



BOARD48/2012
Tayside NHS Board
7 June 2012

Youth Talkin' Health: Update on Service Action Plan following Report on Mental Health and Sexual Health Consultation

1. SITUATION AND BACKGROUND

In May 2009, twelve young people aged 12 – 22 from across Tayside came together to form “Youth Talkin' Health”. They were supported in this by NHS colleagues and Youth Worker partners from each of the three local authority areas. The groups remit is to consider how young people's views can impact on health service provision and to empower young people to have their voices heard with the NHS. In August/September 2010 Youth Talkin' Health (YTH) undertook a consultation on the topics of young people's Mental Health and Sexual Health in the form of a Survey Monkey Questionnaire. Both these topics were selected, as priorities, by the young people themselves. The main aims of the consultation were to:

- Find out what information young people have about Mental Health and Sexual Health services
- Identify Concerns and gaps in services
- Explore young people's opinions on service improvements and possible solutions to problems
- Report on the findings to those who are responsible for providing services

Following extensive consultation and analysis of the responses, the report “Mental Health & Sexual Health Consultation” was published and presented to various multi-agency Groups throughout Tayside.

A response to the report was requested from NHS Tayside Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services and NHS Tayside Sexual Health Services in addition to partners in the three Community Planning Partnerships.

The report itself and the accompanying service responses were presented to the Board in August 2011. Youth Talkin' Health were congratulated and commended on their report, however the Board asked the services and Planning Partners to review their responses in order that a more robust response was provided in conjunction with the Youth Talkin' Health group.

2. ASSESSMENT

In addition to the presentations made to various groups prior to the Board Meeting in August 2012, Youth Talkin' Health accepted several invitations to meet with multi-agency partners to discuss the report further.

Revised and updated responses were then submitted by services and these were shared with Youth Talkin' Health members. The general view of the members was that although the responses were less paternalistic, they still lacked sufficient detail to assure them that their report had been given an appropriate level of scrutiny and consideration by all agencies.

A meeting was held between members of Youth Talkin' Health, Kay Fowlie, Child Health Commissioner and Dorothy McHugh, Youth Talkin' Health Lead Officer on 23rd May 2012 at which detailed discussion took place about the response. The meeting offered the opportunity to expand on many aspects of the response and this was welcomed by members of Youth Talkin' Health.

By the end of the meeting members of Youth Talkin' Health stated that they were much more reassured about the attention being given to their consultation document and the actions which were being taken forward as a result of their work. It was agreed that the response would be expanded in several areas in order to reflect some of the detail discussed. The revised response is attached at Appendix 1.

Notwithstanding that members of Youth Talkin' Health felt more reassured after the meeting on 23rd May, it was acknowledged that there were still areas for improvement, particularly around the Mental Health recommendations, where, although work was being undertaken, there appeared to be a need to draw together a more coherent and integrated approach.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board is asked to

- Note the revised response and progress taken to date.
- Note that further work will be undertaken with each Local Authority to provide a more integrated approach to the Mental Health recommendations.

4. REPORT SIGN OFF

Ms K Fowlie
Child Health Commissioner

Mr G Marr
Chief Executive

Ms D McHugh
Youth Talkin' Health Lead Officer

May 2012