

Recommissioning of Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Services for children and young people

Reference Number: PAF/27/20

Report title: Recommissioning of Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Services for children and young people	
Report to: People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Report author: Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer	
Date: 7 December 2020	For: Discussion and identifying any follow-up scrutiny actions
Enquiries to: Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer at graham.hughes@essex.gov.uk.	
County Divisions affected: Not applicable	

1. Introduction

- 1.1 In January 2021 the Essex County Council Cabinet will consider recommissioning arrangements for Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Services for children and young people in Essex. This paper is the opportunity for the Committee to comment on the County Council's priorities and core requirements ahead of the Cabinet meeting.

2. Action required

To consider the update and identify any follow-up scrutiny actions

3. Background

- 3.1 Essex County Council (ECC) is one of ten partners who collaborate to jointly commission Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Services in Essex for children and young people. The current contract for these services expires on 31 March 2022 and work is underway to recommission the service.
- 3.2 Last month, the Scrutiny function was approached by officers to discuss the appetite for an appropriate scrutiny committee to be consulted on ECC's priorities for the re-commissioning of the service ahead of consideration by the Cabinet in January 2021.
- 3.3 In consultation with the Chairman of the Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee (HOPSC), the PAF Chairman has requested that this item be brought to this committee to reflect the nature of the proposed discussion – namely, to look at future priorities for ECC and how the future service should link with Education and broader Childrens and Families Services at ECC. The discussion is not intended to look at current NHS performance under the contract (such as referral times, assessment and treatment) – scrutiny responsibility for overseeing NHS performance lies with the HOPSC. The HOPSC has held two sessions (September and December) with NHS service

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providers to discuss aspects around current NHS performance and how it is planning for, and responding to, the challenges of the pandemic.

- 3.4 The attached briefing details ECC's key priorities and core requirements for the new contract specification.

4. Update and Next Steps

See Appendices A and B for the update. Appendix B is a short power point Presentation which may be directly referred to on the day.

Contributors expected to support the discussion on the day are:

Christopher Martin - Director, Strategic Commissioning & Policy (Children and Families), ECC

Emily Oliver, Head of Strategic Commissioning and Policy, ECC

Sarah Garner, Associate Director, West Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (lead health commissioner)

5. List of Appendices

- A. Recommissioning of the Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Services for Children and Young People – Briefing for People and Families Scrutiny Committee – 7 December 2020

Authors: Emily Oliver, Head of Strategic Commissioning and Policy, ECC and Sarah Garner, Associate Director, West Essex CCG

- B. Power Point presentation - Procurement for Children & Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health (CAMHS) Contract - Southend, Essex & Thurrock Children & Young Peoples Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Collaborative

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