

Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Derby City Council
22 November 2011

Mental Health Provision for Looked After Children – Derby City

Background

Derby City Children and Young Persons services for Looked After Children was subject to an Ofsted inspection (7-18 March 2011) and CQC inspection (9-21 May 2011). This included scrutiny of provider services from Derby Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Primary Healthcare providers and Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust; (Both inspection reports are attached for information).

As a requirement, Derby services are required to report through an action plan, which is subject to regular reporting through Cabinet and partnership forums including the local Children's Safeguarding Board for Derby City.

The overview and scrutiny committee following a report sent by the Derby Children and Young Persons services had made further requests to identify current actions in the provision of mental health for those children with complex needs who are under the criteria of 'Looked After Child'.

Key Actions

- There continues to be an active partnership between the mental health provider (Derbyshire Healthcare Trust) and the Children and Young Persons' based within Derby City. Current initiatives being developed are better engagement with regards to a multi-agency team approach including direct co-working provision within residential care settings for a child in need of mental health intervention.
- Steps have been taken to improve the access to child and adolescent mental health services including the development of deliberate self-harm services and liaison services across the spectrum of health and social care provision.
- The CAMHS service currently have targeted provision through primary healthcare workers who work in partnership with social care in enabling direct access to a practitioner at a drop in centre within the city.
- The CAMHS services have currently gone through an extensive review to ensure a more robust and effective response to a child in need, in particular the adoption of the CAF as part of the referral process and ensure disclosure of information of the assessment to all relevant services involved in the child's care with effective representation of case conference or case reviews.
- CAMHS workers are currently working in partnership in engagement of teams within the social care residential provision to ensure there is an effective

response to an emergency position to access our out of hours services to a senior clinician.

- The development of the '*Think Family*' standards across all service provision within adult, children and learning disability services
- Effective information sharing across all agencies involved in the care of a '*Looked After Child*'
- Effective partnership working between health and social care through initiatives such as multi agency team approach within Derby City and joint assessments of needs with clear links within the Family Justice systems based within Derby City
- Establishment of tier four provision across Derby and Derbyshire, working in partnership with commissioners to ensure effective provision within the local community
- Effective partnership working in support of fostering/adoption provision and intervention within residential provision for a '*Looked After Child*'.
- Critical to the mental health services is gaining 'The Voice of the Child' both the CAMHS and CYPD services have agreed to establish key mechanisms in which children and their families will have the ability to influence the development of services and challenge the delivery of those services in meeting those needs. This work is to be launched in early 2012 with a report going to the LSCBs for further scrutiny in ensuring this important action is met.

Monitoring and Reviews

It will be noted that there is a number of areas which will be subject to further agreement through the commissioning cluster for Derby and Derbyshire particularly in relation to the development of tier-four provision (inpatient services for children with mental health problems) which will have a direct benefit in improving the child's experience. This is subject to a separate reporting stream and would require the overview and scrutiny to consider their role in this context.

However, the above key actions identified are subject to scrutiny and review through the regular partnership forums of CYPD and Derbyshire healthcare Foundation Trust, quarterly reporting to the local safeguarding children's board. This is further supported by the Trusts internal governance processes with reports from the trust safeguarding committee through the Trust Risk Management Committee which then reports as part of an integrated reporting process to the Board of Directors.

In accordance with the NHS Executive, the Trust is compliant with an independent review process known as the 'Markers of Good Practice' assessment of which these actions are challenged by key representative of the Midlands and East Strategic Health Authority and local leads in the safeguarding of children for Derby and Derbyshire.

The CYPD Overview and Scrutiny Board are requested to;

- 1) Accept this report as evidence of current areas of improvement in addressing the needs of the looked after child with particular reference to mental health needs.
- 2) Endorse the role of the local Safeguarding Children board in the monitoring of outcomes.
- 3) Engage the NHS commissioning cluster with regards to the required development in improving the children's required emergency response and the development of a tier-four provision for children of Derby and Derbyshire.

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