

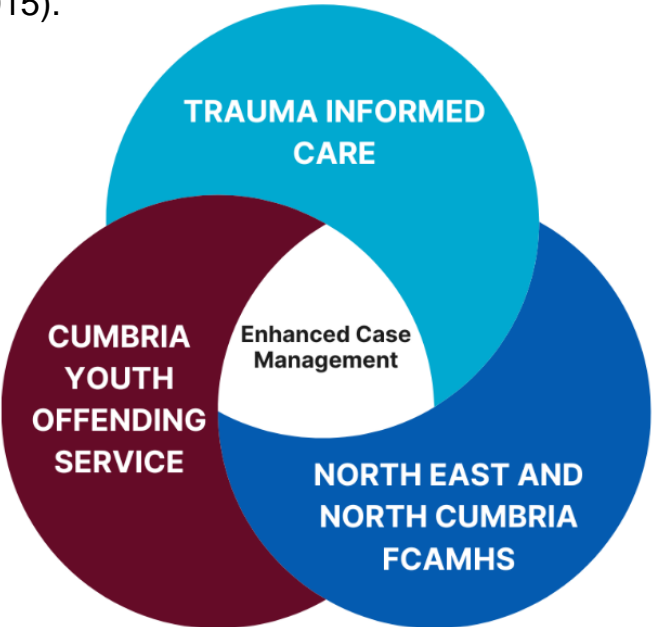
Reflections on Practitioner-led Adaptations to the Enhanced Case Management Pathway: A Trauma Informed Approach to Youth Justice

Mike Routledge (Acting Team Manager, YOS), Dr Rachel Woodward (FCAMHS Principal Clinical Psychologist), Kelly Monaghan (Senior Practitioner, YOS), Charlotte Howe (Senior Practitioner, YOS) & Dr Aisling Martin (Principal Clinical Psychologist)

Introduction

A pilot of a trauma-informed framework, the Enhanced Case Management (ECM) approach was implemented and later evaluated in 2021. This collaboration between Cumbria Youth Offending Service (YOS) and Northeast & North Cumbria Forensic Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (NE & NC FCAMHS) sought to enable practitioners to sequence support and guide change in young people with complex needs in youth justice based on the Trauma Recovery Model (TRM; Skuse & Matthew, 2015).

Initial evaluation showed positive outcomes in relation to practitioner's experience of the approach, and qualitative data collected from practitioners led to recommendations regarding the pathway.



These recommendations were then implemented in the pathway through the following adaptations:

Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Broader eligibility criteria
Flexibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Variable case review dates and clinical supervision (psychological)
Bespoke & Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Development of a young person's questionnaire

Aims

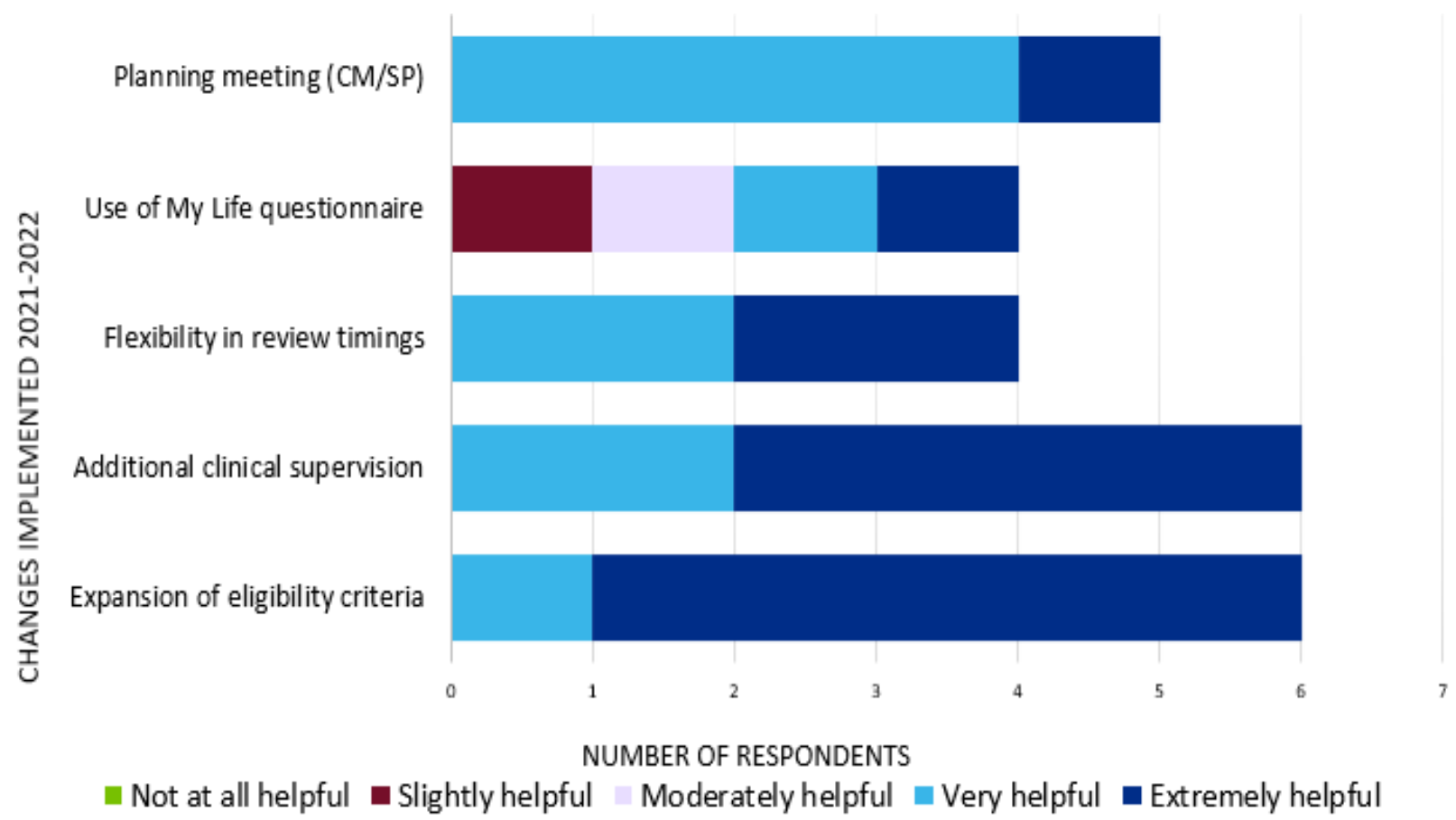
- To explore practitioners' experience of changes to the ECM pathway.
- To consider the implications for future practice

Methodology

Ten case managers who had referred to the ECM pathway were invited by email to respond to a 5-question questionnaire, rating their experience of the changes on a 5-point Likert scale. Open text space was provided to obtain qualitative feedback. Six responses were received. Relevant approvals for this service evaluation were obtained from CNTW NHS Foundation Trust.

Results

Practitioners Experiences of Changes to the Pathway



QUALITATIVE THEMES OF PRACTITIONER EXPERIENCE



Discussion

Overall, pathway adaptations were received positively by practitioners. The adaptations increased flexibility and accessibility to the pathway. The additional support allowed for a psychologically informed pathway focusing on reflecting on the young person, and increasing practitioner understanding of young peoples risks, needs and vulnerabilities. However, participant numbers are small; future evaluation would include focus groups to understand practitioner experiences.

What next?

- A Psychologically informed pathway**
Continue to ensure that all YOS staff are trained in the Trauma Recovery Model and Trauma Informed Care. Continue to increase the number and variety of referrals to the ECM pathway.
- Additional Trauma Informed Resources**
To consider developing structured activities and interventions to ensure that formulation recommendations and goals are met.
- Ethical Considerations**
Consent from the child is needed to be referred into the ECM pathway. We need to consider if a ECM pathway could be utilized by professionals as a part of safeguarding from further criminalization.
- Outcome Measures**
Young people did not always want to participate in completing the outcome measured used. To gain feedback and develop a more simplified engagement tool.

References

Skuse, T., & Matthew, J. (2015). The Trauma Recovery Model: sequencing youth justice interventions for young people with complex needs. Prison Service Journal, 220, p. 16-25.