

Children and Young People's Health and Wellbeing Commissioning Group

A meeting of Children and Young People's Health and Wellbeing Commissioning Group was held on Tuesday, 12th April, 2016.

Present: Peter Kelly(Chairman), Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy, Martin Gray, Diane McConnell, Shaun McLurg, Emma Champley, Jane Smith

Officers: Jenny Cowell, Jenna McDonald (SBC)

Also in attendance: ACC Ciaron Irvine

Apologies: Louise Okello

1 Declarations of Interest

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2016

Consideration was given to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2016

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved.

3 Minutes of the Children and Young People's Partnership - 16 February 2016

The minutes of the Children and Young Peoples Partnership held on 16 February 2016 were noted.

4 Domestic Abuse Service Review

The Group was presented with a report which provided an overview of the process to be undertaken regarding a review of the Domestic Violence and Abuse Service. It was noted that the service was commissioned by the local authority to provide support to those experiencing and perpetrating domestic abuse.

It was noted that the current contract in Stockton which was provided by Harbour Support Services, commenced on 1 April 2014 and was in place until 31 March 2017 with an option to extend for 12 months. In preparation for the final year of the contract term, a review of the Domestic Abuse Service would take place in order to inform commissioning intentions.

The annual value of the current contract was £341,976, the service was commissioned by Public Health and was funded jointly by departments within the local authority including; Community Safety, Adults and Health, Children's Services and Thirteen Housing Group.

It was explained that Harbour Support Services provided support in a family focussed approach and included services such as; refuge provision, outreach services, an independent domestic violence advisory service , counselling services, perpetrator programmes and specialist support for children and young people affected by domestic abuse. A link worker service within the Children's Services Team was also provided as part of the current commissioned service, it was noted that the link worker was in place to provide a consistent link between

the domestic abuse service and the social care team.

The Group was informed that in addition to other services, SBC and Hartlepool Borough Council jointly funded a domestic abuse hospital link worker post within North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust since April 2013. It was highlighted that the hospital link worker post would continue to be funded by SBC alone from April 2016 until 30 September 2016.

It was noted that the service review would take place between April and August 2016 and would cover the first two years of the contract period. In addition to the service review, an event was held on 15 March 2016 in order to refresh the current Domestic Abuse Action Plan.

The Group discussed the report and the following areas were covered during the discussion:

- With regard to the service audit, the Group was keen to understand whether the audit would focus on the provider's views alone. In response, Members were assured that regular feedback was also collected from service users.

- It was asked whether funding was received from the Police, in response, it was noted that the Police and Crime Commissioners Office contributed financially through the Community Safety Service. It was highlighted that police funding contributed to wider aspects of community safety and was therefore generic.

- In relation to Operation Encompass, The Group believed that schools should be provided with guidance around how to handle information provided by the police.

- Members were keen to understand how the success of the service was measured. The Group was informed that the service provider submitted data to a national charity which collected information on service users including the points in which users entered and left the service. It was noted that performance data and representation data was also collected in order to measure.

- It was asked whether the current contract required the provider to inform other bodies should a self-referral be made. It was noted that if a self-referral was made, Safeguarding Boards would be notified.

- The Group asked whether Harbour Support Services worked with the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). It was heard that the two services worked together and those involved with MARAC were considered higher risk.

- Discussions took place around the fundamental approach relating to primary and secondary prevention. It was noted that 35% of all assessments identified domestic abuse.

- It was highlighted that whilst it was vital to focus on supporting the victim of domestic abuse, it was equally important to focus on the perpetrator in order to achieve a better outcome. It was noted that a number of perpetrator programmes were available through Harbour.

- The Group asked what measures would be taken to ensure that Harbour Support Services coordinated effectively with Adult Services. In response, it was

heard three groups were in place in order to ensure that the services communicated effectively and appropriately.

- It was heard that Stockton had one of the lowest success rates for sexual offence convictions throughout the country.

- With regard to work in schools, it was noted that the Group supported the possibility of each school introducing a Domestic Abuse Champion

RESOLVED that The planned review work be noted and approved.

5 Forward Plan

The Group gave consideration to the forward plan.

RESOLVED that:

1. The forward plan be noted.
2. Special School Nursing be scheduled to the meeting on 1 June 2016.