



Derby City Council

**CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE**  
**20 February 2018**

Report of the Strategic Director of People  
Services

# ITEM 11

## Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service – ‘The Keep’ Update

### SUMMARY

- 1.1 The service ‘The Keep’ launched on the 1 October 2016 with the aim of providing an emotional wellbeing service to children in the care of Derby City Council, those leaving care and those adopted. Additionally, the service supports children and young people who have been sexually abused but remain with birth parents and who demonstrate harmful sexual behaviour.
- 1.2 The service, jointly commissioned by Southern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group (SDCCG) and Derby City Council, was agreed as an 18 month ‘proof of concept’, ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.
- 1.3 A Service Review has been undertaken to inform commissioning decisions post March 2018 and It has been agreed in principle to extend the Proof of Concept stage until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 to enable a wider review considering Derbyshire-wide provision.

### RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note the contents of this report and make any appropriate comments.

### REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To ensure the Committee are kept updated regarding service commissioning affecting Looked After Children.

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

4.1 The Service Review, undertaken in October 2017 noted the following:

### 4.2 Referrals

- 187 referrals were received by the service as of September 2017, of which 177 were accepted. The target figure is 150 referrals over 12 months, demonstrating a good reach into children in care.
- The largest proportions of referrals were received for young people between the ages of 5 – 10 with 82 referrals; 72 referrals were received for those aged 11 – 15 years.
- Just over half of the referrals received by The Keep are for males (53.48%) with 87 referrals for females (46.52%).
- 170 referrals received were from social services, with referrals also received from GP's, named nurse, education and the voluntary sector.
- 123 young people living inside Derby City and 64 living out of area (but within 20 miles of Derby) have been supported by the service.
- The composition of the 187 referrals received between October 2016 and September 2017 were:

Status	Numbers	Percentage of total number of referrals
Adopted	21	11.2%
Birth Family	57	30.5%
Extended Family	9	4.8%
Foster Care	72	38.5%
Prospective Adopters	1	0.5%
Residential Care	9	4.8%
Special Guardianship	18	9.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>187</b>	

### 4.8 Waiting times

164 referrals received were responded to within 8 weeks. 23 referrals whose response time was longer than 8 weeks was due to:

- Referral before significant holiday period e.g. Christmas.
- Social worker and foster carer unable to attend a sooner appointment.
- For appropriate clinical reasons the referral did not need an Initial consultation and hence went straight to the waiting list.

#### 4.9 Discharges

As of September 2017, 64 cases had been discharged from the service due to various reasons as noted below:

Reason	Number
Initial consultation only	26
Does not meet service criteria	6
Redirected to different service	21
Psych Assessment completed	2
Never attended due to change in circumstances	2
Awaiting legal proceedings	4
Assist placement stability	1
Improvement in emotional wellbeing	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>

#### 4.10 Wider work

- Training days have been delivered to foster carers, adopters, multi-agency teams, social workers and SENCOs and Education staff (23.5 days).
- Regular reflective practice sessions are available to residential homes and Social Workers.
- Strong links have been developed with the Virtual School through the Educational Psychologists and SENCO's via joint training and regular meetings.
- A pilot of a questionnaire-based screening programme for recent entrants to care is being undertaken. It is envisaged Social workers could use the results to consider whether a referral to The Keep or elsewhere is needed.

#### 4.11 Impact and outcomes

A key outcome is to have an effective service model that will improve the emotional health and wellbeing of the service users, contribute to an overall improvement in health outcomes and to help build resilience in children and their carers:

- 4.12 • The service is reaching Children in Care with a greater need. This is evidenced by the average Strengths & Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) score for this cohort being 17.5, which is above the national average (14) and Derby average (16.1). (In general, the scores range from 6 – 29.)
- 4.13 • Case studies demonstrate the work that is being undertaken to improve outcomes for young people and Social workers have provided examples where The Keep has assisted placement stability.

- 4.14
- Provision of the service to children and young people living outside of Derby aim to reduce health inequalities between Looked After children living in Derby City, and those placed outside. It provides consistency for children who may move, and value for money and assurance of service quality. This was a key change to the previous service.
- 4.15
- Further measureable evidence is being collated regarding the impact on placement stability and improvement in health outcomes.
- 4.16 **Future Intentions**
- There is agreement in principle to extend the Proof of Concept stage until 31st December 2018 (awaiting formal agreement from SDCCG), enabling impact and outcome evidence data to be collated and to enable a wider review considering Derbyshire-wide provision.
- 4.17 Following feedback from an event that was held during September for Independent Foster Agencies, consideration is being given to whether elements of the service could be offered as a sold service.

## OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 Cease the joint service at the end of the initial Proof of concept phase. This was not recommended due to the benefits from the joint service.

**This report has been approved by the following officers:**

<b>Legal officer</b> <b>Financial officer</b> <b>Human Resources officer</b> <b>Estates/Property officer</b> <b>Service Director(s)</b>  <b>Other(s)</b>	Frank McGhee, Service Director Integrated Commissioning (CYP), SDCCG Lisa Melrose, Head of Integrated Commissioning (CYP)
<b>For more information contact:</b> <b>Background papers:</b> <b>List of appendices:</b>	Cath Young, Commissioning Manager Children In Care 01332 642703 catherine.young@derby.gov.uk Appendix 1 - Implications

## IMPLICATIONS

### **Financial and Value for Money**

- 1.1 The service is jointly funded by SDCCG and the LA.
- 1.2 Case studies and extension of the service to include 'within 20 miles of Derby' provide some evidence of value for money.

### **Legal**

- 2.1 None identified.

### **Personnel**

- 3.1 Local Authority staff from Leopold Street are currently seconded to the healthcare provider until the end of the Proof of Concept phase.

### **IT**

- 4.1 Improved data recording could be achieved through reviewing access permissions.

### **Equalities Impact**

- 5.1 Extension of the service to within 20 miles of Derby has ensured that more of Derby's children in care are able to access the service.

### **Health and Safety**

- 6.1 None identified.

### **Environmental Sustainability**

- 7.1 None identified.

### **Property and Asset Management**

- 8.1 The service operates from Leopold Street, which are City Council premises.

### **Risk Management**

- 9.1 None identified.

### **Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 10.1
  - Protecting vulnerable children and adults
  - Promoting health and wellbeing
  - Delivering services differently