



ST HELENS
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Children and Young People Services Scrutiny Committee

21 March 2022

Report Title:	Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Services Spotlight Review Report – CCG Response to Recommendations
Cabinet Portfolio	Children and Young People
Cabinet Member	Councillor Nova Charlton
Exempt Report	No
Reason for Exemption	N/A
Key Decision	No
Public Notice issued	N/A
Wards Affected	All
Report of	Mark Palethorpe Executive Director Integrated Health and Social Care and Clinical Commissioning Group Accountable Officer markpalethorpe@sthelens.gov.uk
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Borough priorities	Ensure children and young people have a positive start in life	X
	Promote good health, independence, and care across our communities	X
	Create safe and strong communities and neighbourhoods for all	
	Support a strong, thriving, inclusive and well-connected local economy	
	Create green and vibrant places that reflect our heritage and culture	
	Be a responsible Council	

1. Summary

- 1.1 In December 2021, Members of the Children and Young People Services Scrutiny Committee held a spotlight review to consider children's mental health and wellbeing services in the borough that are commissioned by NHS St Helens Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).
- 1.2 The Review's report and recommendations were agreed at a meeting of the CYPS Scrutiny Committee held on 31 January 2022 and submitted to NHS St Helens CCG following the meeting. The CCG's response to the recommendations is attached to this report at Appendix 1.

2. Recommendations for Decision

The Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- i) Note the CCG's response to the recommendations as set out in Appendix 1; and**
- ii) Note that children's mental health and wellbeing services remains on the CYPS work programme, with an update to be provided to this Committee in the next twelve months.**

3. Purpose of this Report

- 3.1 This report presents the response from NHS St Helens CCG to the recommendations of the CYPS Scrutiny Committee's report into Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Services in the borough commissioned by NHS St Helens CCG. The CCG's response to the recommendations is attached to this report at Appendix 1.

4. Background / Reasons for the recommendations

- 4.1 As a part of the CYPS Scrutiny Committee's *Mental Health Services for Children and Young People with SEND* spotlight review held at the end of 2020, Members expressed interest in scrutinising the mental health and wellbeing services available to children without SEND, particularly due to the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. As such, the 2021/22 CYPS Scrutiny Committee agreed to hold a further spotlight review to provide Members with an

opportunity to be informed of the mental health and wellbeing services available to children in the borough commissioned by St Helens CCG.

- 4.2 In December 2021, Members of the Children and Young People Services Scrutiny Committee held a spotlight review to consider children's mental health and wellbeing services in the borough that are commissioned by NHS St Helens Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).
- 4.3 The Group welcomed the comprehensive range of children's mental health and wellbeing support in the borough commissioned by the CCG, commenting that partner organisations had risen to the challenges of the unprecedented effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 4.4 Whilst acknowledging that there existed a dedicated webpage on the CCG's website that listed all the support available in the borough, the Group agreed that there would be merit in the production of an easy-read (and downloadable) leaflet, which should detail the range of mental health and wellbeing services; the support offered by each service; and the thresholds for referral to each service. This leaflet would be useful to those who make referrals such as GPs, social workers, teachers, and play-group staff etc. Members commented that it was important to build in a way of updating the leaflet as required.
- 4.5 Members expressed concern regarding the sharp increase in the number of young people suffering from eating disorders. The Group agreed that consideration should be given to address the growing issue of eating disorders amongst children and young people as set out within the spotlight review's report.
- 4.6 The report's recommendations were agreed at a meeting of the CYPS Scrutiny Committee held on 31 January 2022 and were submitted to NHS St Helens CCG following the meeting under the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards, and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013. Appendix 1 to this report provides the CCG's response to the recommendations.
- 4.7 NHS St Helens CCG would like to assure committee members that CYP's Mental Health needs and provision remains a key priority for commissioning intentions for 2022/2023. In addition, the CCGs children's commissioning team continue to contribute to, and align local place work streams to the CYP Programme priority of Mental Health provision under the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB), which it is anticipated will formally replace the CCG in July 2022. A focus for the ICB and Provider lead throughout 2022/23 will continue to be the appropriately resourced provision for CYP who require support from Community Eating Disorder Services across the region.
- 4.8 NHS St Helens CCG have also noted that there are currently several workstreams across the wider St Helens Cares system which are considering the issue that easily accessible, up to date information is made readily available to both service users and partners. The CCG feels it is important that work to address information needs is not done in isolation but aligns with current system wide thinking and proposals and so will ensure that the recommendations from the committee are included. The information currently available through the CCG website Children's services contains information, which is downloadable and printable if required.
- 4.9 Members of the Committee should note that it was agreed that children's mental health and wellbeing services remain on the CYPS work programme, with an update to be provided to this Committee in the next twelve months.

5. Community Impact Assessment

5.1 No community impact assessment was carried out for the purposes of the spotlight review into the services available for children's mental health and wellbeing.

6. Consideration of Alternatives

6.1 N/A

7. Conclusions

7.1 Following the approval of the spotlight review report at the CYPS Scrutiny Committee meeting on 31st January 2022, the report was submitted to NHS St Helens CCG and the response to the recommendations are provided at Appendix 1.

7.2 Members of the Committee should note that it was agreed that children's mental health and wellbeing services remain on the CYPS work programme, with an update to be provided to this Committee in the next twelve months.

8. Implications

8.1 Legal Implications

8.1.1 There are no legal implications as a part of the purpose of this spotlight review.

8.2 Community Impact Assessment (CIA) Implications

8.2.1 Social Value

8.2.1.1 There are no social value implications as a part of the purpose of this spotlight review

8.2.2 Sustainability and Environment

8.2.2.1 There are no sustainability or environment issues as a part of this spotlight review.

8.2.3 Health and Wellbeing

8.2.3.1 The spotlight review considered the mental health and wellbeing support available to children and young people within the borough.

8.2.4 Equality and Human Rights

8.2.4.1 The spotlight review did not consider quality and human rights implications as a part of its review.

8.3 Customers and Resident

8.3.1 The direct customer or resident implications arising from this spotlight review include continued provision of enhanced Community Eating Disorders resources and the continued provision of the range of services as outlined in the review.

8.4 Asset and Property

8.4.1 There are no asset or property implications as a part of this spotlight review.

8.5 Staffing and Human Resource

8.5.1 There are no staffing or human resources implications as a part of this spotlight review for St Helens Council.

8.6 Risks

8.6.1 There are no risks identified as a part of this spotlight review.

8.7 Finance

8.7.1 There are no financial implications as a part of this spotlight review for St Helens Council

8.8 Policy Framework Implications

8.8.1 The spotlight review report forms a part of the achievement of the Borough Priority 1 - Ensuring children and young people have a positive start in life, and Borough Priority 2 – Promote good health, independence, and care across our communities.

8.9 Impact and Opportunities on Localities

8.9.1 No localities implications were identified as a part of this spotlight review for St Helens Council.

9. Background papers

9.1 Mental Health Services for Children and Young People with SEND Spotlight Review – CYPS Scrutiny Committee meeting, 31st January 2022

10. Appendices

10.1 Appendix 1 – Children’s Mental Health and Wellbeing Services Spotlight Review Report– CCG’s Response to Recommendations