

	Health and Wellbeing Board 22 January 2019
	Report from the Chair of Brent Children's Trust
Brent Children's Trust Update April – September 2018	

Wards Affected:	
Key or Non-Key Decision:	N/A
Open or Part/Fully Exempt: <small>(If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)</small>	Open
No. of Appendices:	1
Background Papers:	0
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1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. The Brent Children's Trust (BCT) is a strategic partnership body made up of commissioners and key partners. The primary functions of the BCT include commissioning, joint planning and collaborative working to ensure that resources are allocated and utilised to deliver maximum benefits for children and young people in Brent.
- 1.2. The BCT reports to the Brent Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) and provides an update paper every six months. The previous report, covering November 2017 to March 2018 was presented to the HWB in July 2018.
- 1.3. This paper provides a broad summary of the BCT work programme from April to September 2018.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note the work of the Brent Children's Trust for the period April to September 2018.

3.0 Detail

- 2.2. The BCT meets every two months to review progress of its work programme and address emerging local and national issues. Between April and September 2018 the BCT met three times on 15 May 2018, 10 July 2018 and 27 September 2018.
- 2.3. The BCT, through its Joint Commissioning Group (JCG), oversees five groups tasked with implementing specific priorities across the partnership. The diagram in Appendix A provides an overview of the current governance structure.
- 2.4. The BCT, JCG and transformation groups have consistent attendance with representation from Brent Council and Brent Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Other key stakeholders also attend the JCG which includes three school head teachers who have been active members since September 2017.
- 2.5. Between April and September 2018 the BCT examined two main strategic themes; Young Carers and Brent's Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services (ILACS).

2.5.1. Young Carers

- The BCT maintains oversight of the work of its Young Carers transformation group (Young Carers Champions) and the joint work of statutory and voluntary sector providers in delivering an integrated approach to supporting Young Carers and strengthening their rights.
- The BCT received an update on the progress on the action plan created to advance this work at the September 2018 meeting.
- Detailed updates on progress are also reported during each meeting of the Joint Commissioning Group.
- The BCT advocated the inclusion of Young Carers within the refreshed Brent Carers Strategy to ensure that there is a coherent approach to supporting Young Carers and their families.
- The BCT continues to champion the delivery of joint commissioning arrangements with Brent Council's Community Wellbeing department to ensure that the support services for Young Carers are integrated into the support services offered to all carers in Brent. These support services, funded through the Better Care Fund, will include enhanced support for Young Carers from April 2019.
- The BCT recognised that a number of positive outcomes have been achieved to date and suggested a number of actions be incorporated into the action plan including:
 - Increase engagement with all schools on their responsibilities around Young Carers by encouraging them to incorporate these into their Safeguarding policies.
 - Provide specific Young Carers information in Brent CCG's 'Brent Health Help Now' app.

- Ensure a module on Young Carers is included in the Making Every Contact Count training.

2.5.2. **Brent's Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services (ILACS)**

- Ofsted carried out an inspection of Brent children's social care services between 14 May and 25 May 2018.
- Brent achieved a 'Good' Ofsted judgement following this inspection and the BCT noted the positive recognition of the strength of leadership and partnership working in Brent.
- In July 2018, the BCT considered the areas for improvement identified by Ofsted and offered a number suggested partnership actions for the established working group to consider taking forward including:
 - Ensuring there is appropriate health provider service representation on the newly established operational group of the Vulnerable Adolescents Panel.
 - Explore how best to utilise the expertise and strength of the LSCB's Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation Priority Group to support addressing some of areas for improvement set out in the Ofsted report.
 - Ensuring that work is done to address the consistent attendance of appropriate health colleagues in Strategy Meetings.
 - Consider broader ways to promote the engagement of partner agencies in completing Early Help Assessments including through other relevant strategic partnership forums such as Brent LSCB.

2.6. During this period, the BCT's work programme also covered the following areas:

2.6.1. **Maternal Early Childhood Sustained Home-visiting (MECSH) Implementation**

- In September 2018, the BCT received an overview report of the implementation of the Maternal Early Childhood Sustained Home visiting (MECSH) programme in Brent, led by Public Health.
- Since its instigation in Brent in August 2017, 266 referrals had been made and 103 families had been accepted on to the programme.
- Extremely positive feedback has been received from service users and there is a lot of interest in this model across London.
- The BCT will receive an update report in 12 months with a focus on the impact of the programme.
- The BCT initiated further engagement with General Practitioners (GPs) in Brent and requested a briefing be sent to all GP practices outlining the programme and how it could be accessed.

2.6.2. **Childhood Obesity**

- The BCT acknowledge childhood obesity is an issue in Brent and support the activity being undertaken to address this through the joint partnership work of the STP Prevention Board.
- Further to the childhood obesity briefing paper submitted to the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee in February 2018, the BCT received an update in September 2018 on the progress of actions being undertaken to

reduce childhood obesity in Brent. This included introducing breastfeeding support clinics, achieving UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative level 3 accreditation, providing a 0-5 weight management programme for families and offering advice on healthy eating and increased physical activity.

- The BCT supports the development of a NW London childhood obesity leads group which has already proven useful to share good practice.
- The BCT will remain sighted on the work of the newly developed multi-agency children obesity steering group which includes representation from Public Health, Brent CCG, Brent Children's Services, Central London Community Healthcare NHS Trust, schools and sports centres.
- NHS England is monitoring the improvement plans for Brent on childhood obesity, through the CCG Improvement Assurance Framework.
- The BCT recommended that further work should be undertaken to project the trajectory of childhood obesity in Brent in order to better evaluate the impact of interventions.

2.6.3. Special Educational Needs and Disabilities SEND Strategy Implementation

- The BCT continues to provide direction and support to implementing the Brent SEND strategy.
- In May 2018 the BCT considered a draft SEND strategy and agreed a number of amendments to be made ahead of sign off.
- In September 2018, the BCT received an update on the progress of the refreshed SEND Strategy implementation plan which is being led by the Inclusion Strategic Board. The plan includes actions focussed on early intervention and training, joint commissioning and multi-agency working, participation of service users and improved outcomes for young people with SEND.
- The BCT Joint Commissioning Group continues to gather evidence of improvement and impact in anticipation of a SEND inspection re-visit in 2019.

2.6.4. Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Local Transformation Plan

- The BCT continues to be a key forum to share, discuss and inform the development of the shared vision to reshape services supporting children and young people's mental health and emotional wellbeing in Brent.
- Following on the BCT update report presented in July 2018 which highlighted the concern that funding for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) transformation would cease in 2019/2020, the BCT is pleased to update that Brent CCG Executive Committee has since formally agreed that the funding for this transformation will be sustained going forward, so long as this is additional to the joint commissioning system. Brent Council has similarly pledged to maintain the existing levels of mental health funding.
- The CAMHS transformation targeted investment has been used to address the national issue that two out of three children with a diagnosable mental illness are not identified and do not get specialist mental health support. Validated data from NHS England for 2017/18 had shown the success of

this investment in increasing numbers of Brent children accessing this support, with over 1,400 receiving specialist CAMHS support in 2017/18, of which over 500 were new cases.

- The national aim is for 35% of the prevalent population of children with mental illness to get specialist CAMHS support per year. The 2017/18 level of access in Brent was calculated as 32%. However, as there is no standardised methodology for determining the prevalence for children aged 0-5 or 16-18, the percentage rate may be overstated. The CAMHS transformation group intends to work with Public Health on a more robust approach to evaluating the prevalent population in 2019/20.
- Successful areas of service transformation included
 - an expansion of specialist CAMHS capacity (with more children seen more quickly);
 - better mental health support for young people known to the Youth Offending Service; and
 - more capacity to assess children under the age of five for Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- Less successful areas of service transformation were in having specialist CAMHS support for out-of-area Looked After Children, and for schools aligned with the educational psychology team. Several rounds of recruitment were attempted, but have so far been unsuccessful. However, it has been possible for the existing mental health support for Looked After Children commissioned by Brent Council to be brought under the same provider as Brent specialist CAMHS.
- A bid was made to be a trailblazer site for a school mental health service, which would have seen c£2.3m additional recurrent investment from the Department of Health and Social Care. However, this Wave 1 bid was unsuccessful. This means there remains a recognised unmet need for children and families who do not meet the threshold for mental illness. The CAMHS transformation group will consider carefully how to get the best value for money from existing resources across specialist CAMHS, early years, health visiting, and school nursing.
- Recruitment has been the largest limiting factor in service improvement. The available workforce is reducing nationally, at the same time that targets for CAMHS expansion have been set. Retention has also been a challenge, with a number of CAMHS staff reaching a stage in their lives where they want to move out of rented accommodation, but found it too expensive to live in Brent and surrounding areas.

2.6.5. Sustainable Transformation Plan - Priorities for children and implications for the Children's Trust

- In July 2018, the BCT considered how best the Sustainable Transformation Plan (STP) priorities could be influenced by the Trust, both at a North West London and local level.
- The six identified 'big ticket' items for Brent were examined and the Trust agreed the priority order for the five relevant to children's services.
- The North West London Collaboration of CCGs has developed proposals for a dedicated "child and maternity" priority in the updated STP (now, Health & Care Plan). The proposed priority areas are:

- Healthy child – reducing dental cavities and related hospital admissions;
- Children with long term conditions – initially focusing on reducing the reliance emergency care for children with asthma; and
- Children with complex needs – looking at children who need multi-agency support, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.
- Better births – Working with maternity services to improve choice of birth setting, improve service user coproduction, and reduce still births and neonatal deaths.
- North West London Collaboration of CCGs discussions are due on 13 Dec'18, 17 Jan'19, and 31 Mar'19 to formally adopt the new proposal. NHS Brent CCG Executive Committee has formally supported the proposal.

2.6.6. OBR Implementation - Early help approach

- In July 2018 the BCT reviewed the proposal to develop a whole system approach to Early Help. This approach was developed as a result of two Outcome Based Reviews (children on the edge of care and gangs)
- The Trust will consider the strategic implications of this project once it has been fully scoped.

2.6.7. Looked After Children (LAC) and Care Leavers

- The Local Partnership Group for LAC and Care Leavers continues to be the multiagency forum that leads on focussed pieces of work on LAC health, education, accommodation and overall outcomes for LAC and care leavers.
- Providers and Brent CCG work together with Brent Council to ensure better health outcomes for LAC and as a result of joint action, the performance indicators for initial and review health assessments have significantly improved.
- Training sessions delivered by the Lead Nurse for LAC and the Designated Nurse for LAC to practitioners and managers have had a positive impact on improving performance indicators for initial and review health assessments.

2.6.8. Whole Systems Integrated Care (WSIC) Dashboard

- The Joint Commissioning Group is continuing to explore how the WSIC Dashboard can be jointly utilised with the view to bring together health and social care systems enabling improved communication and information sharing.
- NHS Brent CCG has commissioned a prototype asthma service for children to improve their asthma control and reduce their reliance on emergency care. This is aligned to the existing WSIC “asthma radar”. Work is ongoing to improve the quality and completeness of data on Brent children with asthma available to frontline staff. It is anticipated that the BCT Joint Commissioning Group will help expand the scope of this service in 2019/20 to provide seamless care between the 0-19 public health nursing service, and specialist respiratory services.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

6.0 Equality Implications

6.1 There are no equality implications as a result of this report.

7.0 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

7.1 Brent Council and Brent CCG are members of the BCT and its sub groups and have contributed to this report.

Report sign off:

Gail Tolley

Strategic Director Children and Young People

Appendix A

