

SUNDERLAND HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

20 March 2020

CHILDREN'S INTEGRATED COMMISSIONING UPDATE

Report of the Director of Corporate and Commercial Services at Together for Children

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Health and Wellbeing Board regarding the progress made in relation to the children's integrated commissioning work between Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group (SCCG), Together for Children (TfC) and Sunderland City Council.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 In July 2019, TfC and SCCG established a children's integrated commissioning function consisting of two Strategic Commissioning Managers and supported by a team of Commissioning Specialists. The team is hosted and managed by TfC.
- 2.2 The work of the children's integrated commissioning function is overseen by the Children's Integrated Commissioning Group (CICG). This group meets regularly and is chaired by the Director of Corporate and Commercial Services at TfC. This group has representation from SCCG, TfC, Sunderland City Council including public health and adult services, and Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust (as commissioners of specialised services).
- 2.3 The CICG has agreed a statement of intent: "*Shaping Sunderland's future together*", which has previously been brought to the Health and Wellbeing Board for information. The CICG agreed the following priorities for action within the statement:
- Children's mental health and emotional wellbeing,
 - Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) - Local authorities and clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) **must** make joint commissioning arrangements for education, health and care provision for children and young people with SEN or disabilities (Section 26 of the Act) and;
 - Children's placements.

3.0 Progress Update

Mental health and emotional wellbeing

- 3.1 The Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Transformational Plan 2015–2020 has been updated in line with NHS England requirements. Priorities for 2020/21 have been identified to ensure compliance with the NHS Long Term Plan, and tackle system issues in Sunderland. This plan has been shared with the Board.

- 3.2 A deep dive into waiting times for children with mental health has commenced. The deep dive is being undertaken by an external consultant working with SCCG and the North of England Commissioning Support Unit. The aims of the deep dive are to:
- understand what is causing long waiting times for services
 - set out projected demand for the next 5 and 10 years (so we can understand demand and can measure the impact of reform and commissioning work)
 - develop a fit for purpose analytical CYP MH&W dashboard, which includes data for both children who are looked after and children who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
 - provide recommendations as to how the waiting times can be reduced in a sustainable way.
- 3.3 The deep dive is due to be completed by the end of March 2020, at which point actions will be identified, including re-commissioning where appropriate, and these actions will then be regularly reported and monitored through the CAMHS partnership and CICG.
- 3.4 Two three-day events have been held to design a single point of access into children and young people's mental health services. These events were attended by organisations from across the city including SCCG, TfC, public health, NHS providers, general practice, third sector providers, the Sunderland Parent Carer Forum and parent carers. The outputs of these events will be compiled into a report, and cross checked with the findings from the deep dive exercise before agreement to any recommendations are approved.
- 3.5 A multi-agency audit of the Autism Spectrum Disorder pathway against NICE guidance is underway (and will include the findings of the deep dive due to be completed by end March 2020) as a requirement for the SEND inspection. The audit will be used to inform a gap analysis and options appraisal for the CICG.
- 3.6 £200,000 of SCCG non-recurrent funding has been allocated to providers (including the third sector) to support children and young people's wellbeing. Funding has been allocated to waiting list initiatives, improving the wellbeing information website, delivering additional Friends and Mental Health 1st Aid training to secondary schools and improving counselling spaces in secondary schools.
- 3.7 The Kooth online counselling service which has been commissioned via non-recurrent funding until July 2020 and is currently being evaluated. If the service evaluates well, funding will be sought to continue the service. The evaluation includes feedback from young people, families and professionals.
- 3.8 NHS England has announced the next wave of Trailblazer bids, with a deadline of 16/03/20. The children's integrated commissioning function is leading on the writing of a bid for submission by the deadline.

4.0 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

- 4.1 An integrated SEND Strategic Commissioning Group has been established to support the delivery of this priority and develop the SEND Strategic Commissioning

Plan. The Group is chaired by the Strategic Commissioning Manager working across TfC and SCCG. Membership includes parent carers and managers, commissioners and clinicians from health, education, social care and provider services.

- 4.2 A key aim of the group is to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND and their families by ensuring the sufficiency of high-quality education, health and social care provision in Sunderland. This will be achieved through the integrated analysis, planning, delivery and review of services and support.
- 4.3 The SEND Strategic Commissioning Plan 2020-23 has been drafted to provide a roadmap to personalised, integrated support that delivers positive outcomes for children and young people with SEND. The plan assesses our current position and sets out required actions in relation to:
 - How we work together to plan and commission services;
 - How we understand the needs of our SEND population;
 - What our commissioning priorities are; and
 - How we will know if we are making a difference.
- 4.4 We recognise that currently, much of the data relating to SEND is gathered in silos. Scoping has commenced with colleagues from North East Commissioning Support (NECS) to develop a comprehensive data dashboard for Sunderland. The intention is that this would bring together datasets from across primary care, secondary care, mental health and community health services and match this with education and social care data using NHS numbers across the cohort of children and young people with SEND aged 0-25.
- 4.5 To support the development of the data dashboard, a mapping exercise is underway to articulate the service, resource and investment profile across the SEND cohort. Completion of this mapping in relation to health services is proving to be a complex exercise, as there are challenges with disaggregating spend and performance data for contracts which are not SEND specific.
- 4.6 A workshop has taken place to improve local decision-making pathways in relation to NHS Continuing Care processes for children with complex health needs. A revised pathway is being trialled and further work is planned to inform joint commissioning in relation to eligible children where commissioned services are unable to provide health interventions and support at an individual child level.

5.0 Individual placements

- 5.1 A working group has been established to review and increase local residential and educational capacity to meet the needs of children and young people with the most complex needs. This cohort includes children who require residential placements but are often placed at significant distance from Sunderland due to a lack of local sufficiency. A site at Nook Lodge has been identified for a fifth TfC children's home. Discussions are also underway to scope out options for a specialist provision for young people who are discharged from Tier 4 hospitals and secure units.

6.0 Recommendation

6.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

- Note the update on progress to date within the Children's Commissioning arena since establishing the joint arrangements in July 2020.
- Receive update reports on progress.