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Update report on Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service - 'The Keep'

Purpose

1.1 Children in Care Council Summary:

As part of the support that Derby City Council offers for our Children in Care, we have a service that offers support to our children and young people to ensure that they have a safe place to talk to people who can offer different types of support, conversations, groups and therapy.

1.2 Derby City Council along with Health partners have together created a service to deliver these safe conversations and therapies; this service is known as 'The Keep'.

1.3 The Keep is currently being delivered under a 'Proof of Concept' which is in place from 1st October 2016 until 30 June 2019. The service is jointly funded by Derby City Council and Southern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

1.4 The service is staffed with a multi-agency team consisting of Clinical Psychologists and Therapeutic Social Workers who deliver a range of interventions to meet the needs of Children in Care.

1.5 The service has delivered successful outcomes which are detailed below.

Recommendation

2.1 To note the contents of the report.

Reason

3.1 For the Corporate Parenting Committee to understand the work undertaken by 'The Keep' to meet the emotional, health and wellbeing needs of Derby City's children in care, as well as acknowledging the positive outcomes that have been realised during the proof of concept.

Supporting information

- 4.1 The service has received a total of 447 referrals between 1st October 2016 – 31st December 2018, with 388 cases accepted (see para 4.3) during this time.
- 4.2 During the more recent period of 1st April 2018 to 18th March 2019, 177 referrals were received by the service, of which 161 were accepted. The target figure is 150 referrals over a 12 month period, demonstrating a good reach into children in care with Derby City Council.
- 4.3 Referrals that are not accepted are signposted to more appropriate services based on individual need, in some cases through an initial consultation being held which can include the young person, social care and foster carers/Children's Homes keyworker.
- 4.4 The largest proportions of referrals were received for young people between the ages of 5 – 10 and for those aged 11 – 15 years.
- 4.5 The majority of referrals received are from social services, with referrals also received from GP's, named nurse, education and the voluntary sector.
- 4.6 The key service outcome is to improve the emotional health and wellbeing of our children and young people, to contribute to an overall improvement in health outcomes and to help build resilience in children and their carers.
- 4.7 The following outcomes, for children and young people attending the service, are considered:
 - Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) results, which have improved;
 - Placement stability, (see para 4.9 – 4.11 below);
 - Services available for children and young people placed out of area but within 20 miles. This is now a more equitable offer as those placed within 20 miles are able to receive therapeutic interventions through the service, resulting in better quality and consistency of care.

Other benefits from the model are an integrated approach to therapeutic care for children and young people.

- 4.8 To determine the impact and outcomes for service, 223 cases that were referred by Derby City Council Social Care for young people that received support and therapeutic intervention from the service, were reviewed in 2018. It found 118 closed cases and 105 open cases:
- 4.9 a) Of the 118 closed cases:
 - 80% remained stable in the same placement as at time of referral,
 - 7% moved placement post intervention however these placements are maintained with no further moves, and
 - 13% were adopted and remained in placement.

- 4.10 b) Of the 105 open cases:
- 68% were in the same placement as when referred to the service,
 - 23% had one or more placement moves during their intervention, although were still receiving therapy which was stabilising the current placement, and
 - 9% remained in their adoptive placements.

4.11 Since The Keep has been in place, the stability of placements - measured by number of moves against length of placement – has improved. Social care staff have also confirmed that the softer outcomes have been met for children receiving a service there.

Public/stakeholder engagement

- 5.1 Engagement has taken place with the Children in Care Council during 2018 to discuss the service, with positive feedback from the children and young people.
- 5.2 Consultation has also taken place with social workers during the review of the service to determine if the outcomes were being met. The feedback was extremely positive.

Other options

- 6.1 Discussions are ongoing regarding service provision post the proof of concept phase. A further update will be provided in due course.

Financial and value for money issues

- 7.1 The service is jointly funded by Derby City Council and Southern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

Legal implications

- 8.1 None noted

Other significant implications

- 9.1 The Council are committed to using the learning from the proof of concept to provide good emotional health and wellbeing support to our children in care.

This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal		
Finance		
Service Director(s)		
Report sponsor	Gurmail Nizzer	21/3/19
Other(s)	Lisa Melrose	21/3/19

