



Update on joint re-commissioning of emotional well being and mental health services for Children and Young People in Southend, Essex and Thurrock

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Background

Children's mental health services in Thurrock, Southend and Essex are currently contracted by 10 different organisations

Current services are also delivered by a range of different organisations operating under multiple contracts, causing issues about access, consistency and understanding of pathways.

New service model is based on needs assessment and feedback from consultation with service users and partners: this highlighted the need for more integration, clearer access routes to services to meet demand, a more family-focused approach and more consistent support, advice and training for partners.

Our response

- Integration: We are jointly commissioning one integrated service for the whole county for targeted and specialist mental health services.
- Access and meeting demand: There will be a single point of access for all referrals to the service, including self-referrals. Services will be community based and available in each area. Support offer will be evidence based: identifying and treating young people who need CAMHS services as early and effectively as possible, providing consultation and support to other agencies working with those with lower level, emerging needs to stop concerns escalating.
- Meeting demand across services: There will be a clear support offer for partners working with children and young people to improve emotional wellbeing and mental health: training, consultation, joint working, information and advice

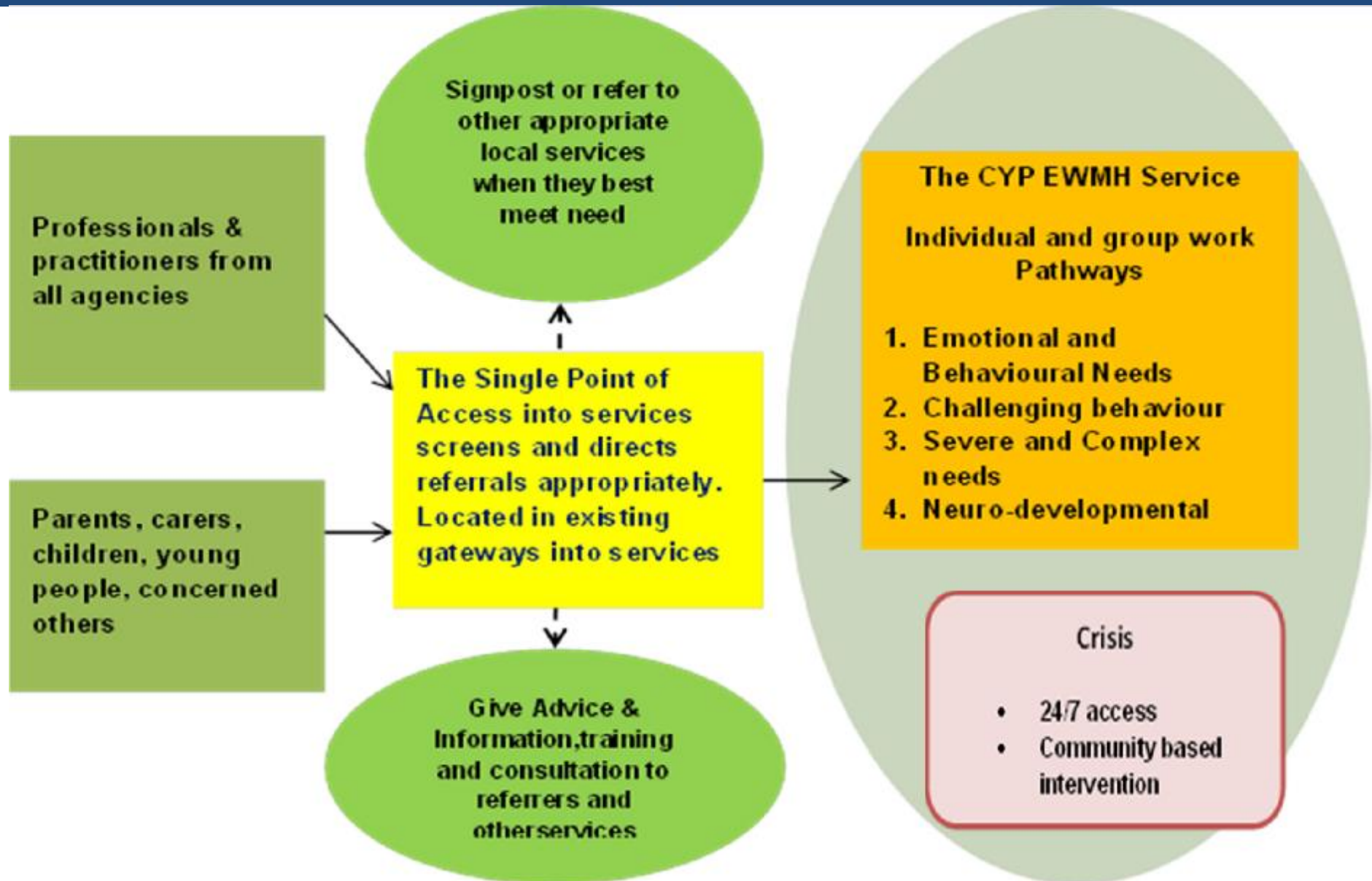


Our response

- Outcomes focus : Principles for new service is to demonstrate how young people's outcomes will be improved and enable young people to set their own goals for improvement: using clinically-approved tools such as those agreed by CYP-IAPT (Integrated Access to Psychological Therapies)
- Engagement of children and young people: young people engaged each step of the way: in developing the model, evaluating bids, in feeding back on their experience of treatment, in influencing service development.
- Family focus and prioritising need: All young people with mental health needs should access the service as appropriate: including young people with SEND, consultation to parents and family/group sessions offered where appropriate. Vulnerable young people and those with higher level concerns prioritised for assessment.



The model



What would change look like?

Improved emotional wellbeing, emotional intelligence, resilience and self-esteem for children, young people, their families and carers

Children, young people, their families and carers with emotional wellbeing and mental health needs receive easier access to services with a timely response

Children, young people and their families and carers are appropriately supported within other services (for their emotional wellbeing and mental health needs)

Reduced inappropriate use of A&E to access mental health services

Vulnerable groups and their families and carers are well supported

Young people aged 14-25 and their families and carers receive the right mental health support at the right time and experience a smooth transition to adult mental health services

Children, young people and their families and carers experience integrated service provision without discriminatory, professional, organisation or location barriers getting in the way

Next steps



- Jan – March: commercial dialogue with bidders: to test delivery and commercial proposals and finalise specification.
- April – May: finalise procurement and identify successful bidder
- June – November: mobilisation: commissioners and provider of the new service work with stakeholders to plan transition to the new service
- 01 November 2015: 'Go live'

June onwards opportunity for partners to engage with new service provider on service planning and preparation

Opportunities from the national taskforce

A national task force has recently made recommendations on improving mental health for children and families and nationally, an additional £1.25bn investment over 5 years was set out in the budget. We do not know how any future government will respond, but it is an opportunity to build on our new service model:

- Better early intervention and prevention and more ante-natal and post-natal support
- Building resilience through national anti-stigma campaign and more online and digital support for young people and families
- Better access to support through one stop shops, single points of access, named mental health leads in schools and named contacts in mental health services for schools
- Better support for the most vulnerable: strengthening the lead professional approach, joined up support across youth justice, health, education, social care
- Workforce development, including new training on attachment and development for teachers