NHS

Care of the Vulnerable

- The aim is for the most vulnerable groups of children with emotional wellbeing and mental health issues across pan-Lancashire to have access to timely, integrated and multi-disciplinary mental health services using NICE and other national guidance to develop evidence based, integrated pathways of care across partner organisations, ensuring effective assessment, treatment and support for them and their families.

- The aim will be that new and existing pathways will be embedded within the THRIVE model in order to ensure swift access to the most appropriate care. The Vulnerable Groups and Inequalities Task and Finish Group Report (2015) sets out that the groups considered to be the most vulnerable should be able to receive support at an early enough stage to prevent entrenchment and escalation of problems. Therefore this project will aim to ensure referral and access routes are malleable to offer services that;

  1. Offer prompt access

  2. Are flexible to needs of vulnerable groups which may mean disruption in current threshold or commissioning boundaries

  3. Offer integrated care from a range of professionals when required

  4. Are accommodating of the range of complexities that may present through the young person

Workstream Objectives –
what we are going to do

- Prevent the development of mental illness through targeted interventions for groups identified as being high risk (Objective 16)

- Ensure equitable access to evidence based interventions for those most vulnerable children and young people following a holistic and comprehensive assessment of their needs (Objective 17)

Proposals for change set out by the Care for the Vulnerable are grouped into three areas;

  1. Eligibility and Access

  2. Engagement and Experience

  3. Systemic Issues

Workstream Approach –
how we are going to do it

- This project group will work in close partnership with existing groups. The workstream will use NICE and other national guidance to develop evidence based approaches to prescribing and Clinical leaders who are members of the Lancashire Children and Young Peoples, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health (CYPEWMHB) Board will interact with appropriate governing and advisory bodies for prescribing and they will support the workstream to ensure that inclusion of appropriate prescribing protocols and practices are part of pathways for children and young people, including those with Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and other needs.

- There will be alignment with existing plans such as the Learning Disabilities (LD) right track plan; this will ensure we work with providers to ensure children and young people with moderate to severe LD with complex and challenging behaviour have access to skilled support staff and, where necessary, the support of specialist professionals to assist assessment and plan effective support.

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Workstream Deliverables and Benefits – this is our plan

Deliverable	Benefit
Ensure services are implementing best practice guidance for the service users in scope	Improved access (measurable through Key Performance Indicator (KPIs) and experience of care
Routinely monitor the uptake and use of services by vulnerable groups	Triangulation of pathways/access
Implementation of 'Hospital Passport and 'All about Me' cards	Empowerment of service users and greater empathy of staff
Clear easy to read documents	Children and Young People (CYP) feel empowered as they are clearer what to expect
Explore opportunities of information sharing through Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)	Co-ordinated services and safeguarding of young people through information sharing
Explore opportunities for Pan-Lancashire influence of systems for information sharing	Improve outcomes for children and young people
Training Gap Analysis of workforce against each 'vulnerability group'	Inform future training of workforce
Exploration of training available for vulnerable groups including training around Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE)	Recommendations of training programmes to the wider workforce

This needs to be easier

It is so hard trying to find support