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Department of Health & Social Care

Department for Education

Transforming Children and Young People's Mental Health Provision: a Green Paper

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What's already happening?

- Children and young people's mental health continues to be a top priority area for this Government.
- We are committed to delivering the vision set out in *Future in Mind*.
- For children and young people's mental health support, we are making available an additional £1.4bn, which includes £150m for eating disorders and £75m for perinatal mental health services, from 2015/16 – 2019/20.
- Last year we saw a 20% increase on Clinical Commissioning Group spend for CYP mental health, rising from £516 million in 2015/16 to £619 million in 2016/17.

Green Paper publication

- PM announced a Green Paper to tackle the “burning injustice” people with mental health problems face
- Developed jointly between the Department of Health and Social Care and Department for Education
- Green Paper published 4 December 2017

Department of Health | Department for Education

Transforming Children and Young People’s Mental Health Provision: a Green Paper

Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Health and Secretary of State for Education
by Command of Her Majesty

December 2017

Cm 9523

Green Paper core proposals

1.We will **incentivise every school and college to identify a Designated Senior Lead for Mental Health** to oversee the approach to mental health and wellbeing. All children and young people's mental health services should identify a link for schools and colleges. This link will provide rapid advice, consultation and signposting.

2. We will **fund new Mental Health Support Teams**, supervised by NHS children and young people's mental health staff, to provide specific extra capacity for early intervention and ongoing help. Their work will be managed jointly by schools, colleges and the NHS. These teams will be **linked to groups of primary and secondary schools and to colleges**, providing interventions to support those with mild to moderate needs and supporting the promotion of good mental health and wellbeing.

3. We will **trial a four week waiting time for access to specialist NHS children and young people's mental health services**. This builds on the expansion of specialist NHS services already underway.

Timeline for delivery

- At least a fifth to a quarter of the country by the end of 2022/23.
- Preparation for the rollout of the new Mental Health Support Teams from 2018:
  - expanding training provision for the new mental health workforce
  - recruiting initial trailblazer areas
  - recruiting the first group of trainees to staff the new teams.
  - begin the first wave of training during academic year 2018-19
- Trailblazer areas, operational from 2019, supported by robust evaluation to understand what works.
- Rollout to be determined by the success of the trailblazers, and securing funding in future spending reviews.

Funding to support the Green Paper proposals

- Government will make available additional funding to support the rollout of the Green Paper plans.
- If implemented as set out in Green Paper, plans for Mental Health Support Teams piloting a waiting time standard and rolling out Mental Health First Aid in primary schools cost £215m over three years from financial year 2018/19
- With £15m-£20m a year also provided by Department for Education to support training of Designated Senior Leads in schools.
- On top of current funding for mental health transformation.

Wider action: education

School policies

- DfE will update Mental Health and Behaviour Guidance
- DfE will review the existing requirements on schools for publishing policies and information for parents and carers – should these requirements be updated to properly reflected school approach to mental health?

Staff training

- A member of staff in every primary and secondary school in England to receive mental health awareness training

Curriculum

- Every child to learn about mental wellbeing – national review of PSHE, relationships and sex education in secondary schools, and relationships education in primary schools will include a specific focus on how mental health and wellbeing can support healthy relationships and how best to secure good quality teaching for all pupils through PSHE

Wider action: social media

- This year a **working group of social media and digital sector companies was convened to explore what more they can do to help us keep children safe online**, aligning with work underway through the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport's recently published *Internet Safety Strategy*. We are currently exploring how best to make concrete progress with the companies.

- The Chief Medical Officer will produce **a report on the impact that technology has on young people's mental health, underpinned by a systematic review of evidence.**

Wider action: research

- As part of the commitment to improving their mental health, **we will commission further research** into interventions that support parents and carers to build and/or **improve the quality of attachment relationships** with their babies

- We will commission research on **how to engage more vulnerable families**

- We will work with the What Works Centres to publish and promote guidance for local areas to encourage **evidence-based commissioning of interventions aimed at supporting parents and carers**

Wider action: 16-25 year olds

- We will draw on the findings of the CQC thematic review, and data from the Commission for Quality and Innovation (CQUIN) scheme (financial incentives for CCGs to plan for good transitions) to **assess whether further action is required to improve the experience and outcomes of transition**

- We will **set up a new national strategic partnership with key stakeholders focused on improving the mental health of 16-25 year** olds by encouraging more coordinated action, experimentation and robust evaluation

Consultation response

Over 2,500 responses to 13 week online consultation (closed 2 March) from a mix of organisations and individuals. Multiple stakeholder engagement events also held.

There is a broad welcome for the proposals, especially linking education and health, and the focus on earlier intervention and prevention. **Key themes emerging:**

1. ***Scope***: should include other areas such as student mental health, early years, more on role of families

2. ***Scale/ pace***: rollout should be faster, but also concerns re NHS workforce and capacity to develop new workforce

3. ***Vulnerable groups***: concern that the proposals should address needs of particular vulnerable groups

4. ***School lead***: broad support but concerns re workload, school funding and ability to tailor to local need

5. ***Wider determinants of mental health***: Government should tackle the underlying causes of poor mental health

Next steps

- Responding to the report resulting from the House of Commons' joint Health and Education Select Committees' inquiry into the Green Paper, before summer recess.

- Aiming to publish the Government Response to the consultation, and Government Response to the select committees' report, before summer recess. Will announce further details about taking forward the trailblazers and Mental Health Support Teams.

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