

Report to Health and Wellbeing Board

Report from: Children's Trust Board Chair – Cllr Liz Brighthouse
Report Date: 24 th June 2022
Dates of meetings held since the last report: 11 th May 2022 – Virtual meeting due to COVID-19 restrictions
HWB Priorities addressed in this report – A Healthy Start in Life
Link to any published notes or reports: Children & Young People's Plan 2018 - 2023
<u>Priorities for 2022-23 – Focus on Early Help</u>
To ensure all partners on the board dedicate senior leaders to the Early Help (EH) agenda and review their agency's current resource.
<p>Priority focus for 2022/23:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Help & Mental Health & Well-Being • Early Help & 0 – 5-year old's • Early Help & SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disabilities) Early Intervention <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify issues and concerns for children and families early so that they can be addressed promptly and without the need for statutory interventions if that is not necessary or appropriate. • To ensure that Early Help support is at the least intrusive level and designed to support families continue to develop and thrive. • To use an Early Help Assessment to develop a holistic, coordinated multi-agency intervention where an organization alone cannot fully support the problems a family is facing. <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each agency to review their senior leadership and resource levels to early help and report to Children's Trust Board and report on targets for their agency Early Help Assessments. • To increase the number of Early Help Assessments (EHAs) to 10,000 by 2024/25. • To identify resource to ensure front-line staff/designated staff across all our services are trained in the early identification and support that can be offered in relation to mental health and well-being, attachment, trauma informed and whole family working by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - scoping what is in place - adapting existing resources and designing training - planning delivery of training and/or train the trainers <p>Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior strategic leadership and increased resourcing in place for early help so that fewer children are supported by statutory services.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pooled resource for Early Help • Increase in EHAs (Early Help Assessments) to 5,000 by April 2023; 250 more staff trained to deliver EHAs. • Reduction in children needing assessments for Education Health Care Needs, Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) or Children’s Social Care statutory support and improvement in Good Level of Development because their needs have been addressed at the earliest opportunity. • Staff are confident to deliver mental health and well-being interventions, promote whole family working, signpost on as appropriate.
<p>Priority focus for 2022/23: Be Supported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure the partnership listens to and learns from the views and feedback from children and young people, aged 8-18yrs and up to 25yrs with additional needs, about how supported they feel by the services they access in Oxfordshire.

1. Progress reports on priority work to deliver the Joint HWB Strategy

Priority Focus	Early Help & Mental Health & Well-being
Deliverable	See updated Children and Young People Plan for list of deliverables
Progress report	TBC

Priority Focus	Early Help & 0-5-year old’s
Deliverable	See updated Children and Young People Plan for list of deliverables.
Progress report	TBC

Priority Focus	Early Help & SEND Early Intervention
Deliverable	See updated Children and Young People Plan for list of deliverables.
Progress report	TBC

Priority	Be Supported
Focus	Listen to the feedback from young people in Oxfordshire
Deliverable	This deliverable is measured by a standing agenda item, to hear feedback from young people via VOXY. Additionally, via the “Be Supported Survey.”
Progress report	Be Supported Survey 2022 was launched on the 14 th March and ran for 6 weeks – 4 weeks of school time and then extending into the Easter holidays giving 6 weeks in total to complete the survey and to boost engagement. Verbal update provided at May meeting. Due to changes of timescales, the full report will be sent out in June.

2. Note on what is being done in areas rated Red or Amber in the Performance Framework

The data and information below are for Performance Report Quarter 4 2021/22.

Be successful

Attendance for terms 1-4 (i.e., September 2021 to Easter 2022) shows:

- The overall attendance rate at Oxfordshire schools for terms 1-4 was **92.1%**
- Approximately 1 in 4 children (24.5% - 20,007 children) were classed as being persistently absent during the term (missing 10% or more sessions – equivalent to 12 days)
- Persistent absence rates were highest in special schools (41.7%) and lowest in primary schools (20.7%)
- Persistent absence rates in both primary and secondary schools saw a slight improvement (decrease) since terms 3. However, rates for pupils with EHCP (Educational Health & Care Plans), SEN (Special Educational Needs) support or pupil premium all increased.
- The groups with the highest persistent absence continue to be:
 - Children with a child protection plan (57.0%) or child in need (53.5%)
 - Children with an EHCP – 41.9%

Be healthy

The average (mean) waiting time for core CAMHS (Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services) services is 12% lower than 12 months ago, but the median is higher. Median waiting times dropped till December last year but have since started to rise. To December, A&E (Accident & Emergencies) attendances for self-harm are 56% higher than last year and 58% more than 2019, though hospital admissions which for self-harm (15-19) are 1% lower than 2 years ago.

The number of early help assessments continues to be above target, but you remain 2½ more likely to have a social care than an early help assessment.

The number of under-age conceptions is falling, but the pregnant women scored with a risk of 3 or 4 continue to rise.

Be Safe

Last year MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) contacts rose by 33%, this year to January there has been a further 21% increase. Despite this timeliness remains better than target.

Child protection numbers have risen by nearly 100 in the year and stand at 561. This is still 200 less than the highpoint of June 2019 (769)

Over 800 children are cared for - nearly double that of March 2013. There is increasing pressure on placements.

Recorded domestic incidents involving children fell by 2% in the last year but is still 8% higher than the figure 2 years' ago. Recorded incidents of domestic crimes involving children has increased by 10% last year and 26% on two years ago.

The number of missing children is 42% higher than a year ago when we were in lockdown. It is still 16% lower than 2 years ago

Indicator Number	RAG	What is being done to improve performance?
1.3a Mean wait for Core CAMHS (days)	N/A	In January 2022 the number was 95 - 27% lower than January 2021
1.3b Median wait for Core CAMHS (days)	N/A	In January 2022 the number was 67 – 12% lower than January 2021
1.11 Reduce the persistent absence of children subject to a Child Protection Plan	N/A	Data available annually only. This is for 2018/19 academic year
1.1 Reduce the number of children we care for to 750 by March 2022	R	The number in January 2022 was 805 - partly due to housing of more unaccompanied asylum-seeking children

3. Summary of other items discussed by the board

3.1 Children’s Strategies – Common Vision and Statement of Intent

The vision itself is familiar and has been agreed for several years within The Children’s Trust. The Statement of Intent (*document below*) is new and has been developed initially through the Child Exploitation work in relation to the Jacob Child Safeguarding Practice Review. Organisations were asked to consider how it will impact on our behaviour in relation to children, principles and common language and discuss further at the next meeting with ideas of what they have done and will do.

The Statement of Intent links to another piece of work, which is the Vision Statement for Children. This is to develop a strapline across all services/partnerships that builds on the vision of the Children’s Trust Board. There will be an agreed approach through a workshop, then a poll of suggested options for the strapline with stakeholders able to vote on the final version between July and September.



Statement of Intent

3.2 CAMHS (Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service) – waiting times performance data

Vicky Norman, Head of Service for CAMHS & Eating Disorders shared an internal document with regards to mitigations and the risks CAMHS are facing with the waits and pathways (*document below*):



Currents Waits & Mitigations

The Neuro Development Conditions Pathway is launching support for people waiting for services such as monthly parent evening groups, post diagnostic workshops, post diagnostic peer led groups for young people, support groups for parents waiting for diagnostic assessment. There is work with Helios to support with vacancies and to help with waits and dashboard is being completed to show the impact Helios is making and it’s effects on waiting times.

With the increase in Accident & Emergency (A&E) admissions, a deep dive around admissions and Tier 4 beds is being undertaken by Health and Children’s Social Care. This should show themes leading to admission and there is ongoing work around

admissions for self-harm and whether young people are known to services. Work is due to be completed by the end of May and this feedback will be provided to the Children's Trust.

3.3 Feedback from OSCB on emerging issues (Derek Benson)

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements Executive Group are provided with a demand management dashboard which shows significant pressures in the system, such as:

- Concerns of number of referrals to Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)
- Need to complete Early Help Assessments and provide support via Team Around the Family rather than refer to Children's Social Care, as high number of referrals resulting in no further action
- Increase in attendance at A&E for self-harm, increase in young people who commit suicide and increase in safeguarding concerns in maternity services
- Work still on going around Jacob CSPR, pushing out communication messages, continuing with the 3 workstreams: education, working together and exploitation – event at the end of June
- Work ongoing following the Solihull JTAI (Joint Targeted Area Inspection) – 13/14 key learning points
- Ukraine – updates on people arriving, particularly children and consideration to be given for any unaccompanied children to ensure safeguarding

3.4 Voice of Oxfordshire's Youth (VOXY)

The VOXY representatives covered the work that VOXY are undertaking, such as Climate Action Heroes High Sheriffs awards and a VOXY representative was one of the six judges on the panel. There were awards to social enterprises, businesses and individuals for projects ranging from wildlife restoration work to renewable energy projects.

In March there were discussion groups and surveys for young people about the School and College Nursing Service on how their health and wellbeing could be best supported as part of ongoing work by Public Health linked to Healthy Child Programme. Results from both discussions and surveys were helpful in the future planning of the School and College Nursing Service.

In-depth interviews are happening with some children from the Children in Care Council taking place around the new digital inclusion strategy, to engage with different people who could potentially be excluded and to understand the challenges and barriers. VOXY feel there needs to be more progress made around outreach and communication from Oxfordshire County Council (OCC).

3.5 Update on Be Supported Survey 2022 (Rosie Boyes)

The survey was running until the end of April. Rosie Boyes provided a verbal update (*document below*) on the headline points from the 2022 Be Supported questionnaire responses and the full report will be shared with board members in June.



Be Supported
Survey (update)

There were concerns around the low number of young people who participated, which was 64 compared to last year at 159, despite undertaking the same level of promotional activity as in previous years. Kevin Gordon and Rosie Boyes and other consultation and communication colleagues within the Council are discussing future direction and looking to approach consultation differently on a thematic basis in the future, instead of doing a repeat Be Supported Survey in 2023.

3.6 Update from parent representatives – Healthwatch Oxfordshire (Lisa Hughes)

Healthwatch ambassadors have met regularly with Oxfordshire Wellbeing Network and Parents Carers Forum.

Dan Knowles welcomed the consultation for children and young people at the Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the consensus was that the consultation has gone well.

What happens next and moving forward with the implementation of the SEND Strategy. This was going to cabinet on the 24th May and that once the strategy is agreed, consideration will be given to implementation.

3.7 Update from the Children and Young People Forum - Voluntary Sector (Jodie Lloyd-Jones, Emma Anderson & Charlotte Pearson-Miles)

An annual report written to OSCB (Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children's Board) around relationship between OSCB and voluntary sector but also feeding in key priorities and what's happening around the voluntary sector. The communication via OSCB Newsletter reaching the voluntary sector has been positive.

There is ongoing concern from the voluntary sector on lack of funding for core costs now that emergency funding from pandemic has stopped.

There are several voluntary sector organisations that are struggling financially so Oxfordshire Youth and other organisations are discussing with those organisations, bringing them together, reviewing resources, operating models, and trying to think about how work can be done differently to continue that work. This also links to discussions about Early Years and new Family Hubs and a plea for voluntary sector engagement on this large piece of work.

There are conversations around challenges of workforce, recruitment and development, national issue across all sectors and having capacity to continue work.

There is a discussion around the reduction of LCSS (Locality & Community Support Service) and rise in complex safeguarding and mental health concerns that the voluntary sector were managing and this being an increase in pressure on the voluntary sector.

Training is being delivered through OCVA (Oxfordshire Community & Voluntary Action) in areas that have been requested, e.g., Family Links, speech, and language.

Signal in OX4 which is a meaningful measurement experiment trying to get data from up to a 100 parents in OX4 to see what the issues are and what it looks like for them.

3.8 Children's Trust Board Priorities from the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2018-2023

- Children & Young People's Year 4 Plan Progress (2021/2022) – has been published on the public website.



CYPP Year 4
COVID-19 Recovery I

- Children & Young People's Year 5 Plan (2022/2023) – Focus on Early Help. The priorities are around Early Help & Mental Health and Wellbeing, Early Help & 0–5-year-olds, and Early Help & SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disabilities) Early Intervention.



CYPP 22-23
Presentation

An action was to send out the slide set with the 'ask' to each organisation to sign up to the plan at a senior level and taking this through their individual governance arrangements and give feedback on how they are implementing the actions within their agency so that responses can be collated and reviewed at the next Children's Trust Board meeting.



CYPP Year 5 Plan
Priorities 22-23

3.9 Forward plan for the next meeting

The following items are due to be considered in forthcoming meetings:

- CAMHS - Accident & Emergency (A&E) admissions/Tier 4 Beds – deep dive feedback – managing demand
- Child poverty
- Children & Young People's Year 5 Plan - Focus on Early Help – feedback from organisations on implementation actions