

Escalation pathway for Nottingham City/Nottinghamshire CYP (excluding Bassetlaw) placed out of area – CAMHS assessment/support

This pathway has been written to aid the access of services externally for our children & young people (CYP) placed out of area requiring support for their emotional health and gives guidance to social workers on how to escalate if the support is not available.

Statutory guidance (2015) states;

- Looked-after children should never be refused a service, including for mental health, on the grounds of their placement being short-term or unplanned
- Local authorities, CCGs, NHS England and Public Health England must cooperate to commission health services for all children in their area
- If a looked-after child or child leaving care moves out of the CCG area, arrangements should be made through discussion between the “originating CCG”, those currently providing the child’s healthcare and the new providers to ensure continuity of healthcare. CCGs should ensure that any changes in healthcare providers do not disrupt the objective of providing high quality, timely care for the child

If the CYP is already open to Nottingham/Nottinghamshire LAC CAMHS service – all care should be transferred across to the new provider in the external area. This should be planned as early as possible.

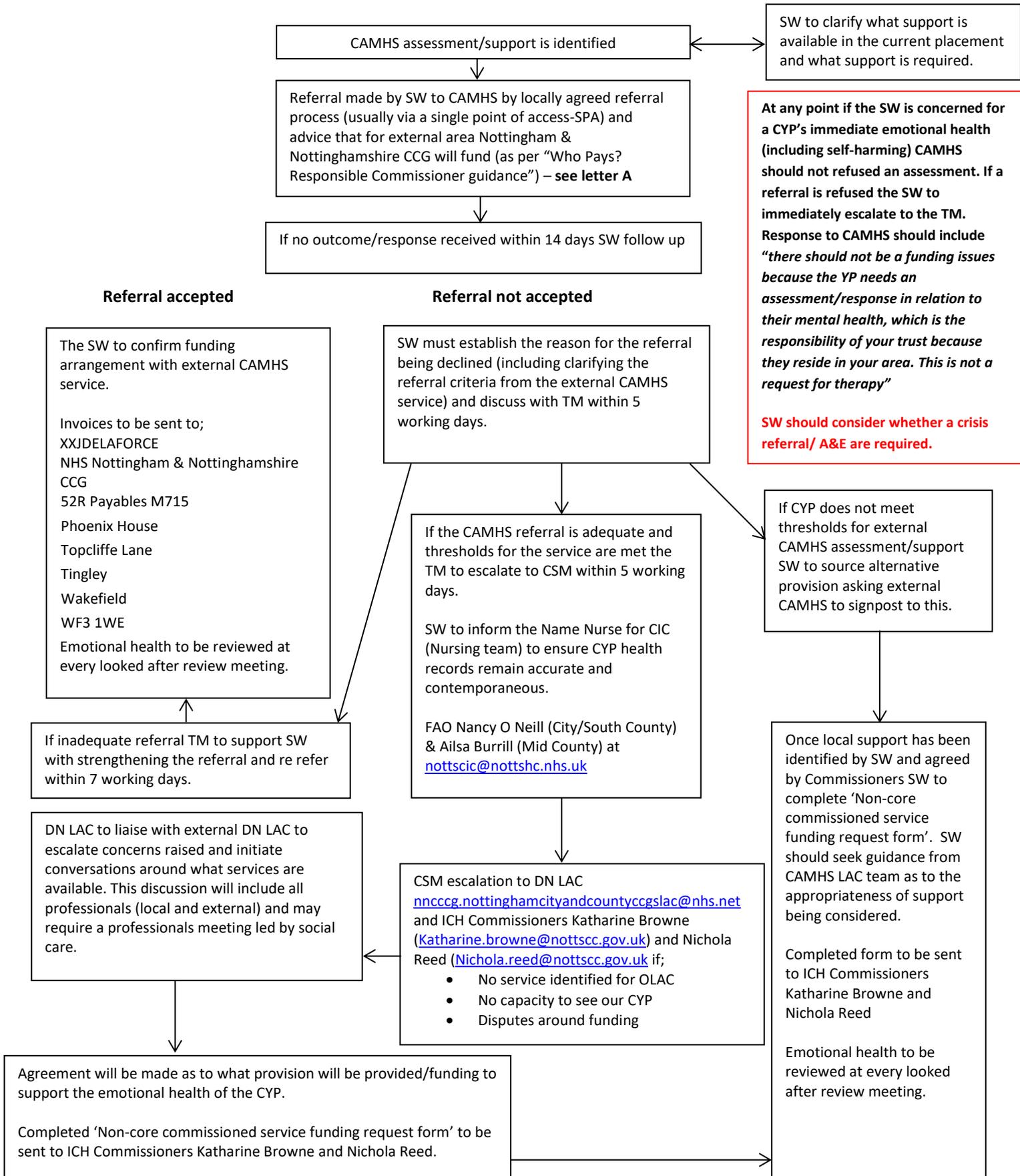
If the CYP is not open to Nottingham/Nottinghamshire LAC CAMHS service – the current LAC CAMHS teams are not commissioned to provide support and advice but will do so on an ad hoc basis if they know the CYP. It is advised that the Social worker (SW) makes the referral to the external CAMHS service and is not reliant on the GP or other professionals.

Escalation

If escalation is required this must go from the Social worker via their Team Manager (TM) and Children’s Service Manager (CSM). SW should not escalate directly to the Designated Nurse for Looked after Children (DN LAC)/Commissioners as it will be returned and requested they follow the pathway. The CSM will communicate directly with the DN LAC and Commissioner.

Letter A – [letter template - CAMHS Referral for Looked After Child placed in your area](#)

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At any point if the SW is concerned for a CYP's immediate emotional health (including self-harming) CAMHS should not refused an assessment. If a referral is refused the SW to immediately escalate to the TM. Response to CAMHS should include "there should not be a funding issues because the YP needs an assessment/response in relation to their mental health, which is the responsibility of your trust because they reside in your area. This is not a request for therapy"

SW should consider whether a crisis referral/ A&E are required.