Ms Christine Grahame  
Convener  
Health and Sport Committee  
T3.60, The Scottish Parliament  
EDINBURGH  
EH99 1SP  

Date  
21 April 2009  

Dear Ms Grahame  

HEALTH AND SPORT COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO CAMHS  

Thank you for the opportunity to update you with regard to the work ongoing with the local Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service in Tayside.  

I append below the responses to the specific questions you raised:  

1. Work to implement the Framework in Tayside has been ongoing for over three years through the multi-agency CAMHS group. Services have been mapped against the Framework twice, and an implementation plan developed. (appendix 1)  

An action plan arising from this work and taking into account local priorities was taken to the Board as part of the CAMHS Collaborative Board paper on 21 August 2008. This paper included a detailed six year plan in relation to funding, staffing needs, outcomes and measurements set against the five agreed priorities - Strategic Policy & Resources paper. (appendix 2)  

2. Risks – There are risks associated with achieving the targets identified in the Framework. These are:  
   • Capacity – the service is currently under great strain due to demand on the service. Re-design of the service has taken place and further Rapid Improvement Events are ongoing. It remains however that an increased in staffing numbers is required.  
   • Funding/financial – recurring funding for year 1 of the Tayside Plan has been confirmed by the Board. Year 2 will be discussed in September 2009. If no further additional funds are allocated, there can be no further development.  
   • Recruitment – national issues around recruitment of some CAMHS staff, eg nurses and psychologists. All Boards who have been allocated matched funding from Scottish Government are now pulling from the same workforce pool to recruit staff.  
   • Identification and impact of unmet need – in some pathways unmet need has been identified, eg ADHD and this shows a significant under reporting of cases which if reported would impact greatly on the current service. (appendix 3)  

3. Modelling work has been undertaken twice. Firstly to inform the Board paper of 21 August 2008 using pragmatic approach taking into account finance options and local knowledge.  

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Further evidence based work was requested by the Strategic Policy and Resources (SP&R) Committee when the funding was being discussed. This was detailed by pathway. This resulted in a further paper to the SP&R Committee in January 2009 with a request for further funding which was agreed (appendix 2) based on the modelling work undertaken.

4. Currently 8.5 wte per 100,000 of specialist CAMHS staff
   Plan proposes 16.8 wte per 100,000 for specialist CAMHS staff
   This does not include staff from the Young People's Unit hosted in Tayside.

   In relation to generic staff, we have no calculation for proposed numbers per 100,000. We are currently completing an indicative baseline number of relevant staff such as Health Visitors, School Nurses and Speech Language Therapists.

If you require any further information with regard to our response, I would be grateful if you would contact Caroline Mackie as per details in the address panel.

Yours sincerely

Sandy Watson OBE DL
Chairman
NHS Tayside

Attachments:
Appendix 1: Implementation Plan
Appendix 2: Strategic Policy & Resources Paper
Appendix 3: ADHD Paper
Appendix 3a: ADHD Paper recommendations