



18 DEC 2019

## PROGRAMME UPDATE

### SECTION 3: Health

The joint SEND area inspection of Dudley highlighted that the CCG's Designated Medical Officer (DMO) has insufficient capacity to promote the SEND agenda across health providers.

To address this specific action, it is proposed to change the role of the existing Commissioning Support Manager: Children and Young People's Continuing Care, to provide additional support to the DMO. This will enable additional strategic and operational guidance for education, health and social care professionals to be available. In effect, this post would support the DMO by acting as the "Designated Clinical Officer" (DCO).

To create this capacity it is proposed that the CCG employ a "Children's Continuing Care and Personal Health Budget Nurse Assessor". This post would carry out a number of activities which are currently the responsibility of the Commissioning Support Manager.

Funding for this post has been agreed within the CCG and the advert for recruitment will go out in January 2020.

Additionally there is now a regular cross system meeting working on the ASD assessment and diagnosis approach in young children. Jane Marsh, Head of Specialist Early Years' Service chairs a multi-agency meeting every few weeks that includes Early Support manager, Consultant Paediatrician, Education Psychology, Children's Assessment Service (CAS), Paediatric Therapy services and health visitors. The group focuses on agreeing Early Years support as well as sharing information between partners of the children that have been referred to CAS to ensure that any requiring Early Years support are identified and receive the services they need.

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