Response to Health and Sport Committee Inquiry into CAMHS

1. Targets for implementation of the framework.


‘Investing in our Mental Wealth’, contains a set of commitments, aspirations and priorities for an extensive cross-agency Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Wellbeing programme of development between 2008 and 2015. Within this there are as yet no definitive targets, however there are two sets of aspirations clearly laid out – one set requires no additional resources in order to implement, the second set requires further resourcing to be identified.

We understand funding has been identified through CAMHS/NHS Fife to resource the enhancement of tier 4 services, within a plan to develop the CAMHS workforce to facilitate the full implementation of the Framework.

2. Associated Risks

The key risks associated with implementation of the Framework are not surprisingly around the resources of investment and also the ability of the other agencies working with the NHS and CAMHS to contribute resources to this end - especially given the current pressure on local authority services such as Social Work and Education to identify a considerable level of savings.

3. The extent to which staffing need has been estimated in relation to delivering the plan.

We are not aware of any estimation of staffing need having been completed outwith the NHS Service in connection with the framework. Within the Social Work Service we are considering how we can increase the capacity of a multi-agency project offering therapeutic support to accommodated young people and their carers. We understand that NHS Fife have completed a proposal addressing the staffing levels that would be needed to implement the framework.

4. The number of whole-time equivalents at the generic, multi-agency level per 100,000 of the population that have been agreed.

Again, notwithstanding agreements covering new clinician posts, there is no local multi-agency agreement in place.

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