



HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

Subject Heading:

SEND Joint Commissioning Annual Report 2014

Board Lead:

Councillor Steven Kelly

Report Author and contact details:

Mary Pattinson
Head of Learning & Achievement
01708 433808
Mary.pattinson@havering.gov.uk

The subject matter of this report deals with the following priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy

- X Priority 1: Early help for vulnerable people
- X Priority 6: Better integrated care for vulnerable children
- X Priority 7: Reducing avoidable hospital admissions
- X Priority 8: Improve the quality of services to ensure that patient experience and long-term health outcomes are the best they can be

SUMMARY

Clause 26 of the Children and Families Act 2014 (the Act) which came into force from September 2014 requires local authorities and CCGs to commission services for special education, health and social care for children and young adults from 0-25 with SEND jointly. Previous reports to this board have outlined the duties more fully and agreed a governance structure and operating principles. As part of this structure a Joint Commissioning Group including colleagues from education, health and social care meets regularly to discuss operational issues in joint commissioning. The DfE governance expectations requires this group to provide an annual report to the Health and Well-Being Board. This report constitutes this annual report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To accept the Report.

REPORT DETAIL

1. Joint Commissioning Group Meetings

1.1 In the year since October 2013 The SEND Joint Commissioning Group (0-25) has met on seven occasions. Initial meetings involved collecting information about what was currently commissioned across each service to assess where there are overlaps, which would benefit from an early review. From this it was agreed to review the commissioning of:

- Therapy services, eg Occupational Therapy; Physio, Speech & Language
- Short Breaks/respite care
- CAMHS

1.2 An update is provided later in this report.

1.3 The commissioning cycle agreed a part of the governance structure required the group to consider the numbers and complexities of disabled children receiving services and to try to predict the future needs of the this group of children. Whilst considerable progress has been made in this area it is nevertheless difficult to predict the numbers with any certainty as there is an increase in the number of children moving into the borough and requiring support.

1.4 The Children and Families Act also requires the LA to offer a personal budget to children who have an Educational Health and Care Plan. The group has spent some time considering how to arrive at a unit costing for services so that these sums can be disaggregated from commissioned contracts. In the meantime guidance from the DfE has suggested that where this is not an efficient use of resources block contracts may not need to be disaggregated. The LA is currently working with London Councils to develop a London wide policy on this issue. The first EHC plans will be produced early in the New Year but it is not thought that many parents will request personal budgets in the early days.

1.5 The final area for discussion has been a Resource Allocation System. A number of systems have been considered and modelled across current service allocations. Adult Social Care Services are due to pilot a new system early in the New Year and this may then be taken up across Children Services if appropriate. In modelling systems across short breaks/respite care it was found that children's level of need did not correlate with the level of service they received and so this has resulted in a case review of the allocation of short breaks.

2. Children's Joint Commissioning Update – October 2014

2.1 During the year a Children's Commissioner has been appointed funded jointly by CCG and Local Authority. The following update has been provided showing the considerable amount of progress in the joining up of the joint commissioning of services.

3. Speech and Language

3.1 The service specification for this service has been developed to tighten up the delivery of service and ensure there are performance indicators and outcomes

linked to the overall service delivery. The specification leads towards more joined up working and more robust delivery with NELFT and highlights other concerns including better management infrastructures. Although the Speech and Language Service is being funded by the CCG, the Local Authority's procurement processes will be used to underpin this piece of work, which has included developing a timeline for delivery and implementation.

3.2 Expressions of interest from potential bidders has taken place during November 2014, with the contract award due in March 2015.

3.3 The overall value of funding allocated by the CCG for this piece of work is £850,000 per annum.

4. Special School Nursing

4.1 The responsibility for delivering universal School Nursing Services for children and young people now sits within the Local Authority (Public Health). Within these changes the CCG has been given responsibility for the delivery of the special (complex) element of School Nursing Services to children in both special and mainstream schools.

4.2 The CCG are currently supporting Public Health with the whole school nursing tender process which began some weeks ago. The service specification and contract details have been sent out to interested parties and bids have been received. Currently the CCG attend the school nursing tender group to discuss items such as the procurement timetable, tender evaluation panel, mobilisation planning and risk registers. The timeline for delivery of Award of Contract is December 2014 with plans for the Launch of the Service during April 2015.

4.3 In relation to finances, the CCG have provided £60,000 (still to be confirmed) for the delivery of special School Nursing Services, which is less than was expected by partners in Public Health. The tender group met recently to discuss and highlight any potential risks to the process of which this was one. This is an area of concern that the CCG are aware of and on-going discussions are in place to finalise arrangements.

5. Music Therapy and Counselling Service

5.1 During July 2014 the CCG worked to review their existing contracts for music therapy. In addition to this both LBH and the CCG have contracts in place for a families counselling which is for parents of children and babies who utilise the service. This piece of work was a priority for both services as both put a lot of money into the delivery of these services and were not confident with what was being delivered. The overall outcomes are now linked to the performance of the service, contract and performance monitoring is up to date which includes future planning and overall the whole service is clear about the expected outcomes and understands how the commissioners will be working to ensure the delivery of a robust service.

6. CAMHS

6.1 The CCG supported by LBH will be leading on a review of Tiers 1-3 of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in Havering. This review is a priority for both LBH and CCG, and is linked to the SEND joint commissioning sub-group priorities. The review will highlight a number of areas of the services but will have a particular focus on

- Delivery of the service
- Pathways, Access and Barriers
- Integrated Pathways
- Transitions
- Stakeholder and service user consultation and feedback
- Developing a continuation of provision

6.2 The overall aim of the review is to look at the current performance of the service and take a view on whether we need to better contract manage or fully re-procure the service. The review will have links to the current NHS England Tier 4 CAMHS review. This piece of work will be focusing on the national lack of appropriate bed provision in residential settings for Children and Young People with mental health diagnosis.

6.3 Both organisations have also been represented at Havering's CAMHS task and finish group which has been recently revised to look at the service on a more strategic level. The review will form the basis of future commissioning intentions/ service planning, as well as supporting the development of an up to date revised CAMHS strategy. The task and finish group continues to meet to delegate responsibilities, agree timelines and begin to look at what we want our services to deliver and what they should look like.

6.4 Commissioners from the Children and Disabilities Team (CAD) along with the CAMHS project lead are in the process of carrying out consultations with a variety of stakeholders, so far including:

- Fostering and Adoption Services
- CAMHS and other voluntary contract providers
- Children's Services
- Children's ED
- Children in care Council
- Brookside Tier 4 service
- Education Psychology
- Us Mums and PIP's
- College provisions
- Youth Offending Service
- Pupil Referral Units (E.G) Manor Green College
- Primary and Secondary Schools
- Health Watch and continuing care team

6.5 NELFT are aware that the CCG will be making changes to both this and next year's commissioning intentions and that a review of the service will be conducted, however until the review has been completed no formal notice will be served. Finally the CCG would like to have an outline of the review, preliminary findings and any areas to focus on in a briefing for Clinical Directors in early 2015. This update will also be provided to the subsequent Joint Commissioning Board. They would also like to aim to know their joint plan for the future commissioning of CAMHS with LBH as early in 2015 as possible.

7. Future Joint Commissioning Plans

7.1 The CCG and Local Authority have been working towards identifying the joint commissioning priorities for both services in the coming years. This work should lead towards clearer roles and responsibilities between the two services, less duplication of service delivery and funding and on the whole a much more seamless service user experience for those who engage with the service. Other joint commission priority areas include:

- Respite and short breaks for which both services provide. Scoping for this piece of work will begin at the end of the year
- Equipment-including wheelchairs and other health related items
- Reviewing therapies, including Occupational Health, Physiotherapy

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

The work of the joint commissioning group does not itself entail any financial implications or risks as it is supported from within existing resources and recommendations will be subject to a further decision making process as necessary. There are no costs to the council in the re-commissioning of the services to date as mentioned above as the funding for these services is held by the CCG. Future plans will include the pooling of resources between Education, Social Care and Health to provide a more seamless service for the user. The DfE has allocated a one-off SEN Reform grant of £275,974 to Havering to support the implementation of the Children and Families Act 2014 and one-off allocation of £206,612 as New Burdens funding.

David Allen/Rav Nijjar

Legal implications and risks:

There are no apparent legal implications in noting the content of the Annual Report

Stephen Doye

Human Resources implications and risks:

There are no direct HR implications or risks for the Council, or its workforce, that can be identified from the recommendations made in this report.

Eve Anderson (Strategic HR Business Partner – Children, Adults & Housing and Public Health)

Equalities implications and risks:

As part of the governance structure, the Joint Commissioning Group is required to provide an annual report to the Joint Commissioning Board. This will help identify areas where there may be under performance which then has a negative impact on people with different protected characteristics.

In this case, the following areas were highlighted that may have a negative impact:

- The needs for children's short breaks/respice care need not matching the level of service
- Issues relating to the funding of the School Nursing Services

Measures are in place to attempt to mitigate these negative impacts.

Paul Green
Corporate Policy & Diversity Advisor

BACKGROUND PAPERS