meetings were held with Officers across the Council; the Lead Clinician for the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Strategy 2013-16; CYC Youth Offending Team Service Manager; Head Teachers and Pastoral Care Leads; School Nurses and a member of York Youth Council.

Draft Recommendations Arising from the Review

6. Based on the information and evidence gathered throughout the review and the overarching themes and summary conclusions which had emerged, the Task Group made the following recommendations:
 - (i) That secondary schools in the area be requested and strongly encouraged to introduce the Mental Health School Charter, setting out what strategies, resources and support systems were in place to help pupils, carers and support staff identify and cope with emerging emotional or mental health issues;
 - (ii) Whilst fully endorsing the YorOK Child & Adolescent Mental Health Draft Strategy 2013-16 and its vision and aims, the Assistant Director for Children's Specialist Services provide a final draft of the Strategy Action Plan to the Board in Autumn

2013, taking account of the overall recommendations and findings from this review and drawing out the issues surrounding stigmatisation and equalities, as well as signposting where there is evidence of serious mental health problems ;

- (iii) That all providers of the Emotional Literacy Support Assistants Programme (ELSA) be actively encouraged to support the Conference being organised in the Spring Term for 2014, in line with the TaMHS (Targeted Mental Health in Schools) Project, to promote and deliver a preventative strategy for addressing mental health needs in schools; and
- (iv) That
 - (a) the potential benefits in the widespread adoption of the Mental Health Toolkit throughout York secondary schools be openly recognised and supported, to help schools respond to children and young people's emotional and mental health needs.
 - (b) whilst acknowledging the financial costs involved for schools in reproducing the Toolkit, all secondary schools in York be actively encouraged to adopt it and officers explore ways to support those schools in doing this.

Analysis

- 7. The draft final report attached contains a full analysis of the information gathered in support of the review.

Options

- 8. Members can choose to endorse all the recommendations in the Task Group's report for submission to Cabinet, or to adopt some and amend others. Members of this Committee can also chose to suggest further new recommendations. However, it should be noted that the potential implications and risks associated with any changes to recommendations at this stage would need to be identified, prior to the final report from scrutiny being submitted to Cabinet.

Council Plan

9. This review is directly linked to the Protect Vulnerable People element of the Council Plan 2011-2015

Implications

10. The implications associated with the recommendations arising from the review are set out in Paragraph 88 of **Appendix 1**.

Recommendations

11. Taking into consideration all of the information contained within the attached draft final report and its annexes, the Committee is recommended to:
 - i. Approve the recommendations
 - ii. Consider whether any further recommendations are required (if this is the case any associated implications and risks would need to be identified)

Reason: In order to conclude their work on this review in line with Scrutiny procedures and protocols.

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**Report
Approved**



Date 15 Oct 2013

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Appendix 1: Draft Final Report