



Derby City Council

Corporate Parenting Committee
29 November 2016

ITEM 8

Report of the Strategic Director of People Services

Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service for Looked After Children – Update Report

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The therapeutic needs for Looked After Children (LAC) are really important to the Council and Southern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group (SDCCG) who plan many children's health services. It is understood that getting the right care and support at the right time for children in care (CIC) including those who have been adopted, can help a young person's placement to be more stable, and permanent, with much better outcomes. CCGs must work closely with the Council to make sure health services for all children and young people are good quality. In Derby City the Council and SDCCG have worked together to fund a service which will also give support for young people who have been sexually abused and those who display Harmful Sexual Behaviours, which will safeguard young people from harm.
- 1.2 The main aim of this service is to bring two existing services together so they can help more young people.
- 1.3 The Children in Care Council in January and September 2016 said it is not always clear what existing services there are and how they can be accessed; they felt that many LAC experience mental health problems which are not suitable for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and so often they are not supported with these needs. They asked that a new name is given to the service which does not label young people who go there.
- 1.4 The services which have been brought together are a small Derby City Council Social Work team, and Derby Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust (DTHFT) Clinical Psychology Department (funded by SDCCG).
- 1.5 It was agreed that the service should be managed by SDCCG and would be a pilot to see how it works for 18 months, with DTHFT as the lead organisation to deliver the service.
- 1.6 The service will develop and learn over time what works well, so that a longer term solution can be the best possible one. The new service will offer support within 20 miles of Derby City.
- 1.7 More money has been given to the service by SDCCG from a pot of money called 'Future in Mind' which is meant to help young people with any mental health related support needs. The Council also makes a small contribution to buy in extra help for young people so that the Council does not need to buy in as many services from other companies.
- 1.8 The service started on 1 October 2016 and the new referral and service information has been given to all Children's Social Workers. A launch of the new service is also planned, to include the Cabinet Member for Safeguarding and Children and Young People who supports the service.
- 1.9 Help will be given to Derby City children and young people who are aged 0-18 and are in

care, adopted, who have been sexually abused or are showing harmful sexual behaviours themselves. The team will also help staff in Derby City Children's Homes, Foster and Adoptive Carers and Social Workers to make sure the best possible help is given while the young person is in their foster or children's home.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note the contents of this report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 This is one of a number of pilot projects being set up as part of the 'Future in Mind' programme. This service will run from 1 October 2016 to 31 March 2018, during which time the service would be monitored and a longer term solution will be looked into.
- 3.2 This service brings together skills and resources from health and social care into one service, to achieve better outcomes and more efficient service delivery.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 Stop funding the services – this was not agreed as the service offers support which is essential by law including court directed assessment and therapeutic work, it also provides a vital safeguarding service and critical specialist advice and support to professionals and carers which helps to maintain placements.
- 5.2 Keep current services as they are. This was not recommended as previous services were separate and did not see enough young people to meet the need.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Estates/Property officer Service Director(s) Other(s)	Emily Feenan, Paul McMahon Alison Parkin Linda Noble John Sadler Frank McGhee, Suanne Lim, Maureen Darbon Sally Penrose, Linda Spiby, Sheila McFarlane (SDCCG)
For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Lisa Melrose 01332 642569 lisa.melrose@derby.gov.uk Alice Sanghera 01332 642573 alice.sanghera@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 Support for LAC and adopted children placed in Derby City by other Local Authorities would be able to get help too, and responsible commissioner guidance in respect to charging would be followed. In addition, Adoption Support Funding could be used to purchase support. Therefore there are opportunities for income generation.

Legal

- 2.1 TUPE/Employee issues: It is not proposed that any staff will transfer employment from the Council during the pilot; Council staff will work under the supervision of the Lead Provider under a secondment arrangement between DTHFT and the Council. Legal Services have advised that the Council must be clear with staff at the outset as to what their status will be, and (if retention is important) will ensure it retains sufficient control over staff to oust an implied transfer. If the Council makes errors in this process, the Council may be liable for protective awards (13 weeks' pay) for each transferring staff.
- 2.2 The service will continue to be delivered from Leopold Street which is a Council building.
- 2.3 It should be noted that the Council is not a contracting party for the purposes of this exercise; SDCCG is the lead and will enter into the contract for the pilot period. SDCCG has taken legal advice in respect of the proof of concept process and is happy that it meets all necessary procurement requirements; the Council does not bear any risk in respect of this process as it is not a contracting party but simply grant funding SDCCG.

Personnel

- 3.1 DCC employees will be seconded to the NHS for the duration of the proof of concept. There are currently no proposals to change any terms and conditions of employment.

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 None identified

Health and Safety

- 5.1 None identified.

Environmental Sustainability

- 6.1 None identified.

Property and Asset Management

- 7.1 The costs of rent and occupancy (heating, lighting, business rates, cleaning, maintenance and repairs) are to be borne by DCC. Longer term arrangements beyond 18 months in respect of this proposal will be subject to Corporate Property Board approval.

Risk Management

- 8.1 Covered in 2.5.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 9.1 Derby City Council plan: Safeguard vulnerable children and adults from harm.

Children in Care Pledge: We will help you to access all the services you need to keep you healthy and safe.

- 9.2 'Protecting children from harm: A critical assessment of child sexual abuse in the family network in England and priorities for action' – November 2015

*"In July 2014, the **Children's Commissioner** launched an Inquiry into child sexual abuse in the family environment. This is a critical analysis of the scale and nature of this form of child sexual abuse. Based on data examined by the Commissioner, it is likely that only 1 in 8 victims of sexual abuse come to the attention of the police and children's services. Up to two thirds of all sexual abuse happens in and around the family. Our evidence shows that children are sexually abused from a very young age, but most victims do not come to the attention of the police or children's services until they reach adolescence.*

Recommendation 8: The Commissioner recommends that, from the moment of initial disclosure, children receive a holistic package of support, tailored to their needs, including therapeutic support to help them recover from their experiences.

Recommendation 11: The Commissioner also recommends that children and young people with harmful sexual behaviour receive proportionate and timely intervention to reduce the risk of this behaviour continuing into adulthood".

- 9.3 **NSPCC** paper 'Achieving emotional wellbeing for looked after children - A whole system approach' June 2015, describes the need to embed an emphasis on emotional wellbeing throughout the system including joint commissioning and developing the workforce. The high rate of behavioural disorders among Looked After Children is significant, and a particular cause for concern as research suggests that children with disruptive and hyperactive behaviours are at particularly high risk of placement breakdown, as their carers can struggle to cope

- 9.4 'Promoting the health and well-being of looked-after children', **Department of Health and Department for Education** Statutory guidance for local authorities, clinical commissioning groups and NHS England (March 2015) reinforces the corporate parenting responsibilities of local authorities which include a duty under section 22(3)(a) of the Children Act 1989 to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children they look after, including eligible children and those placed for adoption, regardless of whether they are placed in or out of authority or the type of placement. This includes the promotion of the child's physical, emotional and mental health and acting on any early signs of health issues. The guidance states that foster carers and residential care staff should work to promote a child's health and well-being. Carers should be given information about the child's health needs as they have day-to-day responsibility for making sure those needs are met.

- 9.5 Future in Mind is a new CCG funding allocation aimed at improving the emotional health and well-being of children and young people. The shared vision for Derby and Derbyshire developed by Local Authorities and CCG's is that, by 2020: 'Children and young people are able to achieve positive emotional health by having access to high quality, local provision, appropriate to their need, as well as a range of support enabling self-help, recovery and

wellbeing.'