

### Supplementary briefing for the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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**Summary:** This briefing provides the KCC view of the Children and Young People Mental Health Service (CYPMHS) commissioned by (what is now) the Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), provided by North-East London Foundation Trust (NELFT)

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At the commencement of the contract, 1 September 2017, Kent County Council's Integrated Children's Services provided the CCG, via Section 76 Agreement, with **£2.65m** per annum for the following services:

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|---|---------|
| • Support to Early Help Units               | £1.200m |
| • Kent Health Needs Education Service       | £0.240m |
| • Looked After Children Priority Assessment | £1.000m |
| • Harmful Sexual Abuse/Post Sexual Abuse    | £0.217m |

This represents just under 16.5% of the total contract value between the CCG and NELFT.

A review of the investment from KCC in 2019, along with the Ofsted and CQC inspection of system-wide challenges in SEND, identified that some of the funding could be reprioritised and re-profiled resulting in the ongoing contribution of **£1.27m** to the NELFT CYPMHS service (just under 8%):

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| • Kent Health Needs Education Service       | £0.050m |
| • Looked After Children Priority Assessment | £1.000m |
| • Harmful Sexual Abuse/Post Sexual Abuse    | £0.217m |

With the balance, KCC has invested, developed and commissioned alternative services as follows:

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| • In-house service – Positive Behavioural Support     | £0.800m |
| • Together with Parents – bespoke parenting programme | £0.400m |

KCC has recently awarded a contract to Whitehead-Ross Education for the Together with Parents Service. This is a bespoke parenting programme to support SEND and the children waiting for a Neuro-developmental assessment. The CCG contribute £100k per annum to enhance this service.

Additional KCC investment has been made into provision across Integrated Children's Services (ie Headstart and Reconnect programmes) and Public Health (ie the Children and Young People Counselling Service and suicide prevention) and we continue to work with all agencies to support and promote CYPMHS services.

## Contract and Service Oversight

The CCG holds the contract with NELFT and has regular planned contract management meetings to which KCC Commissioners attend. Whilst the formal contract management meetings were paused through the pandemic, the CCG maintained informal meetings with NELFT and led on CYP System meetings, attended by the providers, including NELFT.

The CCG has also commissioned a review of the Single Point of Access. KCC Commissioners were included as stakeholders in designing the scope of the work and questioned as part of the review.

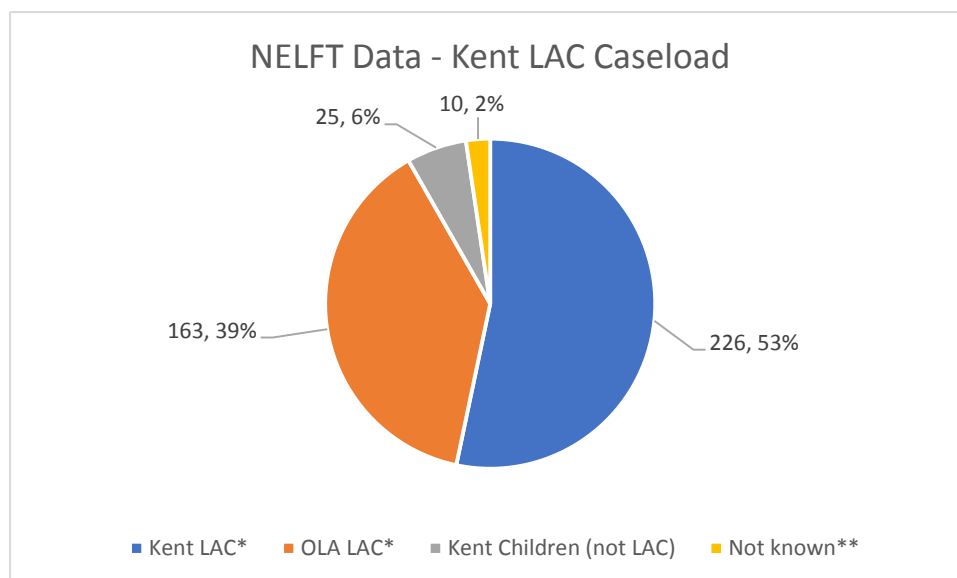
The CCG sees KCC as a true partner in the management of the contract.

The Section 76 Agreement has been reviewed and now includes the ambition to resolve the challenges in identifying the impact of the funding contribution from KCC.

The CCG has developed and maintains a comprehensive data dashboard for CYPMHS. KCC has also worked with the CCG and NELFT and is now able to record on Liberi those Looked After Children (LAC) accessing the CYPMHS Service and who receive the Priority Assessments.

There has historically been an issue whereby we were unable to identify whether the LAC figures recorded by NELFT showed that the Child was the responsibility of KCC or another local authority. Working together has built in a quarterly review of caseloads to allow us to be clear on those children known to KCC.

In November 2021, the data received from NELFT showed the following:



\* Are or were LAC

\*\* These could be OLA LAC that KCC has not been informed of, or Kent children with no involvement with Kent Social Work Services

## **Continuous Improvement**

The CCG is intending the use the two-year extension on the NELFT contract and asked for KCC's views. This will become effective from 1 September 2022 and will run to 31 August 2024. This provides an opportunity for KCC to discuss with the CCG any non-material changes for the implementation of the extension.

KCC, and the CCG, recognises that the initial intention of the contract was to expand the age profile of the service. It currently serves up to the age of 18, with Medway's service up to the age of 19 (for LAC). KCC would like to see the implementation of the ambition of the Long Term Plan for the comprehensive offer of Mental Health services for young people to be up to the age of 25.

With the investment of funding to the Sexually Harmful Behaviour service as part of the Complex Pathway, it has always been difficult to disaggregate and isolate what the outcomes of this investment is. We would like to work with NELFT in the same was as we did for the LAC caseload data.

The CYP System across the County, and regionally, is getting very complex for Tier 4 children and young people. There needs to be an opportunity to redefine the interface of organisations through negotiating the extension. This should include the offer from NELFT in supporting discharge.

### **Conclusion:**

The CCG sees KCC as a true partner with the contract and is open to discussion and change. Improvements have been made with the relationship, however there are some further developments, as mentioned above, that KCC would like to see implemented.

With the data now received on the numbers of Kent LAC seen by the service, a review of the effectiveness of the Priority Assessment funding can be undertaken with a view on how priority services can be offered as a result of the assessment.

KCC would like to work in partnership with NELFT, the CCG and clinical partners to define and implement a formal, strategic T4 Collaborative. This would help make sure that the processes and risks relating to admission, treatment, discharge and support in the community are clearly shared and articulated in a collaborative and integrated way.

### **Background Reports:**

[THE REPORT \(kent.gov.uk\)](https://kent.gov.uk) – CYPE Cabinet Committee report 22 June 2017

[Executive Decision Report \(kent.gov.uk\)](https://kent.gov.uk) - CYPE Cabinet Committee report 15 November 2019

[Executive Decision Report \(kent.gov.uk\)](https://kent.gov.uk) - CYPE Cabinet Committee report 22 September 2020

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