

Health Scrutiny Committee

(Sub-Committee of the
People Scrutiny Commission)

6 December 2021



Report of: Bristol, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (BNSSG CCG) and Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust (AWP)

Title: Bristol Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)

Ward: All

Officers Presenting Report:

Anna Clark, Senior Contracting Manager, BNSSG CCG

Mark Arruda-Bunker, Associate Director, Specialised, Secure and CAMHS

Contact Telephone Number: Kate Groves, Snr External Relations Manager, 07765 656170 (m)

Summary

Please find attached:

PowerPoint presentation on Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), outlining:

- Referral demand into services
- Referral demography
- Service Challenges
- Tier 4 – Riverside Update

Points to note:

The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) assesses and treats young people with emotional, behavioural or mental health difficulties.

There are a number of challenges to service delivery due to an increase in acuity and complexity of young people presenting which is impacting on the services ability to respond within the identified timeframes.

There are a number of transformation projects underway which will support the services to respond to increasing demand and the acuity levels being seen.



1. Summary

In summary, there are a number of local challenges affecting service provision within CAMHS. This is impacting on the service ability to see children and young people within timeframes. This includes:

- Increase in eating disorder referrals and acuity
- Increase in acuity for generic referrals (non-eating disorder) – leading to increased wait times
- Rise in self-harm/suicidal ideation/aggressive behaviour
- Workforce fatigue

CAMHS reviews all referrals that come into the service, where they are found not to be appropriate or meet the thresholds, a response letter is provided with signposting to an alternative service.

There are a number of plans in place to address these challenges and additional funding has been agreed for the CAMHS services which will enable development and expansion over the next 5 years.

This includes:

- Developing mental health support teams in schools
- Increasing community eating disorder services
- Expanding CAMHS crisis services
- Improving transition to adult services

The Riverside Adolescent Unit was refurbished between March 2020 and June 2021 following recommendations made by the CQC regarding the need to update the building. It continued to operate as a day programme at a different site. The refurbishment enabled the Riverside Unit to expand from a 10 bedded unit to 12 beds. Since reopening, further building works have been identified and this will start in January 2022 and completing by April 2022.

2. Context

3. Policy – not applicable

4. Consultation – not applicable

a) Internal

b) External

5. Public Sector Equality Duties

- 5a) Before making a decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following “protected characteristics”: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:

- i) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.
- ii) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to --
 - remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic;
 - take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);
 - encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- iii) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –
 - tackle prejudice; and
 - promote understanding.

Appendices:

- Bristol CAMHS HOSC 6 December 2021