

**LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 28 FEBRUARY 2018**

MINUTE EXTRACT

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

The Committee received a report of Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) which provided an update on work to establish a new in-patient unit for Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in Leicester and improvements made following receipt of a Care Quality Commission inspection report. A copy of the report, marked 'Agenda Item 8', is filed with these minutes.

The Committee welcomed Helen Thompson, Divisional Director, LPT and Dr Avinash Hiremath, Divisional Clinical Director, LPT to the meeting for this item.

Arising from discussion the following points were noted:-

- (i) Whilst the Committee welcomed the proposals for the new 15-bed inpatient CAMHS Unit, concerns were raised that the funding was dependent on the Sustainability and Transformation Plan being implemented and the local Sustainability and Transformation partnership producing a robust estates and capital strategy. In response some reassurance was given that the Estates Strategy was being progressed with a timeline in place, however it was noted that this was the responsibility of the System Leadership Team.
- (ii) The Access Team at CAMHS reviewed referrals in order to make the process more expedient. A Demand and Capacity review was also being undertaken to support improvements in this area. It was confirmed that all children and young people referred received an initial assessment within 13 weeks. Whilst patients were awaiting a more in depth assessment, telephone contact was kept with them to ensure that they were safe and their mental health was not deteriorating. Regular risk assessments were carried out for these people and if the level of risk was deemed to have escalated patients could be prioritised.
- (iii) The numbers of new referrals to CAMHS dropped in the July and August months and it was believed that this may be connected with the school holidays though the precise reason was not known.
- (iv) The Early Intervention Service was provided by Relate. It was commissioned by the Future in Mind Partnership, which included representation from the County Council and was integrated with the healthy schools programme. A referral would only be made to CAMHS if specialist services were required. Consideration was being given to creating a shared front door for both early help and specialist CAMHS as having the CAMHS Access Team as part of

multi-agency decision making would help ensure that a child was referred to the correct agency on first assessment.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the update on work to establish an in-patient unit for Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in Leicester, and the actions taken as a result of the Care Quality Commission inspection report published in January 2018, be noted:
- (b) That Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust be requested to provide a further update on the improvements made in response to the Care Quality Commission report for a future meeting of the Committee.