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Our Ref: CS/KD

12 December 2016

By Email

Lynne Neagle AM
Children Young People and Education Committee

Dear Chair

TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PROGRAMME

Thank you for inviting us to attend the Children, Young People and Education Committee on 24 November 2016 and your subsequent letter of 7 December.

As we highlighted at the meeting, '*Together for Children and Young People*' (T4CYP) is making good progress in delivering a whole systems approach to emotional health and wellbeing and not just CAMHS, but we have significantly more to do.

In your letter you asked for clarification on the new CAMHS targets. In response to your questions we can confirm that:

- The current target for referral to treatment is 28 days. This brings CAMHS in line with the target for adult mental health services.
- Statistics against the new waiting times targets of 48 hours for urgent specialist CAMHS assessments and 28 days for routine assessments are not yet routinely published. We understand that Welsh Government policy officials are requesting that NHS Stats change their reporting systems. Such a change has to be agreed by the Wales Information Standards Board, a process we understand is being worked through. We are able to interrogate the current data to show individual weeks and use the 4 week position to report against the new 28 day target for routine assessments. The total number waiting 28 days from June to September 2016 has decreased by 42% (106 to 62).
- Both the 48 hour urgent and 28 day routine targets you cite in your letter refer to referral to assessment. The latter again brings CAMHS in line with the requirements for adult mental health. All health boards tell us that they are now meeting the 48 hour target and that those who are not doing so already, will achieve the 28 target by April 2017.
- The neurodevelopmental data is no longer reported within the CAMHS statistics and is being included within the revised routine reporting arrangements outlined above. As we mentioned at the session, this brings neurodevelopment in line with the rest of paediatrics. Welsh Government policy colleagues are monitoring progress towards this target. All health boards have confirmed will deliver this during the course of 2017.

During the session we also agreed to provide additional information on the wider work of T4CYP. This is outlined below, with the relevant documents attached

Making Sense and our You Said We Did Report

During 2015, mental health charities Hafal, Mental Health Foundation, Bipolar UK, and Diverse Cymru completed a consultation with children and young people to consider how mental health services in Wales could be improved. The results were published in the *Making Sense Report* (attached 1), highlighting 10 recommendations for improvement. We have taken these into account in remodelling services. Our *You Said We Did* report (attached 2) demonstrates how we are listening and acting upon the issues raised by all children and young people and not just those who use Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. This was widely shared through our close links with the Children's Commissioner's office, Children in Wales and the High Needs Collaborative.

The All Wales Baseline Variations and Opportunities Audit Report 2016

The report (attached 3) provides the most comprehensive audit of specialist CAMHS to date, outlining current service models and provision. It highlights variations in Welsh service and identifies both areas for improvement and good practice for health boards to adopt. Recommendations from the first report are informing the work of our specialist CAMHS work stream.

CAMHS National Benchmarking 2016

All health boards submitted CAMHS data in the 2016 NHS UK wide Benchmarking Exercise. A facilitated event was held on 29 November providing health boards with the opportunity to look at the benchmarked data, review changes over the past 12 months and look at the position across Wales and in comparison with the rest of the UK. We are awaiting a final report from NHS Benchmarking UK which we will forward to you upon receipt.

North Wales Adolescent Services In-patient Unit

Following your questions at the session we asked for a report from the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) as the commissioner for Tier 4 in-patient services. Their report (attached 4) outlines the latest position on the North Wales Adolescent Services in Abergele.

I hope that this provides the Committee with the additional information it requires. We will ensure that members are kept up to date with our work through our regular newsletters which will be sent to the Committee clerk for circulation.

If you have any queries or issues requiring further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Carol Shillabeer
Chief Executive Powys teaching Health Board/Chair of T4CYP Programme

Cc: Siân Stewart, National Director for Mental Health/Programme Director T4CYP

Enc:

1. *Making Sense Report*
2. *You Said We Did Report*
3. *All Wales Baseline Variations and Opportunities Audit Report 2016*
4. *North Wales Adolescent Services Report*