

20 February 2024

Agenda Item: 4

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAMS IN SCHOOLS

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider a report and presentation from Public Health and Nottinghamshire NHS Healthcare Trust representatives on the roll-out and delivery of the Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs) in Schools programme.

Information

2. The development and roll-out of MHSTs across England has been part of a national drive since 2018-19 to provide additional early mental health intervention for children and young people in a school or college setting. It is intended that the work of MHSTs complement rather than duplicate universal mental health support service offer for children and young people, with a focus on addressing mild to moderate mental health issues and preventing these from escalating.
3. The Committee has requested the opportunity to consider the work being delivered through the Mental Health Support Teams in Nottinghamshire schools. This was prompted by an action identified within the 2022-2023 Nottinghamshire Plan which was to: 'take every opportunity to expand our Mental Health Support Teams for Schools in Nottinghamshire and undertake an evaluation of the service in 2022-23. This will ensure that children and young people are able to get early help and support to meet their emotional and wellbeing needs'.
4. The report explains existing and planned MHST activity in Nottinghamshire, coverage across districts, how MHST is delivered and how it interacts with other mental health services, how health inequalities are addressed and the successes, challenges and impact of MHSTs to date.
5. Katharine Browne, Senior Public Health Commissioning Manager, and Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust representatives Kazia Foster and Carl Jones will attend the meeting to introduce the report and respond to the Committee's questions. Maxine Bunn, Service Delivery Director at Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board, will also be in attendance.
6. The Committee will wish to understand service uptake levels where there is access to MHSTs, and also understand further how the service might be expanded in 2025 and beyond.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Health Scrutiny Committee:

- 1) consider and comment on the information provided; and
- 2) determine whether any further information was required for the Committee's consideration.

Councillor Jonathan Wheeler
Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Noel McMEnamin – 0115 993 2670

Background Papers

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All