

Committee: Health Scrutiny Panel	Date: 20/04/2016	Classification: Unrestricted	Report No.	Agenda Item No.4
Report of: London Borough of Tower Hamlets		Title: Scrutiny Challenge Session: Children & Young People's Mental Health Services (CAMHS)		
Originating Officer: Daniel Kerr (Strategy, Policy & Performance Officer)		Wards: All		

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This paper submits the report and recommendations of the Health Scrutiny Panel Challenge Session on Children & Young People's Mental Health Services. This challenge session brought together representatives from the council, Tower Hamlets CCG, Tower Hamlets CAMHS, and community organisations to explore the level of provision and the performance of children and young peoples' mental health services in Tower Hamlets. The session focused on how accessible mental health services are for service users from a wide range of backgrounds, how effectively services are promoted and engage with a diverse range of services users, and what gaps there are in the current service provision. The report makes a number of recommendations to improve CAMHS in Tower Hamlet's.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Health Scrutiny Panel is asked to note the report and agree the recommendations.

3. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

- 3.1 This report contains recommendations which will be implemented within CAMHS, the key stakeholders have been consulted on the recommendations and will need to ensure they are implemented within existing budgets. The total budget for CAMHS in 2016/17 is £1.081m.

4. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL)

- 4.1. In respect of the recommendations contained in the report, the Council has a duty to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in

the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness by virtue of section 3 of the Local Government Act 1999. This is known as its Best Value Duty.

- 4.2. The Council's functions in relation to children include a duty under section 11 of the Children Act 2004 to make arrangements to ensure that its functions are discharged having regard to the need to promote the welfare of children. Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 introduced a general duty for local authorities to promote the welfare of children within their area who are in need, including children with disabilities, which includes any form of mental disorder. Additionally, section 1 of the Childcare Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act") imposes a general duty to (a) improve the well-being of young children in their area; and (b) reduce inequalities between young children in their area in respect of various matters, including physical and mental health and emotional well-being, protection from harm and neglect, education, training and recreation, the contribution made by them to society and social and economic well-being.

- 4.3. In the exercise of its functions, the Council must with the public sector equality duty to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to have regards to equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic, including ethnicity, and those who do not.

5. **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1: Scrutiny Challenge Session: Children & Young People's Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Report

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)
List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report

Brief description of “background papers”

Name and telephone number of holder and address where open to inspection.

None

n/a