

## Case Study Anonymous - My time with Torbay CAMHS

FH

1) FH: so \*\*\*\*\* why are you here?

YP: I think it's because I tried to kill myself.

FH: No that's your default \*\*\*\*\*! why are you really here?

FH: Home visit, saw YP in bed. Had been there many weeks.

FH: didn't feel hospitalisation under the mental health act was necessary as YP was able to hold a conversation. Suggested an intensive out of area team to come in and to do a rehabilitation plan/intervention, and they would go to a meeting and organise this this afternoon.

We waited and waited. We didn't hear eventually spoke to IF the following week asked is there any news about this intervention/out of area intensive program?

IF looked embarrassed and massively apologised. he thought FH had already informed us that We hadn't met criteria by the out of area team. No other plan (but documentation of HS education states there was an intervention plan?)

No follow-up from camhs only IF visiting as before.

FH spoke to HS from education before she spoke to us. They seem to be a common theme with all professionals working around us except for IF who was brilliant), but even though they were all speaking to each other, they continue to fail. There is even SAR records where education professionals question IF's professional judgement because he stood by his opinion that a AP setting was not a safe environment for his client given his presentation. In the notes, it reads question IF's professional judgement when speaking to the camhs Psychiatrist.

VN

We had dealings with VN on at 2 separate situations

1) At Spires 2019 after being bullied for about 2 years VN promised she would go into Spires and stop the bullies.

This never happened. TCE disclosed to school counsellor plan to hang myself with my spires tie. Mr McDonald (CM) believed me but somewhere VN and Spires staff decided that I was gameplaying so closed me to CAMHS leaving me the responsibility of the new school counsellor. He contacted camhs ASAP after he heard this to tell them. I was not gameplaying that I had a plan and that they needed to reopen my file.

The situation ended with me Getting punched in the side of my head by one of the named bullies on my way, to do my DV bronze expedition, I couldn't cope, it was just all too much, so I locked myself in a school workshop, phoned my mum and dad to say goodbye. My mum phoned the school reception and told them that I had phoned her to say goodbye and that I'd locked myself in the workshop at school and I was going to kill myself and that they needed to find me and keep me safe that she was on her way. They put me in the main reception area for about 20 minutes until my mum could get me. I was crying and I was sat on the sofa and everyone was looking. I couldn't go back there after that, had to change schools to SDH.

I disclosed to staff, I would make a noose and hang myself. SDH Safeguarding informed VN at Camhs she did not alert to the crisis team.

Two days later, my mum contacted camhs to tell them that she had found a noose and a suicide note hidden in my bedroom.

camhs and school staff did not alert my mum to my previous disclosure then later in the week school telephoned my mum to say I was threatening to jump off a bridge or hang myself and told her she had to come and collect me because they didn't have the staff to keep me safe. we had been turned down for EHCP assessment about 4 months before. I ended up getting an EHCP about six months later, but by then I was having a complete mental health crisis and had been hospitalised after trying to take my life in Sept 2020.

Camhs DID NOT answer their crisis line x3 that day

1st call unanswered from my mum

2nd call unanswered from the ambulance crew

3rd call unanswered from the A&E department

These calls were made to the emergency telephone number provided to vulnerable families and NHS staff and within their Operational hours. I was admitted overnight because the ambulance crew and two paediatric consultants in A&E felt I was not safe.

There are huge gaps when staff members of camhs left. My psychiatrist FH went off sick and we have nobody for months and months. I had crippling OCD & social anxiety with no practical support whatsoever (over a 2 year wait was placed on the wrong list). Our bathroom floor fell through our kitchen ceiling due to 4x1.5hrs of showering per day. We live in rented accommodation. We eventually BJ for OCD therapy 5 months before i turned 18 (so not enough time to complete the therapy as at 18 they close you to camhs. We got psychiatrist FA and that was only just a month before I turned 18. My mum had to go to the complaints panel and ombudsman to get the promised enabling support put in place.

It was the same with the OCD treatment. There were delays and mistakes from reception primary age right up until I was 18. There have been racial and disability stereotyping and assumptions. i've just left on the waiting list or put on the wrong waiting list or left in my room to fester for years. My mum lost her job when i was 15 because school couldn't keep me safe and she's had to go on UC.

I am not the same and this has caused me and my family permanent damage.

Until recently I was housebound and am now slowly recovering with Eotas and the help of Sound Communities, Riviera Tuition and Tale Blazers. I will be 19 in january and have only just had my AMH appointment so my OCD is again really bad.

My SAR records show management Camhs staff members discussed the fact that VN had not passed my disclosure to the crisis team one asked the other what they should do about this and they replied let's wait and see what happens!?!