

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

North Lincolnshire Scrutiny Report – Childhood Emotional Health and Wellbeing Action Plan

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 In autumn 2019, North Lincolnshire's Overview and Scrutiny Committee published their review into Childhood Emotional Health and Wellbeing, making a series of recommendations to improve the health and wellbeing of children in North Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 This report identifies the work achieved to-date between North Lincolnshire Council and North Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to review and implement the recommendations of the panel.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Following a local review of the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people in North Lincolnshire the Overview and Scrutiny Committee published a comprehensive report and made a series of nine recommendations.
- 2.2 Nationally, each CCG is required to publish a Local Transformation Plan (LTP) which sets out local areas' priorities for children's emotional health and mental well-being. The timely publication of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's report, enabled the majority of the recommendations to be incorporated into this wider strategic plan, which is available on North Lincolnshire's CCG website, <https://northlincolnshireccg.nhs.uk/publications/action-plans>.
- 2.3 Through the alignment of the plans, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendations now form part of the wider strategic vision for children and young people and enable a single accountability framework, in line with North Lincolnshire's Integrated Children's Trust (ICT) Board arrangements, led by North Lincolnshire Council Director of Children and Community Resilience.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 Overseeing the implementation of the recommendations is the revised North Lincolnshire Emotional and Mental Health Steering Group. With revised Terms of Reference, and a formal reporting route to the ICT Board. A group of senior officers across North Lincolnshire Council and CCG have developed a single action plan (see attached):

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 The Action Plan provides an update on the progress against the scrutiny recommendations as of May 2020. This now requires further review and update in the context of COVID-19 and the work that has been undertaken to support the emotional health and well-being of children and young people during this challenging period. Children and young people have shown tremendous resilience during this period but there are likely to be longer term implications that need to be considered as part of this overall plan.

5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)

5.1 No additional finances are currently identified to implement the recommendations.

6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)

6.1 None.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

7.1 Impact assessments will be conducted as required for developments identified within the Action Plan.

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

8.1 None identified.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That the action plan and progress is acknowledged, endorsed and that a further review be submitted to cabinet in one year.

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

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Date: 18th May 2020

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Panel Report

The Emotional Health and Wellbeing of Children and Young People in North Lincolnshire.

Report of the People Scrutiny Panel (May 2019).

| Recommendations from People Scrutiny Panel | Lead officer(s) | Milestones | Deadline | Progress to date |
|--|------------------|---|------------------|---|
| <p>Recommendation 1: The panel recommends that North Lincolnshire CCG cease using referral to assessment (being ‘seen’) as an agreed indicator with their providers, in favour of referral to treatment. The panel believe that this is a more meaningful measure, recognising that children and young people in specific need of specialist services require treatment, not assessment. The panel believe that this should begin at the start of the next commissioning cycle.</p> | <p>HD</p> | <p>Assessments form part of the ‘treatment’ process. This activity is monitored through the CCG RDASH contracting arrangements.</p> | <p>July 2020</p> | <p>An annual review of the CAMHS performance data is being finalised for the next contract / commissioning cycle.</p> |
| <p>Recommendation 2: The panel recommends that North Lincolnshire Council and North Lincolnshire CCG engage with all schools, colleges and educational establishments to ensure that the roles and responsibilities of Mental Health Champions are understood by all Governors, who can then communicate this to others.</p> | <p>DC and HD</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mental Health Champion Subgroup of the Emotional and Mental Health Steering Group to be established. Lead officers in each key agency are being identified. | <p>July 2020</p> | <p>Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Emotional and Mental Health Steering Group have been redrafted with the explicit recommendation of subgroups including a Mental Health Champion task and finish group. This specific group is tasked with refining the roles and responsibilities of Mental Health Champions in schools and colleges (building upon the learning about the role to date) so that this can be disseminated through Governor Leadership Briefings and events and also directly with all educational settings.</p> |

| Recommendations from People Scrutiny Panel | Lead officer(s) | Milestones | Deadline | Progress to date |
|--|-----------------|---|----------------|--|
| <p>Recommendation 3: To assist with Recommendation 2, the panel recommends that all schools, colleges, and educational establishments within North Lincolnshire nominate a 'Childhood Resilience Governor', with a specific role in championing mental health issues and ensuring that building resilience, independence and self-management skills within children and young people is a key, continuing priority in all aspects of school life. Help is available from North Lincolnshire Council to work with these governors around training, information, and support.</p> | DC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish partnership/governance arrangements for governors to enhance communications. ▪ Role of Childhood Resilience Governor to be introduced with governors – January 2020. Complete. ▪ Trailblazer schools/ individuals to be identified. ▪ Terms of Reference (TOR) for Mental Health Champion Subgroup to include the development of a Childhood Resilience Governor role as part of the key functions of the Mental Health Champion Subgroup. | September 2020 | <p>Meeting has taken place between the LA Governors' Development Officer and CCG Commissioner. The LA Governors' Development Officer has started the conversation with governors and raised awareness of the proposed governors' role with governors in January 2020 (Leadership Briefings). This will be embedded within the cycle of School Governance / Leadership meetings academic year 2020/21.</p> |
| <p>Recommendation 4: The panel recommends that clearer criteria for Mental Health Champions be drafted and agreed, and that these be communicated to all schools and colleges. The panel believe that this role should have genuine capacity to take on this responsibility, should have the support of senior leaders within the school or college, and should have access to specialist advice and guidance from the CAMH Service and others if required.</p> | RI and SC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mental Health Champion Subgroup of Emotional and Mental Health Steering Group to be established. Subgroup to focus on Mental Health Champions and governor development. | July 2020 | <p>Requirement for the re-establishment of the subgroup included in the revised TOR as outlined in Recommendation 2. This group is tasked with the development of clearer criteria for how Mental Health Champions work in schools and other settings taking into account the consultation model that is already in place with CAMHs. This will also include other support and escalation mechanisms within the school or setting (for instance, through senior leadership).</p> |

| Recommendations from People Scrutiny Panel | Lead officer(s) | Milestones | Deadline | Progress to date |
|---|-----------------|--|----------------|---|
| <p>Recommendation 5: The panel recommends that North Lincolnshire CCG, in co-ordination with the council and others, produce and make available a guide for parents and carers on responsible and safe online activity, particularly around social media use.</p> | DC and HD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To review local information already available for online safety information available for children, young people, parents and professionals in line with nationally available information. ▪ Update local digital platforms and resources and target information/resources as required. | August 2020 | Materials and resources have been reviewed. There is a wealth of information in relation to on-line safety including social media. Further work to be undertaken in relation to where this information is located (various digital platforms / websites e.g. Local Offer) with some leaflet resources also being developed. |
| <p>Recommendation 6: The panel recommends to all schools and colleges within North Lincolnshire that ongoing efforts to recruit suitably checked volunteers to work within schools and colleges be given a renewed focus.</p> | DC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review/redistribute the policy for volunteer recruitment in schools and review the outcomes of the Schools' Safeguarding Audit pertaining to volunteer recruitment and targeting appropriately. | September 2020 | Policy re-distributed. Safeguarding Audit / Questionnaire is under review. |
| <p>Recommendation 7: The panel recommends that the work of the Infant Mental Health (IMH) Project / Alliance be prioritised and appropriately funded, recognising the importance of the development of the child from conception to age 2 on the mental health and wellbeing of the child.</p> | VG | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For the Infant Mental Health (IMH) Project / Alliance to continue to meet. ▪ To develop formal reporting mechanisms for the Project / Alliance into the Emotional and Mental Health Steering Group and Best Start Officers' Group with appropriate reporting to the ICT Board. | July 2020 | Infant Mental Health Project / Alliance is continuing. This project will report to the Emotional and Mental Health Steering Group when this reconvenes. |

| Recommendations from People Scrutiny Panel | Lead officer(s) | Milestones | Deadline | Progress to date |
|---|-----------------|--|----------------|---|
| <p>Recommendation 8: The panel recommends that ongoing discussions on integration and the agreement of a strategic, holistic and joined up approach to address the wellbeing of North Lincolnshire’s children and young people should be prioritised, overseen by the Health and Wellbeing Board This should be an element of an overarching plan for children and young people.</p> | MG | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishing an Integrated Children’s Trust (ICT) Board. ▪ Agreeing key priorities for 2020 and beyond ▪ Achieving agreement about a new system for children and young people. | July 2020 | Director of Children and Community Resilience, in partnership with CCG CEO continues to steer the vision for integration. ICT has been established. |
| <p>Recommendation 9: As a key part of the integration agenda referred to above, the panel recommends that a workstream and strategy be developed to build workforce resilience in all those who work with children and young people in North Lincolnshire.</p> | All | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vision/position statement to be drafted across agencies which sets out the evidence base / guidance to support a resilient workforce. ▪ Review current partners’ workforce strategies. | September 2020 | This aspect is being progressed as part of ICT integration development. |

MG - Mick Gibbs – Director of Children and Community Resilience – North Lincolnshire Council.

DC – Darren Chaplin – Head of Access and Inclusion (including SEND) - North Lincolnshire Council.

HD – Helena Dent – Senior Commissioning Manager – Children and Maternity Services - North Lincolnshire CCG.

RI - Dr Ruth Illman – Principle Education Psychologist – North Lincolnshire Council.

SC - Steve Coakley – Pathway Lead – North Lincolnshire CAMHS – RDASH.

VG – Verity Gardner – Infant Mental Health Project Lead.