

Children in Care – Annual Health Report

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Report Summary

Purpose:

The purpose of this previously circulated report is to provide information on the progress and work to improve health outcomes for children in care by Milton Keynes designated health professionals, as outlined in the Statutory Guidance on Promoting the Health and Well-being of Looked After Children (**DOH 2009**) for the year 2011/2012.

It includes information on the background and agenda, current work and future priorities for the coming year.

Background:

This is the third annual report of the Children in Care Health Team, Milton Keynes Community Health Services. Milton Keynes Community Health Service is commissioned by NHS MK and Northamptonshire to provide a service that meets the requirements of the statutory guidance for NHS services to looked after children.

The annual report will be presented to the Milton Keynes Community Health Services Safeguarding Children Governance Sub Group, the Milton Keynes Corporate Parenting Panel, and the Multi-agency Children in Care Health Forum

Corporate Priorities:

Improving the Health outcomes for Milton Keynes' Looked After Children is central to our corporate parenting responsibilities. This is in line with the council's Children & Families 2012/13 priority 4: To develop and maintain effective intervention that prevent the most vulnerable children and young people in our communities from experiencing additional difficulty and prevents them from suffering significant harm.

Performance Information:

Milton Keynes compared favourably when reporting health outcomes for Looked After Children. In 2010/11 our health outcomes were higher than national averages in all areas, and higher than regional averages in all areas except immunisation uptake. There has been increased activity in all areas through 2011/12 and the figures published by the DoE in December 2012 suggest improved performance across the indicators has been achieved. Milton Keynes health outcomes are now better than both national and regional comparison in all performance areas. More details of these figures are available in the CIC performance update report.

Equality and Diversity Impact:

The Corporate Parenting Service is provided for children from across the Milton Keynes community. It therefore needs to provide services that can meet the diverse needs of all the children and young people in the Council's care.

Recommendations /Proposals:

Corporate Parenting Panel are asked to note and discuss/challenge the report.