

National CAMHS Review

REPORT OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

1. Why has this report come to the Committee?

- 1.1 To provide the Review Committee with information about the National Review of child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS).

2. Background

- 2.1 Around one in ten children and young people will experience behavioural, emotional and mental health problems at some point in their lives, with twice as many boys - aged 5 to 10 years - diagnosed with a mental health disorder compared to girls.
- 2.2 In December 2007 the Government outlined plans for a review of CAMHS led by Jo Davidson, Chief Officer at Gloucestershire County Council and chair of the 0-7 Group of the Children's Plan. The external review was aimed at ensuring that the educational and emotional needs of children and young people with mental health problems, or at risk of developing them, are being met. The review particularly aimed to focus on spotting the distress signals in boys who may have underlying mental health problems.

3. Current position

- 3.1 The final report was published on 18 November 2008. It contains 20 recommendations for Government setting out a clear vision for promoting children's psychological well-being and mental health and how to best achieve a step change in the quality and consistency of services at all levels.
- 3.2 Attached with this report are a Summary of the National CAMHS Review (Appendix 1) and a Response to Children & Young People (Appendix 2).

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 The Review Committee is asked to note the national review as part of its evidence gathering in relation to the local CAMHS.

5. Background Papers

Final report of the National CAMHS Review www.dcsf.gov.uk/CAMHSreview

6. Glossary

CAMHS Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

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