

Wakefield Future in Mind 2019-22 Executive Summary

The Future in Mind Local Transformation Plan (LTP) for Wakefield has been refreshed (November 2019). It is available to view on the NHS Wakefield CCG website at: <https://www.wakefieldccg.nhs.uk/home/patient-in-wakefield/local-services/mental-health-and-wellbeing/children-and-young-people/future-in-mind/>

The plan sets out the work we are doing, and will do, over the coming years to provide services to support children and young people's mental health and wellbeing in Wakefield.

It is the result of collaborative work undertaken with children, young people and families themselves through a range of different engagement exercises held between September 2018 and October 2019.



These events have all been extremely important and valuable in developing suggestions, raising areas of concern and truly ensuring co-production in shaping our children and young people's services.



This is evidenced by the fact that additional and recurrent investment secured during the 2019-20 financial year has been targeted on areas identified during this ongoing engagement.

The latest engagement exercise 'Let's Talk About Difficult Emotions' and its content, including four interactive workshops, was the idea of young people, who said they wanted an event that would help them with their emotional health. There is a film about the day [available to view here](#).

Among some of the other recent developments in Wakefield, the council's emotional wellbeing team has established a weekly multidisciplinary team meeting with partners to ensure there is timely emotional wellbeing support available for children in care. This is helping to ensure that placements are stable and that cared for children receive enhanced emotional wellbeing, social, behavioural and mental health support that will hopefully reduce the number of placement moves they may go through.

The Enhanced Outreach Team, delivered by South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust (SWYPFT), was also launched in April 2019 and is working closely with children in care, residential children's homes and young offenders within Wakefield district. The team offers a consultation, assessment and treatment model and deliver this within a four week timeframe.

There has also been recent good work we hope to build upon; In 2018-19, Wakefield ensured nearly 3,000 children - 42% of young people - were able to access NHS-funded community mental health services for treatment on at least two occasions.

This was against a national target, known as the Children and Young People Mental Health Access Standard, of 32% and was above both the national (36.1%) and West Yorkshire (29.5%) averages. This has also impacted on reduced referrals for core CAMHS services and a 5.9% reduction in all CAMHS referrals during 2018-2019 as young people's emotional well being needs are being supported by our early intervention services such as [Kooth online](#).



Wakefield achieved this by drawing together data from all the services we commission, including Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), the Kooth online counselling service and our Community Navigators and Primary Intervention Teams who provide young people with interventions to support their emotional and mental wellbeing in schools.

The Primary Intervention Team inputs into all primary schools and secondary schools in Wakefield and the work of primary practitioners in school allows young people to be seen within their community, encouraging and promoting positive mental health. More about the work we are doing in schools can be seen in [this film](#).

Wakefield was also found to have made sufficient progress improving autism services for those aged 0-18 following an Ofsted and CQC Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) revisit in June 2019. The inspection found that numbers of those waiting for autism spectrum disorder (ASD) assessments had significantly reduced – from 686 in June 2017 to 112 two years on, with a waiting time of 26 weeks for 88% of children who are assessed.



Wakefield also works across our West Yorkshire and Harrogate Integrated Care System (ICS) to reduce the number of children requiring admission to specialist Mental Health hospital beds. The West Yorkshire and Harrogate ICS has reduced the numbers of children needing this level of support over the last 12 months, as all its areas are now delivering enhanced crisis services for our young people.

We are also committed to meeting new targets in priority areas like Early Intervention in Psychosis, where 60% of referrals commencing within two weeks is the expected access standard by 2020/21 and Eating Disorders, where treatment should begin within four weeks in 95% of cases. Currently Wakefield are achieving both of these targets now and we want to continue to do this.

There is, however, much improvement to be made and much work to do. We know that families needing the support of specialist therapy services are waiting too long currently and we are working towards reducing waiting times for these services in the next 12 months. These are just some of the reasons why there will be significant further investment into transforming children and young people's mental health and wellbeing services across our system for the next three years and we will continue to listen to those who use them as we develop our offer.