



## Statutory Officers Report for Health and Wellbeing Board

### Corporate Director of People

May 2021

#### **YJS Inspection feedback: Thematic inspection to identify how Youth Offending Services understand and meet the needs of black and mixed heritage boys in the youth justice system**

In April, Nottingham City was one of a number of areas that was the subject of an HMIP 'thematic inspection, to identify how Youth Justice Services understand and meet the needs of black and mixed heritage boys in the youth justice system'. Significant amounts of research and data show that this cohort of young people are disproportionately represented in the youth justice system and have poorer outcomes.

The week long Thematic provided the YJS with an opportunity to showcase the work that they undertake with black and mixed heritage boys. A report outlining the outcome of the inspection will be published in Autumn and will be an overall 'picture' covering the nine areas across the country that were part of the inspection. Individual outcomes are not provided.

The issues of disproportionality is a critical concern within the Youth Justice and wider criminal justice system and addressing it is a priority for the youth justice sector. Nottingham City YJS will be continuing the work it has started to address this issue, and has highlighted disproportionality as its major priority for its 2021 Youth Justice Service plan.

#### **Ofsted Residential Inspection**

Earlier this year Wood View Children's Home had a really successful monitoring visit by Ofsted. Wood View is a local authority run home providing care and accommodation for up to four children with learning disabilities and associated communication difficulties.

*Ofsted acknowledge that: Children's care has consistently been of a high quality throughout the pandemic. The children all reported that they are happy at the home.*

*And in particular, noted: staff and managers went to great lengths to provide consistent care when there was an outbreak of COVID-19 in the home. The assistant manager and two staff members moved into the home for three weeks to ensure stable care arrangements; staff did this at a time when they knew it would pose a risk to their own health. They continued to reassure the children, despite being worried themselves. One senior manager described the staff involved as 'heroes'.*

Monitoring visits during Covid are not graded and so the home retained their 'Good' with an 'Outstanding' feature for Leadership and Management Inspection judgment.

#### **Nottingham City Council Recovery and Improvement Plan**

Following the publication in February of, Nottingham City Council's Recovery and Improvement Plan, I have met with each Director in People's Services for an

introductory meeting with Sir Tony Redmond, the chair of our Improvement and Assurance Board.

People's directorate have provided an introduction to all our services and developments in People's Services will be part of the wider Recovery and Improvement plan as it progresses.

### **Nottingham City – Virtual School Peer Review**

Our Virtual School champions, oversees and holds accountability for the schooling of our children in care, wherever their education is delivered. There are currently 690 children, in the virtual school. During March, our Virtual School was subject to a 2 day Peer Review focusing on 4 key areas:

1. The Virtual School structure and staffing
2. The ePEP arrangements
3. Pupil Premium Plus arrangements
4. Arrangements for monitoring and tracking outcomes

The Peer Review process is a mechanism to support Virtual Schools with the identification of strengths and areas for improvements. The final report will suggest key developments to ensure effective and efficient arrangements are in place for promoting and improving the educational outcomes of its authority's children in care.

The Peer Review Team consisted of two Virtual School Heads from other authorities, an Assistant Director of Education from another authority and an Independent Diagnostic Manager.

We await the final published findings report.

### **Adult Social Care**

We are continuing to see a high uptake of the Covid-19 vaccination across adult social care staff. To date, 79% of staff have received their first vaccination and 53% are now fully vaccinated. We will continue to monitor the uptake of the vaccine for front line staff and have put in place regular communications. We report weekly to DHSC on uptake.

We are moving ahead with our transformation programme and one of our main areas of focus currently is on workforce, capacity and resources. We have held a number of workshops with both the wider leadership team and Team Managers across the department to gain feedback on our current operating model, resources, what works well and what the current challenges are. Further workshops are planned in June and July for all staff across the department who wish to attend to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to engage with this.

We are also starting to plan for how we will work differently as restrictions begin to ease. This includes staff returning to office bases, looking at a balance between home and office working, ensuring that staff well-being is taken into account. Since the start of the pandemic, where possible assessments have been done virtually in order to protect both citizens and staff. We will now look to resume face to face assessments where appropriate and again look at striking a balance between virtual and face to face support.

The Better Lives; Better Outcomes strategy which was formally approved in 2018 continues to underpin our work in Adult Social Care. We will be undertaking a review of the strategy over the next few months so that we can evaluate which of our objectives have been achieved and where there is still further work to do.

A decision has now been made to close Summerwood day centre in Clifton, following consultation. Our priority now is to review the care packages of all citizens who were attending Summerwood to ensure that they continue to receive the care and support they require, whether this is through attending alternative day centres or through other means.

**#KeepGoing**

Hands Face Space

START 8 March

STEP ONE 29 March

STEP TWO 12 April

**STEP THREE 17 May**

STEP FOUR 21 June

\*All dates subject to government review

[www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Nottingham City Council

Catherine Underwood  
Corporate Director for People  
(May 2021)