

## CHICC Deputies meeting Wednesday 25 April

**Young people present:** Victoria; Alex; Alanan; Emily; Kelly

**Staff present:** Sarah Baker (CLA Service); Paula Lewis (brokerage); Amy (Empower); Nancy (Participation); Mark (Participation); Ellie (Participation)

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### Valuing Care

- The meeting was all about a new way of matching young people to placements.
- The new way of working is called 'Valuing Care'. Sarah and Paula took us through a presentation explaining why this new way of working has been adopted and what it means.
- 'Valuing Care' has been brought in to improve how young people are matched to placements. It is in response to things CHICC have said about how the placement referral forms make young people sound 'risky' and do not include enough positive things about the young person.
- There are 2 indicators under each of the 6 Bees to assess the needs of individual young people. Young people will be scored by their social workers on each of the indicators from 0 (no needs) to 100 (highest level of need).
- The scores mean that we can see more clearly what a young person's needs are.
- We can also see over time if their scores go down, meaning there has been improvement in areas of their lives.
- The scores will also help to show what sort of placement is needed.
- It is all about scoring the young person's needs, not the young person themselves.
- It's also about looking at needs instead of risks and making sure all placements receive the information in the same way.
- We looked at costs of some placements. The highest was around £6k per week. And it wasn't necessarily for those with the greatest needs.

- Young people's scores will be reviewed every 6 months as part of stat reviews.
- We look at the new placement referral forms.
- Young people gave lots of feedback about valuing care, as follows:

### **Young people's feedback about Valuing Care**

- Two young people said they didn't like numbers. Young people already feel like they are just cases and it is hurtful when you receive something from, say, CAMHs and it has your case number on it. **Response: Sarah said it won't just be numbers, it will also be words which are very important. Paula said that workers had the same worries about using numbers**
- Three young people were ok with scores and numbers as they said it related to the need and not the young person themselves
- Should young people and workers do the form together? Some young people would panic if they had a high score. One young person thought that young people might lie to get a better score. Overall, it should depend on the individual young person, their age and understanding
- Young people should be able to say what they like and what they want from a placement
- Looking at the indicators and scoring, one young person said instead of numbers, use shades of colour
- When 263 workers completed the process for young people to test it, it showed 220 young people had emotional health needs. Young people were not at all surprised by this and said that would be obvious, didn't we know this already? **Response: Sarah said it's good to have the evidence as it can help to make sure that individual needs are met and also to ensure that the right services are commissioned and also help to train carers. Hopefully the needs will come down**
- Looking at the costs of placements young people were shocked by the £6k placement. They asked how much carers get paid (Nancy to find out for next Deputies meeting)

- All the young people present thought Valuing Care was a good thing. One young person described it as 'productive and efficient'
- Looking at the new placement referral forms: young people really liked them. The tone was so much better now, having young people's positive characteristics and the young person's voice. Another young person said the form was clear and easy to read. Another young person said it gets to the good stuff straight away. Generally it was agreed that it was so much better to talk about needs than risks and to have positives too
- We all tried to match some made up young people to 3 made up placements. It was almost impossible to meet all the needs in the 3 placements that were available. Paula explained that can be what it is like in brokerage. Sometimes you have to think creatively – eg, could the placement meet the need if extra support was put in?

## **Actions**

- 1. Nancy to find out how much carers are paid each week and report back to next Deputies meeting**
- 2. Sarah and colleagues to ensure that CHICC are kept updated with how Valuing Care develops. We would like to see the performance data on a regular basis, in a young person friendly format. We want to know if it is making the intended difference**
- 3. Alan requested more stats be sent to her. Nancy to check what Alan is particularly interested in and ask Sarah to arrange this.**