

Item 6: Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Service - update

By: Kay Goldsmith, Scrutiny Research Officer

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 16 September 2021

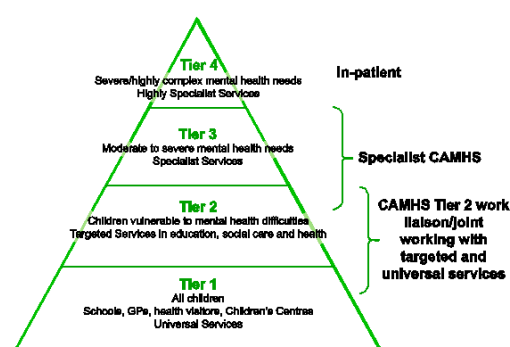
Subject: Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Service - update

Summary: This report invites the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the information provided by Kent and Medway CCG.

It provides background information which may prove useful to Members.

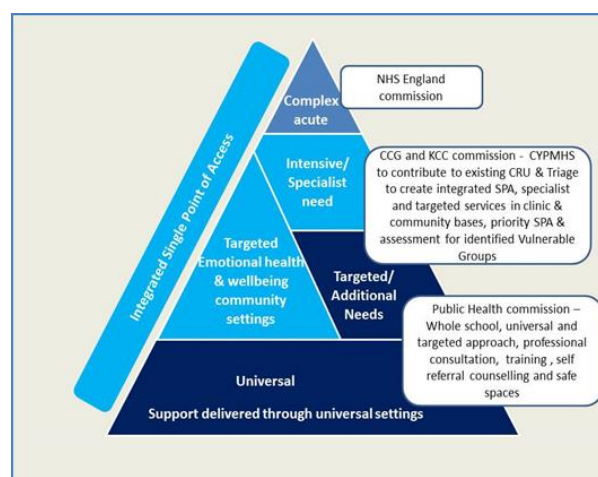
1) Introduction

- a) Children and young people's mental health services (CYPMHS) is an umbrella term covering a wide range of services commissioned by the NHS and local government. The diagram to the right helps explain the four tiered provision of the overall service.¹



2) The Kent contract

- a) In Kent and Medway, North East London Foundation Trust (NELFT) provides Targeted and Specialist Mental Health Services to children and young people (tiers 1-3). The service is jointly commissioned by KCC and the Kent and Medway CCG, and the diagram on the right shows how this is modelled.



- b) The 5-year contract commenced in September 2017 (with an option to extend by a further 2 years) and has a total value of £82,505m.
- c) Specialist in-patient provision for CAMHS (Tier 4) is commissioned by NHS England and is therefore not under scrutiny at today's meeting.

¹ Parliament (2014) CAMHS as a whole system, <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmselect/cmhealth/342/34206.htm#note29>

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3) Previous visits to Kent's HOSC

- a) CYPMHS has come to HOSC regularly over recent years. Concerns have centred on waiting times; service provision because of capacity issues; and communication during waiting times.
- b) The commissioner and provider last attended HOSC in November 2020. Key points from that update include:
- Demand was increasing, with referrals from the previous three months at their highest ever level.
 - Appointments had continued. Demand was being met by longer operating hours and additional staff.
 - Robust clinical assessments were in place to determine if a young person needed a virtual or face to face appointment.
 - There had been an increase in the complexity of cases which was reflected in the increased use of Section 136 suites.²
 - There were cases where children were waiting more than 52 weeks for neuro developmental assessment. There were no children waiting longer than 18 weeks for mental health assessments.
 - Communication with partners had increased, including interventions such as signposting schools and families.
 - In March 2020 NELFT had taken over the provision of the Kent and Medway Adolescent Hospital (KMAH), a tier 4 mental health service for young people (commissioned by NHSE/I).
- c) Representatives from the CCG have been invited to attend today's HOSC meeting to provide an update on the delivery of the service, particularly reflecting on the impact of the pandemic.

4. Recommendation

RECOMMENDED that the report on Children & Young People's Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Service be noted and Kent & Medway CCG be invited to provide an update at the appropriate time.

² A Section 136 suite is a place of safety where police may detain members of the public under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act if they appear to have a disorder of the mind, are in a public place and present a risk to themselves or others.

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Background Documents

Kent County Council (2016) '*Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (04/03/16)*', <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=6257&Ver=4>

Kent County Council (2016) '*Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (02/09/16)*', <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=6261&Ver=4>

Kent County Council (2017) '*Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (20/09/17)*', <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=7788&Ver=4>

Kent County Council (2018) '*Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (21/09/18)*', <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=7921&Ver=4>

Kent County Council (2019) '*Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (01/03/19)*', <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=7926&Ver=4>

Kent County Council (2020) '*Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (05/03/20)*', <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=8286&Ver=4>

Kent County Council (2020) '*Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (24/11/20)*', <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=8498&Ver=4>

NHS information: <https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/nhs-voluntary-charity-services/nhs-services/children-young-people-mental-health-services-cypmhs/>

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