

Date 26 July 2012

Dear Secretary of State

Subject: RE: Children and Young People's Health Outcomes Forum

We are pleased to present you with the Report from the Children and Young People's Health Outcomes Forum today.

We believe that it achieves the task you set us in January:

- To identify the health outcomes which matter most for children and young people
- consider how well these are supported by the NHS and Public Health Outcomes Frameworks, and make recommendations
- Set out the contribution that each part of the new health system needs to make in order that these health outcomes are achieved.

It has been an immense privilege to Chair the Forum, with its members bringing both commitment to the task together with personal, wide-ranging expertise.

We heard from children, young people and their families about their health and their views of their care. These, alongside the health data demonstrate the importance of the task you set us. Too many health outcomes for children and young people are poor, but there is a lot that can be done to change this. With quality and outcomes being at the heart of the new health system we also urge you to put in place the outcome measures we are recommending as soon as possible, so we can identify where improvements are taking place, and what further action needs to happen where outcomes are not improving.

We have met many individuals from different parts of the wider health system – both old and new. We are reassured that there is a real appetite for change and an understanding that retaining the status quo is not an option – our recommendations for the new system stem from this. We hope that these will be accepted both by the Department of Health, the new organisations and those others which have a part to play in improving children and young people's health outcomes.

We are delighted to bring this Report to you as our contribution to improving children and young people's health.

With our best wishes

 

Professor Ian Lewis
Co-Chair

Christine Lenehan
Co-Chair