



**Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny  
Committee  
1 February 2017**

**Report from the Director of Policy,  
Performance and Partnerships**

For information

Wards affected: ALL

**Scoping paper for Child and Adolescent Mental Health  
services (CAMHS) Scrutiny Task Group**

**1.0 Summary**

- 1.1 The Community and Wellbeing Committee agreed in its work plan for 2016/17 to set up a number of task groups to review important matters of council policy. Members agreed that during 2016/17 they would set up a task group in order for scrutiny to evaluate Child and Adolescent Mental Health services (CAMHS).
- 1.2 CAMHS as a subject for a scrutiny task group was judged by members to have met the IMPACT criteria which scrutiny has developed to evaluate and filter whether or not a subject is appropriate to be included in its annual work programme for 2016/17. The task group scoping document in Appendix A sets out the task group's remit, methodology, research methods and its objectives.

**2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 Members of the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee to discuss and agree the contents of the report and scoping paper in Appendix A.
- 2.2 The committee to agree to set up a task group to review Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services which will report with recommendations to committee on 9 May 2017.

**3.0 Background**

- 3.1 In March 2015, the government published Future in Mind – a strategy for promoting and improving young people's mental health – which also offered additional funding for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS). In response, a Local Transformation Plan for CAMHS was developed across north-west London with a dedicated plan and objectives for Brent.

3.2 The transformation plan, which was developed with young people's involvement, will implement improvements across CAMHS services. The plan was approved by NHS England in December 2015. An update on progress with the plan was given to Brent's Health and Wellbeing Board on 22 March 2016.

3.3 Brent has a disproportionately large number of young people in social groups who for environmental reasons may be at higher risk of developing poor mental health. Based on national projections, it's thought that one in ten school-age children in Brent has a diagnosable mental health condition which equates to an estimated 4,575 children and young people.

#### **4.0 Detail**

4.1 The focus of the task group in gathering evidence will be on qualitative evidence from face-to-face interviews as well as looking at quantitative data, and to develop five recommendations which can be implemented. Interviews could include NHS and health providers, Brent CCG, parents and young people, school and further education representatives.

4.2 The scope of the enquiry by the scrutiny task group is limited to its terms of reference as set out in the scoping paper. In essence, the purpose of the scrutiny task group will be to review the effectiveness of the CAMHS model in providing support to young people in Brent at present, and how the model could be adapted to better meet needs in the future.

4.3 The chair of task group is Councillor Ahmad Shahzad OBE, the other members are Councillor Ruth Moher and Dr Jeff Levison, a co-opted committee member.

#### **5.0 Financial Implications**

5.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

#### **6.0 Legal Implications**

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

#### **7.0 Diversity Implications**

7.1 There are no diversity implications immediately arising from this report.

#### **Contact Officers**

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