

North Somerset Council

REPORT TO THE HEALTH AND OVERVIEW SCRUTINY PANEL

DATE OF MEETING: 22nd January 2018

SUBJECT OF REPORT: Children and Young People's Transformation Programme

TOWN OR PARISH: BOTH

OFFICER/MEMBER PRESENTING: Eileen Jacques, Chief Officer, Healthwatch North Somerset

KEY DECISION: NO

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to note the content of this report and consider the role of HOSP in overseeing the Children and Young People's Transformation Programme.

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide HOSP with an update on Healthwatch North Somerset concerns about the difficulties implementing the Children and Young People's Transformation Programme.

2. POLICY

The government's Children and Young People's Mental Health Taskforce report Future in Mind (2015), set out the national ambition for the improvement of children's mental health services to be led by local areas, with local leadership and accountability. Clinical Commissioning Groups were tasked with developing Local Transformation Plans for Children and Young People's Mental Health (LTPs) to ensure that the objectives of Future in Mind are met.

North Somerset established its own Future in Mind: Children's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Partnership to develop the North Somerset Local Transformation Plan which is refreshed annually and signed off by the People and Communities Board to ensure strategic oversight and integration with existing local priorities. Mental health is identified as one of the key priorities in the North Somerset's People and Communities Strategy 2017-2020.

The government allocated additional funding on the understanding that the additional funding was used to improve children's mental health provision to meet the priorities described in Future in Mind (2015). This funding is awarded following scrutiny by NHS England of the refreshed Local Transformation Plan; it is not ring-fenced and is distributed via local CCGs.

North Somerset CCG has refreshed its Local Transformation Plan and we understand it has been accepted in principle by NHS England subject to a commitment to fund the Plan by North Somerset CCG.

We understand that to date, of the additional funding of £537,000 for 2017/2018, North Somerset CCG has invested only £154,500 to date.

It is recognised and acknowledged that there are considerable financial constraints under which the North Somerset CCG is operating.

3. DETAILS

Healthwatch North Somerset has a place on The North Somerset Future in Mind Group which is Chaired by Mark Hemmings, Transformation Programme Lead (Maternity, Children & Young People's Services), North Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group.

The Future in Mind Group raised concerns about the lack of commitment by North Somerset CCG to fund the Children and Young People's Transformation Plan which had been agreed by NHS England subject to a commitment by North Somerset CCG for funding.

In the North Somerset JSNA: Children and Young People: Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health, 22 September 2016, the author Kate Wilcox, Strategy & Policy Development Officer noted (page 46)

In 2015/16 only £143m of the proposed £250m funding was allocated but the government has reiterated that the total amount over the next five years will still reach £1.25bn. This funding has not been ring-fenced and from 2016/17 it has been part of the CCG's baseline allocation. This means it will compete with other CCG priorities.

We know that CAMHS services in North Somerset are stretched and the access point is increasingly high. Healthwatch North Somerset has held two public meetings in the past to gain insight in public experiences on the issue and there appears to have been little improvement in ease of access for children and young people. The Future in Mind Fund was provided specifically to ease these pressures.

The Future in Mind Group concerns led them to compose a letter to Cllr Ashton and the concerns were brought to the attention of Healthwatch North Somerset.

To seek clarity regarding a commitment to fund the Transformation Plan and for further information, Healthwatch North Somerset wrote to North Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group asking as per its statutory function for a formal 20 day response to the Healthwatch North Somerset request.

The 20 day response time has elapsed and no response from North Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group has been forthcoming. Healthwatch North Somerset intends forwarding its concerns to Healthwatch England to raise with NHS England following the Escalation Procedure. In order to do this the procedure states that the issue must be taken to the local Health Overview and Scrutiny panel for consideration.

4. CONSULTATION

Not applicable

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Not applicable

7. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

8. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

9. OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not applicable

AUTHOR

Eileen Jacques, Chief Officer, Healthwatch North Somerset

BACKGROUND PAPERS

DoH Future in Mind: Promoting, protecting and improving our children and young people's mental health and wellbeing

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/.../Childrens_Mental_Health.pdf

North Somerset JSNA <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/wp.../09/emotional-wellbeing-and-mental-health.pdf>

Transformation Plan: Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing 2016-2018 <https://www.northsomersetccg.nhs.uk/library/children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellb/>