

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission March 20th 2023 Item 4 - Accessibility of CAMHS in Hackney	Item No 4
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Outline

In March 2022, the Commission assessed the accessibility of local CAMHS through the Cabinet Q and A process. At this meeting the Commission noted the acute pressures which services were under which had resulted in lengthy waiting times for children to be assessed and to receive therapeutic support. The Commission agreed to follow up this work in greater detail within the 2022/23 work programme.

The Commission therefore requested an update from local CAMHS on the accessibility of local services to include:

- Overview of service demand, waiting times and compliance with accessibility standards;
- Update on the development of a single point of access (no wrong front door) across the CAMHS alliance;
- Access to therapeutic services and who are waiting for therapeutic support;
- Demographic analysis of disproportionalities in those children and young people seeking help from CAMHS;
- Governance and oversight of CAMHS alliance - structures that oversee service demands, waiting times and the broader implementation of local priorities.

To support this item the Commission has:

- 1) Undertaken site visits to First Steps, Specialist CAMHS and Off-Centre
- 2) Held a focus group with mental health practitioners from First Steps, Specialist CAMHS and Off-Centre and CAMHS Alliance.

Report

- Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health in City & Hackney
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Attending for this item:

Nadia Sica, Integrated Commissioning Transformation Programme Manager
Children, Young People, Maternity and Families, City and Hackney Integrated Care Partnership

Sophie Mcelroy, Senior Programme Manager, City & Hackney Children & Young People's Emotional Health and Wellbeing Partnership/CAMHS Alliance/Hackney Education

Greg Condon, Programme Manager, Mental Health, Health & Care Board