

CHILD & ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES SCRUTINY WORKING GROUP

SUMMARY: This is an agenda pack for a meeting for the child and adolescent mental health services scrutiny working group taking place on the 27 October 2015. The main item is the terms of reference for the inquiry.

Date: 27 October 2015 **Time:** 10.00am

Venue: Councillor Meeting Room, GUILDHALL (2.3.5)

Members of the Panel:

Hazel Morris (Convener)
Fiona Gordon
Terry Hennegan
Mary Jones
Susan Jones
Erika Kirchner
Paul Meara
Cheryl Philpott
Uta Clay
Yvonne Jardine
Elliot King
David Lewis
David Anderson Thomas
Sarah Joiner

AGENDA

No.	Item
1.	Introductions and apologies
2.	CAMHS Scrutiny Inquiry terms of reference

Item 2

Report of the Convener

PLANNING THE CHILD & ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES SCRUTINY INQUIRY

27 October 2015

Purpose	This report proposes a plan for the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services Scrutiny Inquiry
Content	The report sets out proposals for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intended impact and contribution of the inquiry• The key inquiry question• Lines of inquiry• Evidence gathering
Councillors are being asked to	Consider the proposals in the report and agree a plan for the inquiry.
Lead Councillor	Councillor Mary Jones (Convener)
Lead Cabinet Member / Officer(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councillor Christine Richards, Cabinet Member Services for Children & Young People• Chris Sivers, Director of People
Report Author	Delyth Davies, Scrutiny Officer 01792 637491 delyth.davies@swansea.gov.uk

1. Introduction

- 1.1 A pre inquiry working group was held on the 29 September and proposed that a scrutiny inquiry should be held into child & adolescent mental health services. The Scrutiny Programme Committee agreed that this inquiry should go ahead. In general terms the committee suggests that the inquiry could look at how demand for CAMH services will be reduced. It would enable scrutiny councillors to explore how different agencies work together to provide services that help prevent children and young people from needing to access specialist CAMH services..
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to set out a plan for the inquiry. In developing these proposals suggestions have been circulated to panel members and discussions have been held with relevant officers.

2. Intended Impact and Contribution

2.1 School governors play a vital role in ensuring that schools perform well. This inquiry intends to support the work of school governors by providing:

- Evidenced proposals that will lead to better access to child & adolescent mental health services
- The views of key stakeholders including health professionals providing services, the voluntary and community sector, social services and education officers
- Consideration of the conclusions and recommendations from regional and national reports
- Increased councillor understanding about how child and adolescent mental health services are delivered and the effectiveness of the services
- Greater public awareness of child and adolescent mental health services

3. What we Want to Influence

3.1 This should refer to the indicator or other measurable outcome that the inquiry is seeking to have an impact on (if applicable)

4. Key Question

4.1 The panel has agreed that the primary focus for the inquiry should be on prevention and early intervention to reduce the numbers of children seeking specialist CAMHS support. The key question, therefore, is:

How is the Council working with health and other partners to reduce demand for specialist child and adolescent mental health services?

5. Lines of Inquiry

5.1 The following lines of inquiry flow from the key question and reflect the discussion in the pre inquiry working group. They have previously been circulated for comment by email:

- a) **Multi-agency prevention & early intervention:** how do partners (education, health, youth offending, child and family services) work together to provide prevention and early intervention services?
- b) **Accessing services:** what is the new referral process and how does it operate?
- c) **Training:** how are professionals who work with children and young people trained to identify mental health issues?
- d) **Transition:** how effective is the transition from child & adolescent mental health services to adult services?

5.2 These lines of inquiry will form the basis for evidence gathering and for questioning strategies in panel meetings.

6. Evidence Gathering

6.1 Evidence gathering should typically involve panel members having conversations with those close to a particular topic. In seeking evidence councillors should be looking to hear a range of different perspectives and from those people they would not normally speak to.

6.2 In thinking about what evidence to collect councillors should consider three questions:

- *Who do you expect to tell you what they think in writing? (Written submissions)*
- *Who do you think you will be inviting into speak to the Panel at a meeting where you will be able to ask questions? (Panel meetings)*
- *Who do you want to hear from that you don't think will get in touch, and how can we get to them? (Outreach evidence)*

6.3 The following three sections consider each question in the context of this inquiry.

7. Invitations to Provide Written Submissions

7.1 Written submissions will be invited in 2 ways:

- **Call for Evidence:** This will be published on the council website and advertised to public and staff. A press release will also be produced. A draft call for Evidence can be found at **APPENDIX A**.
- **Email:** To all Cabinet Members, Directors and Heads of Service. Other Councils in Wales will also be invited to highlight good practice examples.

8. Invitations to attend a Panel meeting

8.1 The following panel meetings are proposed for evidence gathering:

Meeting	Purpose	Proposed Invitees
1. Corporate perspective	To understand corporate view and policy priorities	Councillor Christine Richards, Cabinet Member for Services to Children & Young People
2. Social Services Perspective	To understand how social services uses CAMHS services, barriers to access, contribution to prevention and early intervention	Julie Thomas, Head of Child & Family Services

3. Education Perspective	To understand the links between education and mental health services To examine prevention and early intervention work	Lindsey Harvey, Chief Education Officer Chris Seacombe, SEN Support and Statutory Assessment Manager Phil Monaghan, Principal Education Psychologist Mark Sheridan, Senior Education Psychologist (Behaviour&Learning)
4. Youth Offending Perspective	To understand the links between the Youth Offending Service and mental health services To examine prevention and early intervention work	Janice Hall, Regional Youth Offending Service
5. Third sector perspective	To understand the role of the third sector in providing mental health services To examine prevention and early intervention work	TBC
6. Transition	To examine the transition process from child and adolescent to adult mental health services	TBC
7. Training	To understand how health professionals and other relevant professionals are trained to identify mental health issues and provide advice and support	TBC

9. Suggested dates

9.1 It is suggested that meetings take place fortnightly in order to complete the evidence gathering and reporting within 6 months. The panel will meet on Tuesday mornings at 10am. The following dates are proposed:

- 10th November
- 24th November
- 8th December
- 5th January
- 19th January
- 2nd February (although JCC is held at 10.30am)

- 16th February

10. Next Steps

- 10.1 Once proposals have been agreed the inquiry timetable will be circulated to panel members and the work of the inquiry can start.
- 10.2 It is expected that the evidence gathering or the inquiry will take place between November and February 2016. The final report of the panel can then be discussed and agreed in time to be presented to the Scrutiny Programme Committee in April 2016 prior to being presented to Cabinet.

Report Author

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APPENDIX A

Call for Evidence: Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services Scrutiny Inquiry

A new scrutiny inquiry panel has started which is looking at ways in which the council and its partners can reduce the demand for specialist child & adolescent mental health services

Over the next few months the Panel will be looking into many aspects of this area and will look to answer the question *'How is the Council working with health and other partners to reduce demand for specialist child and adolescent mental health services?'*

Councillors have chosen to look at this subject because:

The number of referrals into specialist CAMHS services has doubled in the last 4 years and resources are getting scarcer.

Prevention and early intervention and partners working collaboratively to share resources will help to reduce demand for specialist services

The Council is an important partner in this area and the panel wants to hear the views of a wide range of people so that they can propose practical changes that can help reduce demand for CAMHS services.

Lines of Inquiry

The panel will specifically be looking at the following questions:

- a) **Multi-agency prevention & early intervention:** how do partners (education, health, youth offending, child and family services) work together to provide prevention and early intervention services?
- b) **Accessing services:** what is the new referral process and how does it operate?
- c) **Training:** how are professionals who work with children and young people trained to identify mental health issues?
- d) **Transition:** how effective is the transition from child & adolescent mental health services to adult services?

How to provide your views...

Interested groups or individuals are encouraged to submit written evidence to the inquiry by email to scrutiny@swansea.gov.uk. The Panel may contact you to discuss your evidence. All evidence that is submitted will usually be published as part of the inquiry, if you do not wish your evidence to be published please state clearly.