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Survey Monkey Health Themed Q & As from the LA/PCPW KIT 26/03/21

1. **What provisions/plans are in place for children/young people who have been shielding since March 2020 to be re-integrated back in to the education system?**

Plans for children returning to education will be individualised by the school and the health and care providers involved with each child’s care. There are clear examples that I am aware of such as children requiring Aresol Generating Procedures where risk assessment processes are clear and support offered from school nurses, however there will be a wide range of supports required. If there are specific concerns in the first instance this should be discussed with the child’s school and/or health and care professionals.

1. **Parent carers whose GP record should have flagged them in the vaccination group 6, but didn’t. What steps are being taken to have these parent carers records updated correctly once they’ve received their first CV vaccination? Direct Payments. Can money which couldn’t be spent from these payments be carried forward into the budget from 1 April 2021?**

With regards to parent carers who were not identified correctly on the GP there are a variety of actions taking place. Those who have booked vaccination via the booking process implemented through WIRED will have their status as a carer noted and shared with their GP to code accurately. For those that chose not to access the vaccine booking via WIRED but booked directly into another site, they can liaise with their practice to have their carer status updated. All practices should support the updating of records, however it presented a challenge during a period when all focus was on the COVID Vaccination Programme, as Primary Medical Services have now returned to normal working this should no longer present a challenge.

With regards to Direct Payments (Health Personal Health Budgets), money left over at the end of the year can be carried over and utilised in the following year, however if unspent on the agreed remit of the budget and a surpluss is generated there will be a request for that surpluss to be returned.

1. **What can be done to improve the service being offered around sensory assessments and integration services?**

There is a current review through a joint commissioing forum to explore the collective commissioning arrangements for several services. One of the key services being prioritised in Paediatric Ocupational Therapy and this review will include Sensory Assessment and Integration during that review.

1. **Can we discuss how children/young people whose main treatment centre is not Wirral (e.g. Alder Hey) can access community services in Wirral (e.g. phlebotomy) to reduce the number of physical visits required to the treatment centre that is outside the area? Covid-19 has meant lots of appointments have been remote/video links which has been hugely positive to some but the missing link is the lab work.**

Please can I have some further time to explore a response to this question.

1. **I’ve been told the school co ordinates getting the Health reports for EHCP annual review meetings and asks the Health practitioners to attend the annual meeting. How does the parent or young person get sent the reports and how are they updated as to whether the Health practitioners are actually attending the meeting? For transition meetings when it’s also an Annual review, are the OT and physiotherapist supposed to attend the meeting? Are they supposed to do a report as well for transition to adult health services? I attended the Next Steps event and the DCO talked about the transition pathways for health services from children’s to adults services. Please can you say where these are up to and are they on the Local Offer?**

The annual review process is led by schools, as best practice, and detailed within the local plan. The school will collate all the reports shared from Health and Care providers along with the educational reports and share with invitees to the review meeting. Parents and youg persons will be intitees to the review meeting. Health practitioners will only attend the meeting when they are unable to provide all of the detail required in a report format.

For transition meetings as with other annual reviews the attendance of health professionals, including OT and physiotherapist, will depend on the details of the individual child or young person’s care and whether that can be sufficently articulated in a report or through in person attendance. With regards to a report for transition to adult services, there will be a referral to adult therapy services where ongoing assessment or treatment is required and this will include the key details captured about the assessment and treatment to date.

We are glad you had the opportunity to hear our DCO describing the health transition pathways on Wirral. The DMO also gave a PowerPoint presentation which is accessible on the Local Offer.

As explained at the event, each health service on Wirral has their own transition arrangements and each service was asked to describe their own by the DCO for clarity on this. All those transition arrangements supplied were noted on a board at the back of the room at the Next Steps event. The descriptions of each health service`s transitions arrangements from this event were drawn up in to a booklet, at the request of parents and young people who found the information helpful.

The booklet was co-produced with oversight on content provided by a young person. The Local Authority paid for it to be professionally printed. The intention was that this booklet would be distributed at the planned transitions event, Your Future, Your Choice scheduled for April 2020. Unfortunately the event had to be postponed in line with COVID restrictions and is now planned for March 2022. The booklet was to compliment the current booklet on transitions that has been available on the Local Offer for a number of years <https://localofferwirral.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Transition-to-Adulthood-as-of-July-2019.pdf>.

1. **Why are unpaid carers being told to contact Wired for their Covid vaccination and not being allowed to be put onto the official register through their GP’s? Is this a Wirral way policy?**

The COVID Vaccination programme implemented a change to the initial priority groups at a midway stage to acknowledge the COVID risk to vulnerable adults and children from contact with their carers. This change required all carers of a vulnerable adult and carers of children with a severe neuro-disability to be offered the COVID Vaccination in addition to the cohorts already planned. This change to prioritisation required additional work to identify those carers who were eligible and support timely access to COVID Vaccination. The process set up through WIRED saw WIRED and Council employees working together through mutual aid to support carers to access and book vaccination appointments. Most of these appointments were provided through Wirral University Teaching Hospital (WUTH) to manage the pressure on the 6 Local Vaccination Sites (LVS) across Wirral. Individuals that were already coded on the GP system as a carer were able to be invited for vaccination at a LVS, however with GPs maintaining a focus on patients most at risk, the quickest route to vaccinate carers was via the WUTH site. The local decisions to utilise a booking service between council and WIRED staff was made at Wirral level, however principles and priorities to direct this decision making were set nationally.