

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Paediatric Therapies Task and Finish Group – Scoping Document

Title of review	Paediatric Therapies Task and Finish Group
Scope	
Reason for review	<p>To consider how the coronavirus has impacted on the provision of paediatric therapies, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) • Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) • Children’s Physiotherapy • Children’s Occupational Therapy
Links to the county plan	<p>The review contributes to the following objectives contained in the Herefordshire county plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen communities to ensure everyone lives well and safely together
Summary of the review and terms of reference	<p>Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the performance of paediatric therapies and any delays between referral to treatment in paediatric therapies. • To consider the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on paediatric therapies and how working practices have adapted.
	<p>Terms of Reference:</p> <p>The task and finish group will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive performance data (prior to the pandemic and since the outbreak) including waiting times for assessment and referral to treatment. To consider in the context of national and regional statistics. • Receive detail of the range of therapy services available to children and young people in Herefordshire. • Receive and consider referral pathways and clinical criteria to access the services; including urgent and routine referrals. • Receive an assessment of the impact of health needs, such as SALT, on childhood development, e.g. social inclusion and friendships, engagement in education. • Receive detail of the group of children and young people receiving therapeutic services, e.g. CYP with SEND, CYP with cancer, CYP with complex health needs, CYP with eating disorders and CYP with gender dysphoria • To receive and consider feedback concerning services from CYP, families, staff and stakeholders. To determine any themes or predominant issues and where improvement could be realised.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To receive detail of service resources, current workforce and clinicians’ caseloads. • To receive details of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on therapeutic services and adaptations that have been necessary to respond to demand during the periods of lockdown/social distancing. • To develop an understanding of what are the main issues or themes that lead to a referral to therapeutic services from the experience of the clinical staff and why – are there health inequalities? <p>Membership (to be determined):</p>
What will NOT be included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The examination of any individual cases. However anonymised case studies might assist the Group in completing the review.
Potential outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding of the current performance of paediatric therapies; and • An understanding of the impact of the coronavirus on the provision of paediatric therapies.
Key Questions	<p>To consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance data (prior to the pandemic and since the outbreak) including waiting times for assessment and referral to treatment and how does this compare with national and regional statistics? • What are the referral pathways and clinical criteria to access services? • Receive an assessment of the impact of health needs, such as SALT, on childhood development, e.g. social inclusion and friendships, engagement in education. • What groups of children and young people receive therapeutic services, e.g. CYP with SEND, CYP with cancer, CYP with complex health needs, CYP with eating disorders and CYP with gender dysphoria? • What feedback exists concerning the experience of CYP, families, staff and stakeholders of therapeutic services? • What information can be presented of service resources, current workforce and clinicians’ caseloads. • What has been the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on therapeutic services and what adaptations have been necessary during the periods of lockdown/social distancing. • To develop an understanding of what are the main issues or themes that lead to a referral to therapeutic services from the experience of the clinical staff and why – are there health inequalities? •
Cabinet Member(s)	Cabinet member children and families

Key stakeholders / Consultees	Internal – Children and Families Directorate External – Herefordshire Clinical Commissioning Group – Wye Valley Trust
Potential witnesses	Representatives of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) • Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) • Physiotherapy • Occupational Therapy • Teachers • Families using paediatric therapy services • Primary school teachers
Research Required	•
Potential Visits	
Publicity Requirements	Following the conclusion of the task and finish group, to report back to the children and young people scrutiny committee.

Outline Timetable (to be determined): (following decision by the children and young people scrutiny committee to commission the Review)	
<i>Activity</i>	<i>Timescale</i>
Confirm approach, Terms of Reference, programme of consultation/research/provisional witnesses/meeting dates	Committee meeting – 30 April 2021
Meeting One	
Meeting Two	
Meeting Three	
Present final report to Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee	

Group Members	
Chair	
Support Members	
Co-optees	<i>Tbc</i>
Support Officers	M Evans