

MENTAL HEALTH STRATEGY – REPORT ON PROGRESS – ACTION 6

Date of report	09 July 2019
Date of last report	6 December 2018
Project end date	Ongoing
Action Number	6
Action Owner (s)	Tom McNamara / Liz Murdoch
Action Link	Philip Raines
Action Text	Determine and implement the additional support needed for practitioners assessing and managing complex needs among children who present a risk to themselves or others.

Progress Update from Previous report	RAG
<p>1. The Youth Justice Improvement Board, Advancing WSA group held a national training event around responses and services to young people where there are high levels of concern about significant harm to self and/or others. This event was informed by progress/findings in work to develop the care pathway for young people on the edges of, and in, secure care.</p> <p>A further roundtable discussion was held in January 2019 to consider mental health needs of high risk young people.</p> <p>A subgroup of the Advancing WSA group has been set to consider the needs of high risk young people.</p>	
<p>2. SG will continue to fund the Interventions for Vulnerable Youth (IVY) project until October 2019.</p> <p>The IVY project is a multi-disciplinary tiered approach to risk assessment, formulation and management for high risk young people (aged 12 to 18) involved in offending behaviour who present with complex psychological disturbances and high risk behaviour in terms of their violent conduct. It provides a nationwide service and exists to service a marginalised group of young people who by virtue of their social circumstances, placement issues or sub-threshold level of psychopathology, cannot access psychological assessment and interventions necessary to ensure interventions are informed and effective to their needs.</p>	
<p>3. The Cabinet Secretary for Justice launched two new resources for practitioners during the 12th National Youth Justice Conference on 19 June 2019.</p> <p>The first is <i>Preventing offending: Improving outcomes for children and young people</i>, which will assist practitioners with best practice and monitoring of outcomes and improvement planning, and includes an online wellbeing tool to record and capture the views of practitioners, young people and their parents or carers.</p> <p>The second resource is <i>Preventing offending: Improving our approach to workforce development</i>, which highlights knowledge and skills needs within the workforce as well as existing development opportunities.</p>	

<p>4. The Scottish Government are looking to update the Core elements for Early and Effective Intervention (EEI) since its launch in 2015. Once implemented, the scope of EEI in the revised framework has been widened to ensure that children who display harmful behaviour and are below the age of criminal responsibility can be supported via EEI, if appropriate.</p> <p>EEI was developed as a mechanism to support children who came to the attention of the police for offending. Children’s Services Planning as specified in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 is clear in guidance that the Children’s Services Plan “ensures that any action to meet needs is taken at the earliest appropriate time and that, where appropriate, action is taken to prevent needs arising.”¹ The age of criminal responsibility in Scotland will rise to 12 in the near future. The behaviour of children under the age of 12 will, on occasion, still be anti-social, cause a nuisance or harm, or be of concern so that intervention is required. For the benefit of local service delivery plans and the benefit of individual children who require support the scope of EEI should widen, to include the concerning and harmful behaviour of children aged under 12 years.</p>	
<p>5. The Scottish Government are also looking to update their Care and Risk Management guidance and develop Youth Justice Standards which will include a standard around Care and Risk management – these standards are currently being drafted and we hope to go to consultation after the summer.</p> <p>There will also be a new chapter on high risk and Care and Risk management, in the revised Child Protection Guidance, which will be published next year.</p>	

Key Deliverables in next 6 months (include estimated date for each deliverable)	RAG
1. Youth Justice Standards drafted and out to consultation – from September.	Green
2. Continue to have discussions across SG and partners in regards to the future of IVY beyond 2019/2020. Further discussions to take place by the end of Summer.	Amber
3. Roll out outcomes tool to practitioners by the end of the summer. The tools have been published, however the outcomes tool has been delayed due to data privacy continued discussions.	Amber
4. Ensure EEI Core Elements are updated and rolled out to local partners by December.	Green

What does success look like?
1. Increased confidence amongst staff working with high risk young people.

¹ <https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2016/12/statutory-guidance-part-3-childrens-services-planning-children-young-people/documents/00512307-pdf/00512307-pdf/govscot%3Adocument/00512307.pdf> para 56

What data (if any) can evidence delivery?
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1. Numbers in CARM

2. IVY data

Any other comments	
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