

NHS Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group

Children's Health, Social Care and Education

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 18 January 2017

Author:	Executive Nurse, Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group
Wards:	All Wards
Locality Affected:	All Locality Area
Parishes Affected:	All Parish Area

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 This report provides the Children's Health, Social Care and Education O&S Committee with an update of performance and key issues relating to Swindon CCG.
- 1.2 A key purpose of the Children's Health, Social Care and Education O&S Committee is to hold Commissioners of Health and Social Care Services to account.
- 1.3 Any Commissioner of Health and Social Care Services in Swindon is required to provide information on the planning and provision of health and social care services within the Borough and consult with the Committee on any planned substantial changes or developments to service provision.

2. Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the report.
- 2.2 Identify any areas of concern that require further investigation.

3. Detail

- 3.1 We updated the committee at the September 2016 meeting on the work being undertaken to improve the Children's Mental Health Pathways and develop them locally in line with national ambition integrating into a tier-less service to make assessments faster and more seamless.

Autism Pathway

- 3.2 National data identifies that the number of children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) has doubled since 2004, highlighting a significant challenge for specialist services nationally. This is a trend that is being experienced in Swindon, therefore detailed work is being progressed aimed at reducing the currently unacceptable waiting times for assessments in Swindon and to improve the effectiveness of the autism pathway.

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- 3.3 NHS Swindon CCG (CCG) is working closely with The Great Western Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (GWH) and community children's services at the Saltway Centre to fully review and understand the root cause of the delay. One contributory factor identified as a risk to increasing therapy delays has been linked to workforce challenges experienced by specialist therapy teams. Long term sickness and maternity leave is needing to be managed, however there is also a need to consider an increase in the number of key therapy staff, including Educational Psychology, Speech and Language Therapy and Physiotherapy. In discussion with service leads, the CCG is now in receipt of business cases in order to consider additional staffing resource for key services at the Saltway Centre and GWH.
- 3.4 The Children's Commissioner is meeting with the designated medical officers at GWH fortnightly. GWH have introduced a weekly referral meeting to conduct a multi-disciplinary discussion of all referrals received. GWH have started collating data from referral source through to diagnosis that identifies exact waiting times by individuals. This information is sent to the CCG weekly and monitored closely. GWH are working on an IT solution to be able to incorporate this reporting into their existing database.

Children's Services Review

- 3.5 The wider Children Services Review continues to progress and the CCG has identified project management support to support two key work streams, where one task group is scrutinising existing funding for contracts and another task group will be focusing on developing performance and quality outcome reporting tools. There is full involvement and commitment from professionals across the children's services health and social care economy.
- 3.6 In addition, the CCG and Swindon Borough Council (SBC) are currently ensuring that JSNA refresh for 2017/18 will contain more data for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

3.7 Supporting Information

3.7.1 None

4. **Alternative Options**

4.1 None

5. **Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management**

Financial and Procurement Implications

5.1 None

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Legal and Human Rights Implications

5.2 None

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

5.3 None

Diversity Impact Assessment

5.4 None

Risk Management

5.5 None

6. Consultees

6.1 The Board Director, Resources (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

7.1 None

8. Appendices

8.1 None