



<u>Committee and date</u>
Shadow Health and Well-Being Board
27 July 2011

<u>Item</u>
8
<u>Public</u>

## REVIEW OF CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN SHROPSHIRE

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### 1. Summary

- 1.1 An independent review of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in Shropshire has been jointly commissioned by Shropshire Primary Care Trust and Shropshire Council. The aim is to complement a review already underway on behalf of Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire and to build on its findings to gain an understanding of existing provision and to make recommendations for a comprehensive CAMHS service that is user led, outcome focused and measurable. An important feature of the complementary review is its wide engagement of partners across Health, Education, Third Sector and Social Care.

### 2. Recommendations

- 1.2 The Health and Well-being Board is asked to note and endorse the approach to securing a comprehensive understanding of CAMHS service delivery in Shropshire to inform and support service improvement.

## REPORT

### 3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1 In a context of reducing resources and increasing demand for CAMHS services, a clear understanding of the effectiveness of service delivery is essential to ensure value for money. As other services for children and young people are reshaped and in some cases reduced, there are risks of duplication, but more likely that gaps in provision will emerge, leaving some vulnerable children and young people unable to access the services they need.
- 3.2 The comprehensive triangulated approach to reviewing the CAMHS service in Shropshire provides an opportunity to clarify existing expectations of the

CAMHS service with a range of partner agencies. An outcome of the reviews will be to establish and communicate clear service thresholds and deliverables to agencies working with children and young people. One measure of the success of the reviews would be a reduction in the number of inappropriate referrals to the CAMHS service.

- 3.3 Consultation, in the form of practitioner focus groups, is a key component of the complementary review. A wide range of agencies and professionals have been invited to share their experiences and offer their suggestions for service improvements. The focus groups have typically included 6 to 12 people, and have been selected to represent key groups that refer into CAMHS services, work with CAMHS services or work with children and young people who have received CAMHS services. The aim has been to amass opinions and identify trends, including examples of good practice, challenges, strengths and opportunities.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 The complementary review is jointly funded by Shropshire County PCT and Shropshire Council.

#### **5. Background**

- 5.1 The purpose of the complementary review of the CAMHS service is to define in a way that is meaningful to all partners in relation to their own services what a comprehensive CAMHS service looks like. This will enable better understanding of each partner's role within the wider package of provision.
- 5.2 The information generated by the review will contribute to the work undertaken in developing a care pathway and subsequent commissioning framework and service specification across all CAMHS provision.
- 5.3 By October 2011 the Review will:
- Define core service provision of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).
  - Produce a needs assessment of CAMHS across Shropshire
  - Provide a comprehensive view of the gaps and also duplications in existing provision for CAMHS services in Shropshire.
  - Develop an integrated multi - agency care pathway for the provision and delivery of CAMHS services for children and young people.
  - Identify existing performance outcome measures and evaluation of services
  - Identify synergies with third party and statutory sector providers, to enable joined up services for children and young people with emotional health and wellbeing issues across the whole spectrum at all levels.
  - Identify education and training needs across both the wider workforce as well as CAMHS specialist services

- Develop a commissioning framework to ensure sustainable, efficient and effective service provision.
- Produce a service specification to support the delivery of a comprehensive service across all levels that is measurable and outcomes focused
- Make recommendations to support the delivery of a CAMHS service that is responsive to children, young people and their carers and families needs
- Make recommendations to ensure a much greater emphasis on providing high quality early intervention and prevention services.
- Make recommendations so as to make services more efficient and that help to replicate success.
- Make recommendations to ensure every child or young person in Shropshire with emotional health and well-being needs, regardless of race, religion or where they live will have access to the sustainable, holistic, family centred and high quality CAMHS provision.
- Actively promote dignity of care for children and young people with mental health needs as part of an integrated care package from all partners.

## 6. Conclusions

- 6.1 Public services are tasked with delivering better quality services that are more responsive to individual and community needs. The key to the success of this review will be the bottom up approach using service users and stakeholders as the driving force to influence service provision within the current financial envelope and resource available. Efficiencies will be made through better understanding of CAMHS services, better use of existing resource and improved partnership working.

<p><b>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</b></p>
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<p>None</p>
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<p><b>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)</b></p>
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<p>Ann Hartley</p>
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<p><b>Local Member</b></p>
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<p>County-wide</p>
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<p><b>Appendices</b></p>
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<p>None</p>
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