

Committee: Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date: 11th March 2020

Wards: All

Subject: Scrutiny Task Group Review of the “Children’s Mental Health” task group - Action Plan

Lead officer: Jane McSherry, Assistant Director Education and Early Help

Lead member: Cllr Kelly Braund, Cabinet Member for Children Services

Contact officer: Leanne Wallder, Head of CSF Commissioning, Children Schools and Families

Recommendations:

- A. That the panel considers the draft action plan setting out how the agreed recommendations of the Scrutiny Task Group Review of “Children’s Mental Health” will be implemented.
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide an initial action plan to the panel to demonstrate how the agreed recommendation of the task and finish group will be implemented. The report also details the associated responsible officer’s and the timescales within which the recommendations will be implemented.
- 1.2 The details of the action plan as set out in Appendix A provides an initial response.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The terms of reference for the Children’s Mental Health Task Group are set out below:
 - 1. To review Merton’s universal mental health offer for children and young people aged 11-25, assessing whether the current provision is able to meet the diverse needs of this wide ranging group.
 - 2. To review the mental health and wellbeing offer across all schools, assessing whether the provision is consistent for all pupils and that the schools can access mainstream mental health services and signpost wider services.

3. To consider existing projects and good practice from elsewhere and make recommendations aimed at ensuring the borough is friendly and supportive for those with mental health conditions.

2.2 On the 11th November Cabinet approved the recommendations from the Children's Mental Health Task Group Scrutiny Review and agreed that the recommendations made by the task group would be responded to through an action plan to be drawn up by officers.

2.3 The multiagency CAMHS Partnership co-chaired by the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group oversees the partnerships work on children's mental health and will have oversight of the action plan outlined against the recommendations.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The panel is requested to discuss and comment on the draft action plan

4. TIMETABLE.

The timetable for delivery of the action plan is set out in appendix A.

APPENDIX A: EXECUTIVE RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCRUTINY TASK GROUP REVIEW OF CHILDREN’S MENTAL HEALTH.

Recommendation	Responsible Decision Makers	Action	Lead officers/ date due
<p>Recommendation one: That the Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Panel consider reviewing Merton’s early years support and post-natal attachment strategies. This can either be looked at as a report to the Panel or an in-depth task group review.</p>	<p>Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Panel</p>	<p>Merton Schools are part of a Whole School approach (WSA) to Emotional Well Being (led by the STP), working with pupils, parents and teachers.</p> <p>Work has begun with children and young people, helping them understand mental health; building a language about mental health; helping to think about using a trusted adult to talk to initially.</p> <p>Kooth online counselling launched as well as OTR</p> <p>EPEC parenting commenced</p> <p>Post Natal Mental Health support service has been recommissioned with and increase budget.</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny to consider in light of these</p>	<p>Sarah Keen (CCG)</p> <p>Keith Shipman (LBM)</p> <p>Qtly Reports to CAMH Partnership (Jan, April, July, Oct 2020)</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny Panel</p>

		developments.	
Recommendation two: Merton CCG to fund advocacy services for children and young people who are seeking support for their mental health issues but who don't have appropriate support from a trusted adult.	Merton Clinical Commissioning Group (Merton CCG)	Advocacy for children experiencing care already in place. CCG exploring whether additional advocacy is required on back of WSA above and if so, will explore options for funding this through CCG processes	Monica Henny (CCG) September 2020
Recommendation three: Ensure the named practice lead knows what changes and enhancements on services and training are available to Children and Young People and takes responsibility for keeping clinicians up to date.	Merton CCG GP Practices	Development of a sector online Directory of Services in development, using a known and well-used platform (Getting it On) Once operational, marketing to Primary Care will be part of the rollout plan. Primary Care Commissioner to flag with Practice Leads	Sarah Keen (CCG) Hannah Pearson (CCG) Report via CAMH Partnership, Autumn 2020
Recommendations four: The single point of access to be opened up to young people, parents and anyone worried about a young person.	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)	Pilot for self-referral by 16-17yr olds already commenced and report due in June 2020. Further development will be dependent on this.	Sarah Keen (CCG) Fran Boudour (SWLStG MHT) June 2020 and onward.
Recommendation five: Ensure mental health	Merton CCG	CSF have trained someone to deliver	Public Health (named lead to

first aid training is provided to anyone working with young people.	CAMHS Children Schools and Families Department	as part of the WSA and this has already been taken up by a number of schools. Further training will be scheduled based on need. Continue to access Thrive training for specific groups, currently focused on youth workers and CVS groups working with yp	be agreed) Denise Dyer (LBM) Reporting to CAMH Partnership October 2020
Recommendation six: Pilot a young person social prescribing model.	Merton CCG	CCG exploring whether the Social Prescribing model for adults could be expanded to include YP as part of the WSA	Sarah Keen (CCG) Oct 2020
Recommendation seven: Encourage schools to provide mental health first aid training to every parent in Merton – exploring opportunities to work with the Mayor of London to deliver.	Merton schools Children Schools and Families Department	Stem4 delivering a conference on emotional well-being, hosted at Rutlish, for parents of YP of secondary age. CSF to explore charitable funds to run other opportunities for parents. Off the Record counselling service running Self Harm Training for parents. The Lead Psychologist for Wave 1 Trailblazer is undertaking some direct work with parents.	CSF & CCG Mar 2021
Recommendation eight: Encourage	Children School's and	Merton Trailblazer Schools have	Sarah Keen

schools to adopt a mental health policy (which should include the importance of early intervention, building resilience and signposting of services).	Families Department	already developed adopted a mental health policy and this will be rolled out to other schools as new Trailblazers are rolled out.	(CCG) Keith Shipman (LBM) March 2021
Recommendation nine: Encourage School Governing Bodies to appoint a mental health lead, to ensure mental health and wellbeing is prioritised and training is up-to-date.	School Governing Bodies	Will be encouraged on back of Training for Governors below.	Elizabeth Fitzpatrick (CSF) June Crame (CSF) March 2021
Recommendation ten: Encourage School Governing Bodies to take up training on mental health issues amongst children and young people.	School Governing Bodies	Mental Health Training is being offered to Governors and uptake encouraged through Clerks and Merton School Improvement Team.	Elizabeth Fitzpatrick (CSF) June Crame (CSF) March 2021
Recommendation eleven: Encourage Governors to ensure PSHE lessons that focus on mental health and wellbeing remain in place for years 10 and 11.	School Governing Bodies	School governors to be encouraged on the back of training.	Elizabeth Fitzpatrick (CSF) June Crame (CSF) March 2021
Recommendation twelve: Council, Youth Parliament and CCG to work together on a communications plan to raise awareness of Merton's local offer and destigmatize mental health issues amongst young people.	Merton CCG/ Children Schools and Families Department	Youth Parliament already working on a Mental Health Campaign Joint communications plan in development for WSA work	CAMH Partnership Oct 2020

<p>Recommendation thirteen: CCG to lead a knowledge-sharing forum between Trailblazers and other Merton schools to ensure learnings and best practice from the pilot are shared.</p>	Merton CCG	<p>Already have a CAMH Network that runs termly.</p> <p>School Mental Health Lead Forum commenced.</p> <p>Use these forums to ensure best practice is shared. Trailblazer developments already a standing item on agenda for these groups.</p>	<p>Christa Blanckenberg (CCG)</p> <p>Denise Dyer (CSF)</p> <p>March 2021</p>
<p>Recommendation fourteen: Ensure that the work of the trailblazer reaches under-represented and seldom heard such as BAME and LGBTQ+.</p>	Merton CCG	<p>First cohort of Emotional Well Being Practitioners are now delivering interventions. Service user data is being collected and will be analysed over time.</p> <p>National evaluations may also comment on this.</p>	<p>SWLStG report to CAMH Partnership</p> <p>March 2021</p>

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