

Statement from Chairman following 8 January Children's Select Committee

I welcomed the Children Select Committee's endorsement of the Task Group's recommendations and their additional recommendation around the preventative services on offer for children and young people, not only from the Wiltshire CCG, but also from third sector organisations in Wiltshire. I will make sure that the Task Group research this further, when we reconvene later this year.

I was pleased to hear that several committee members shared our concern about the urgent need for a transition pathway between CAMHS and adult mental health services and were supportive of our research approach.

The Children's Select Committee Chairman highlighted that it would be interesting to know, of the amount of referrals made to CAMHS, how many are not accepted because they do not meet the threshold for treatment. This could be an indicator for how well preventative services are working and is something I am sure that the Task Group will want to delve into, when we receive the latest data in the autumn.

Apart from recommendation 2B, I am glad that the Executive accepted all of our recommendations and I understand that due to legislative constraints, it would not be possible for recommendation 2B to be implemented at present. Nevertheless, from discussions that I have had with the Executive and Officers, I am confident that they share the Task Group's desire to improve the service on offer to LAC and former LAC, as well as to children and young people with SEND.

Cllr Phil Alford

Chairman – CAMHS Task Group