

Subject:	Foundations For Our Future – the final Report from the Sussex Wide Children & Young Person’s Emotional Health & Wellbeing Service Review		
Date of Meeting:	14th September 2020		
Report of:	Executive Director – Families, Children & Learning		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Lola Bankoko/Deb Austin	Tel: 01273 290446
	Email:	Deb.austin@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

1.1 To share the findings and recommendations from the Sussex wide review.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

The committee is requested to:

- 2.1 Note the Independently Chaired Report – Foundations For Our Future - at Appendix 1
- 2.2 Note the Concordat which underpins the partnership commitment to act upon the recommendations – at Appendix 2 and;
- 2.3 Note the paper and discussion that was held at the Health & Wellbeing Board on 28th July 2020, paper given as Appendix 3 and draft minutes provided in 4.5 below.

3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 3.1 Foundations For Our Future (Appendix 1) is the independently authored report from the **Sussex Wide Children & Young Person’s Emotional Health & Wellbeing Service Review** which was jointly commissioned by Sussex Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), the three local authorities in Sussex and Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SPFT). The Review was independently chaired throughout its duration.. The resulting report is given as Appendix 1.
- 3.2 Foundations for Our Future was completed in the weeks prior to the emergence of the coronavirus pandemic. The effects of the pandemic on children and young people are already emerging. They are directly experiencing social distancing, high levels of isolation, imposed absence from school and some support systems, and the wider social and economic dislocation COVID-19 will cause.
- 3.3 These are of course issues of great concern, but there have also been positives across the country and in Sussex specifically. Organisations have collaborated, innovated and made changes to their ways of working that in other circumstances might have taken months or years to bring about. There are reasons to be encouraged that these positives can be maintained and built upon as we move forward into restoration and recovery of services.
- 3.4 Within this context, the recommendations in Foundations for Our Future can now

move forward to publication and implementation. It does so in a new landscape where the messages in the report about transformation and improvement are perhaps even more relevant than before the pandemic emerged.

- 3.5 The report was discussed and accepted at Brighton & Hove's Health and Wellbeing Board on the 28th July, paper provided as Appendix 3.
- 3.6 The mental health and emotional wellbeing of children and young people in Sussex, as well as supporting our workforce in this field, remains a priority for us and the partner organisations remain committed to implementing the recommendations in the report with vigour and pace.

4. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 4.1 Across Sussex, NHS and local authority partners had increasingly become aware that the experience of children and young people, and their families and carers, who needed emotional and wellbeing support required improvement.
- 4.2 To better understand; the obstacles to access and to treatment; what needed to improve; and what worked well in the current system, the Sussex Wide Children & Young Person's Emotional Health & Wellbeing Service Review was jointly commissioned by Sussex CCGs, the three local authorities in Sussex and Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SPFT). The Review focused on obtaining an in depth understanding of the emotional health and wellbeing services and support on offer to children and young people, aged 0 -18, and their families in Sussex. The Review was established in January 2019 and the final report – **Foundations For Our Future** will be the published document from the review, coming at a time of unprecedented focus on children and young people's mental health both locally and nationally.
- 4.3 Full details of both the local and national context plus detailed descriptions of the review's structure and methodologies can be found in Appendix 3.
- 4.4 Appendices 1-3 were delivered at the Health and Wellbeing Board on 28th July 2020 and the draft published minutes of that discussion are given here below.

Draft minutes text for item 16 Health & Wellbeing Board 28th July 2020

RESOLVED – (1) That the Board receive and note the contents of the final independently Chaired report "Foundations for our Future" included at Appendix 1 to the main report;

(2) Agrees and approves the Concordat which underpins the partnership commitment to act upon the recommendations contained in Appendix 2 to the report; and

(3) Agrees in principle the recommendations set out in the report at paragraph 2.17. A further update to be provided to the Board in respect of the financial implications for Brighton & Hove City Council prior to final sign off.

Minutes:

16.1 The Board considered a joint report of the Clinical Commissioning Group and the acting Executive Director, Families, Children and Learning. It was noted that the "Foundations for our Future" report set out at Appendix 1 was an independently authored report which had been jointly commissioned by Sussex

Clinical Commissioning Groups, the three local authorities in Sussex and Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation. The Review had been independently chaired throughout its duration.

16.2 The Review had been structured to provide an in-depth and up to date picture of the services and support available to young people and had been designed as a listening and analytical exercise aimed at gathering a wide scope of information and feedback from quantitative and qualitative insights of the emotional health and wellbeing services and support on offer to young people aged 0-18 and their families in Sussex. Although not a formal public consultation the scope of the Review had been wide and it had been completed in the weeks prior to the emergence of the current pandemic. The implementation timeline for the recommendations set out in the report and those that had been developed before the pandemic had caused work to be paused. The report could now however, act as a lever for change in this new landscape, to drive transformation, including to specialist mental health services and a renewed focus on the importance of population mental health and wellbeing approaches and the key role of schools.

16.3 Steve Appleton the Independent Chair of the Review was in attendance accompanied by Georgina Clarke-Green and gave a detailed presentation detailing the work undertaken its findings and future pathways which had been identified. He stated that notwithstanding that although a historical piece of work in the context of the current pandemic and the additional mental health pressures it put on many it was important particularly as there would now be the opportunity to review, reflect on and reconsider the priority of each recommendation. The slides in their entirety had been attached as an addenda to the circulated agenda.

16.4 Councillor Moonan welcomed the report which she agreed represented a very important piece of work. Whilst recognising that this was a Sussex wide piece of work it was pleasing to note that arrangements/ structures would be put into place applicable specifically to Brighton and Hove.

16.5 Councillor Bagaeen considered that governance and accountability would be key considering that it was important in redesign of any services provided that there were clearly laid down responsibilities in the event that anything did not improve outcomes as expected. The respective roles of the local authority and the CCG needed to be clearly drawn as did who had oversight and overarching responsibility.

16.6 Councillor Nield was in agreement regarding the importance of this piece and enquired as to the measures which would be put into place when children returned to school after the disruption which they had suffered and to identify any who were struggling or particularly vulnerable and needed additional/ targeted support. The Acting Executive Deb Austin detailed the arrangements which would be in place.

16.7 In answer to questions by Councillor Bagaeen it was confirmed that the report would also be forwarded to the Children, Young People and Skills Committee for information.

16.8 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Board receive and note the contents of the final independently Chaired report “Foundations for our Future” included at Appendix 1 to the main report;

(2) Agrees and approves the Concordat which underpins the partnership commitment to act upon the recommendations contained in Appendix 2 to the report; and

(3) Agrees in principle the recommendations set out in the report at paragraph 2.17. A further update to be provided to the Board in respect of the financial implications for Brighton & Hove City Council prior to final sign off.

5. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION**

5.1 The full report in appendix 1 details the communication engagement and consultation activities in this review.

6. **CONCLUSION**

6.1 The current pathway and service model for emotional health and wellbeing for children and young people in Sussex does not appear to be effective and would benefit from radical transformation. The full recommendations from **Foundations For Our Future** provide an opportunity to do this.

7. **FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

Financial Implications:

7.1 The recommendations in this report have significant and far reaching implications across all health and children’s services partners across Sussex. The success of these initiatives will require partner organisations, CCGs, NHS trusts, schools and local authorities to work together to align funding and deployment of available resources. Work is already ongoing to align budget planning across the partner agencies to improve the efficient use of resources and co-ordination of service delivery. This will need to be strengthened and prioritised to enable delivery of the recommendations in this report.

It should be noted that the impact of the pandemic has made short and medium term financial planning considerably more uncertain. The full financial impact of the pandemic is not yet known, however, it is certain that there will be substantial budget pressures that will need to be addressed with the risk of an adverse impact on the available resources for service delivery and investment.

Finance Officer Consulted: David Ellis

Date: 10/08/2020

Legal Implications:

7.2 The aim of the Review and its recommendations align with the purpose of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The recommendations relate to various services provided by the Local Authority, namely Adult Social Services, Public Health, and Families,

Children and Learning alongside its partners within the NHS and with its neighbouring local authorities. The Local Authorities services are provided as a result of statutory duties and powers.

The recommendations' impact will be to change the way these services are commissioned, accessed and delivered to improve outcomes and enable better coordination between the NHS, local authorities, third sector organisations and other stakeholders. This can be achieved within the existing legal framework. There may be a need for specific partnership agreements (section 75, NHS Act 2006) to be created or varied to facilitate the implementation of some of the recommendations and this can be considered as the timetable is revised.

Lawyer Consulted:

Nicole Mouton

Date: 09/07/2020

Equalities Implications:

7.3 The report given in appendix 3 provides full details of the equalities and health inequalities and impact assessment that was taken as part of the review.

Sustainability Implications:

7.4 Foundations For Our Future does not recommend specific service, commissioning or contracting changes and therefore does not impact on existing pathways of access, treatment and care for children and young people. In turn, this does not impact on sustainability of organisations within the Brighton & Hove system of delivery. The Review underpinning the Report was not a consultation exercise or a service change exercise. Once the 20 recommendations from the Report are endorsed by system leaders and organisations, the comprehensive implementation plan will identify where further EHAs will need to be completed.

Any Other Significant Implications:

7.5 Details on other implications are provided in the report given in Appendix 3.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Foundations For Our Future – the final Report from the Sussex Wide Children & Young Person's Emotional Health & Wellbeing Service Review

Appendix 2 – The Concordat Agreement

Appendix 3 – The full report that was taken to Health & Wellbeing Board 28th July 2020

