

<b>Item No.</b> N/a	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 17 September 2019	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Adult Care
<b>Report title:</b>		Establishing a Southwark Child and Adolescent Mental Health Commission	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Director of Commissioning for Children and Adults	

### RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That the cabinet member for children, schools and adult care agrees to establish an independent 'Southwark Child and Adolescent Mental Health Commission' to lead and coordinate evidence gathering of officers from the council, the NHS, Schools, the Voluntary Sector and other key stakeholders implementing the recommendations from the Joint Review of Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Services.
2. That the Commission be formed and operate within the terms of reference that are set out in appendix 1.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. A review of the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people was jointly commissioned by Southwark Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Southwark Council, with involvement from a wide range of stakeholders including children, young people, parents and carers.
4. The report was presented at the Health and Wellbeing Board and a copy is attached as a background paper.
5. The Executive Summary of the report helpfully sets out the challenges and opportunities in Southwark to improve outcomes and reduce inequalities for children and young people experiencing emotional distress and mental ill health. It goes on to note that in order to promote emotional wellbeing and mental health, that a whole system approach is necessary to make existing services work better, support the workforce to work in an integrated way and ensure that prevention and early intervention is at the heart of redesign and/or commissioning of services.
6. The Health and Wellbeing Board meeting, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018, had a robust and energised discussion that is best understood by watching the footage of the meeting at the following [link](#)<sup>1</sup>. The minutes of the meeting can be found in the

<sup>1</sup> Link to footage:

<http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/b50010051/LivestreamVideo%20Link%20YouTube%20Wednesday%2021-Nov-2018%2018.00%20Health%20and%20Wellbeing%20Board.pdf?T=9>

following [link](#)<sup>2</sup>.

7. The notable decision by the Board was that they agreed that all (100%) of children, young people and their families should be able to access help or support in relation to mental ill-health.

## **KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

8. This report proposes that the cabinet member for children, schools and adult care establishes a Southwark Child and Adolescent Mental Health Commission. The purpose of this Commission is to consider, challenge, support and evaluate the actions being taken in the London Borough of Southwark to revolutionise and transform mental health support for children, young people and their families. The key concern being that all children and families who are resident in the borough will have access to support, and, where appropriate, treatment to ensure that their mental health needs are met.
9. The Commission will run from October 2019 to October 2021 and will meet quarterly and will be supported by Southwark Council officers in undertaking their work. Chief officer support, advice and guidance will be provided by the Strategic Director for Children and Adults (the statutory Director for Children's Services and the Director of Adult Social Services) and the Strategic Director for Place and Wellbeing (the statutory Director of Public Health). The chief officers will be in attendance at Commission meetings.
10. The Council's Directors of Education, Commissioning, Children and Families, Adult Social Care and the NHS Directors and Clinical Leads for Mental Health will make themselves available to the Commission in support of this priority work.
11. Between April and June 2021 the Commission will review a draft report of the Commission's findings and learning for sharing, with the intention of publishing a public report in July 2021

## **Policy implications**

12. The Commission will build on the national work of the Values-Based Child and Adolescent Mental Health System Commission (2016) in the context of the Joint Review and the Health and Wellbeing Board commitment.
13. The Council Plan has a commitment to 'Protect funding for mental health services for children and young people and find ways to change and improve services so that more children get the support they need when they need it.'

## **Community impact statement**

14. Mental Health is an issue of national importance and particularly impactful locally. As a result, it is important that Southwark Council effectively understands the community impact and scopes potential solutions.

## **Equalities assessment**

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<sup>2</sup> Link to Health and Wellbeing Board minutes:

<http://modern.gov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/g6237/Printed%20minutes%20Wednesday%2021-Nov-2018%2018.00%20Health%20and%20Wellbeing%20Board.pdf?T=1>

15. **Across South East London, the level of mental health needs of children and young people in Southwark are consistently amongst the highest.** The percentage of school-aged pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs shows a similar pattern, with Southwark in 2016 being second highest at 2.7%, representing approximately 1200 children (0.4% higher than the England average).
16. Southwark has a high number of Looked After Children compared to the London and England averages. Although the current number of Looked After Children is an historically low level for the borough, our children are very much in mind as prevalence of emotional and behavioural problems in this cohort is estimated to be as high as 72%.
17. 38% of Southwark residents live in areas that are amongst the most deprived nationally. Social disadvantage is associated with increased risk of mental health problems.
18. Approximately two thirds of Southwark children and young people are of Black, Asian and minority ethnic origin (BAME). BAME children are more likely to be exposed to other risk factors for poor mental health and wellbeing and are under-represented in CAMHS, but are over-represented in other services, e.g. social care and the youth justice system.
19. In Southwark, 10% of secondary school pupils self-identify as LGBTQI+. LGBTQI+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, Intersex and others) children and young people are at higher risk of bullying, discrimination and abuse, and these experiences have serious implications for emotional and mental wellbeing.

#### **Legal implications**

20. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

#### **Financial implications**

21. There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report as the staff resources required will be contained within existing departmental revenue budgets.

#### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

<b>Background Papers</b>	<b>Held At</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Joint Review of CYP Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Services	Commissioning 160 Tooley Street	Genette Laws 020 7525 3460

## APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Terms of Reference

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Lead Officer</b>	David Quirke-Thornton, Strategic Director for Children and Adults Services	
<b>Report Author</b>	Genette Laws, Director of Commissioning for Children and Adults	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	11 September 2019	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	Yes	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments Included</b>
Director of Law and Democracy	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	No	No
List other officers here		
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Yes	Yes/No
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>	17 September 2019	

Terms of Reference

## Southwark Child and Adolescent Mental Health

### Commission

The purpose of this Commission is to consider, challenge, support and evaluate the actions being taken in the London Borough of Southwark to revolutionise and transform mental health support for children and families. Specifically to ensure that all children and families resident in the borough will have access to support, and where appropriate treatment, to ensure that their mental health needs are met.

#### Background and context

Access to mental health services for children and families in England is not sufficient and NHS England's target, set in 2018, of 35% access is unacceptable. Whilst the 2019 NHS plan for the next 10 years has set a target of 100% access for 2029, the Southwark Health and Wellbeing Board agreed a 100% target within 2 years at the November 2018 meeting of the Board. This places Southwark in a position of much higher aspiration, and to be achieved much quicker, quite simply because the Southwark Health and Wellbeing Board recognises that for children their childhood is not a dress rehearsal but rather sets the foundation for the rest of their lives. It is clear to the Southwark Health and Wellbeing Board that much suffering in childhood, often running through to adulthood, in relation to poor mental health can be prevented or successfully treated if access to support is *early* and *helpful*.

Southwark Council provide the most funding for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services of any borough in South London. This is in addition to the statutory responsibilities of the NHS to properly fund Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. Yet, access to NHS support means that currently less than a quarter of children who need to access Mental Health services are able to do so. This is a matter of great concern and a priority for the Southwark Health and Wellbeing Board who have committed to revolutionise and transform the offer to residents of Southwark.

In February 2019 Southwark Council Assembly approved a budget that not only protects Council funding for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, despite the fact that the Council no longer receives a specific grant from Government to do so and Council funding has been severely cut since 2010, but to additionally make £2m available to ensure that 100% of children and young people resident in the borough get access to emotional wellbeing or mental health services so that we reduce the need for specialist services and

ensure that families who must wait for specialist services are well supported, and that this ambition would be achieved by 2020.

This Commission will build on the national work of the Values-Based Child and Adolescent Mental Health System Commission (2016), with the London Borough of Southwark as the community to implement the key learning and recommendations of that Commission, to learn *what works* in practice and to openly share that learning and experience with our community and wider stakeholders concerned about the mental health of children and families.

### The Terms

The Commission will run from October 2019 to October 2021 and will meet quarterly and will be supported by Southwark Council officers in undertaking their work. Chief officer support, advice and guidance will be provided by the Strategic Director for Children and Adults (the statutory Director for Children's Services and the Director of Adult Social Services) and the Strategic Director for Place and Wellbeing (the statutory Director of Public Health). The chief officers will be in attendance at Commission meetings.

The Council's Directors of Education, Commissioning, Children and Families, Adult Social Care and the Southwark NHS CCG Director of Integrated Commissioning and Lead GP and Lead Commissioner for Mental Health will make themselves available to the Commission in support of this important work.

Between April and June 2021 the Commission will review a draft report of the Commission's findings and learning for sharing, with the intention of publishing a public report in July 2021.

### Chair

The Commission will be chaired by the Southwark Council Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Adult Care.

### Members of the Commission

The members of the Committee will consist of experts in the field of children's mental health, people with first hand experience of mental health services as professionals and or service users.