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To: Social Care and Public Health Cabinet Committee – 12 July 2012

Subject: **UPDATE ON THE RE-COMMISSIONING OF EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING AND CHILD & ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (CAMHS)**

Classification: Unrestricted

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Summary: The purpose of this report is to inform and update Members about the progress on the joint commissioning of emotional well-being and Community CAMHS within Kent and Medway.

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## **Introduction**

1. (1) In July 2011, Kent County Council Cabinet Members and NHS Kent & Medway agreed to align funding in order to jointly commission new emotional well-being and mental health services for children and young people. This decision was made in response to significant evidence identifying the need to establish a more integrated system that would enable interventions to be delivered to children and young people in a more targeted and timely fashion.

(2) It was agreed that the new services would take the form of an Emotional Well-being Service delivering support within universal settings (Tier 1), alongside a 'Community CAMHS' model comprising targeted (Tier 2) and specialist (Tier 3) mental health services. Each element of service would be aligned to ensure clear pathways for children and young people between the different tiers.

(3) Since then, NHS Kent & Medway have been leading on the procurement of the Community CAMHS model, and KCC has been leading on procurement of the Emotional Well-being Service through its newly established Early Intervention and Prevention Multiple Supplier Framework. *(Please note that the Emotional Well-being Service will be restricted to Kent as Medway will continue to commission its own Emotional Well-being Service).*

## **Procurement and Evaluation Process**

2. (1) During Autumn 2011, specifications and evaluation criteria were developed for both the Emotional Well-being Service and Community CAMHS model, with reciprocal contribution from NHS Kent & Medway and KCC, as well as input from a range of partners, stakeholders, and feedback from children and young people.

(2) An Invitation to Tender for the Community CAMHS model was released in February 2012 and for the Emotional Well-being Service in March 2012.

The two tenders closed in late March and early April respectively. Two consortia bids were received for the CAMHS specification (from an original pool of six providers who had successfully passed the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire) and 14 bids were received for the Emotional Well-being Service.

(3) Evaluation took place during April – May for both services, involving multi-agency colleagues to ensure a holistic assessment process and to underpin the links between the Emotional Well-being Service and Community CAMHS provision. For the CAMHS evaluation, this included a GP panel to assess clinical aspects of the tender, a service user panel, and a sub-group of local authority specialists comprising the Youth Offending Service, Educational Psychology and Specialist Children's Services. Evaluation of the Emotional Well-being Service similarly involved a broad range of colleagues, including the Senior CAMHS Commissioner for NHS Kent and Medway, Preventative Services Managers, and education representatives. A separate financial evaluation was conducted in each case, led by colleagues in KCC and NHS Kent & Medway Finance teams, to assess the viability and value for money presented by each bid. These elements were scored separately and then weighted to give a combined score.

(3) Top-scoring bidders for the Emotional Well-being Service were invited to attend an interview on 29 May 2012, following which a preferred provider was identified.

### **Preferred bidder – Community CAMHS**

3. (1) Following the evaluation process, a preferred provider was identified for delivery of the Community CAMHS model. A recommendation was made to the Kent and Medway PCT Cluster Board on 30 May 2012 to approve the preferred bidder, which was accepted.

Commissioners are in the process of undertaking due diligence with the preferred provider and progressing to contract award in July 2012 when further information will be made available.

### **Preferred bidder – Emotional Well-being Service**

4. (1) The successful bidder for the Emotional Well-being Service is a consortium led by Kent Children's Fund Network (KCFN), who scored higher than any other bidder across the various aspects of the evaluation process including the methodology statements, costings and interview process.

(1) KCFN propose to sub-contract a number of other local VCS organisations to undertake key elements of delivery, including Connexions Kent, Family Action, Avante Partnership, the Big Society Co-operate and Canterbury Christ Church University. The consortia model should allow for a greater set of skills and expertise to be deployed flexibly across the county, and will benefit from the addition of a Student Volunteer Scheme supervised by Canterbury Christ Church University to provide additional capacity.

(2) KCC will hold a single contract with KCFN, who will co-ordinate and performance manage all aspects of delivery from subcontracted parties, and accountability for achievement of the specified outcomes will remain with them.

## Transition to new arrangements

5. (1) The contract award is expected to be complete by early July 2012. The new provider will be mobilising the service within Kent over the summer period ready for commencement on 1<sup>st</sup> September. A key part of the mobilisation process will include a communications campaign to schools, health and community settings, as well as to children, young people and their families, and meetings with existing providers of CAMHS to finalise staffing and operational arrangements.

(2) Contract award for the Emotional Well-being Service took place in late June 2012, and the provider will share the same mobilisation period as that of Community CAMHS, ahead of commencement in September 2012. During this period KCC and NHS Kent & Medway will be facilitating joint discussions between the two new providers to ensure the planned integration of the models.

## Recommendation

6. (1) Members of the Social Care and Public Health Cabinet Committee are asked to **COMMENT** on the progress so far with regard to the re-commissioning of an Emotional Well-being Service and Community Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (Community CAMHS).

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*Background Documents:* None