



HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD 29 FEBRUARY 2024

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

LEICESTERSHIRE MENTAL HEALTH SUBGROUP – DEVELOPMENT SESSION UPDATE REPORT

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Health and Wellbeing Board with an update on the mental health sub-group since it was established in January 2023. The report will include updates on:
 - (a) Progress to date, activity over the last 12 months and future development plans;
 - (b) A summary of the development session held on 7th December 2023.

Recommendation

2. The Board is asked to:
 - (a) Note the progress underway by the Mental Health sub-group since it was established in 2023;
 - (b) Note the feedback from the mental health development session;
 - (c) Support the recommendations raised at the Mental Health development session.

Policy Framework and Previous Decision

3. The Health and Wellbeing Board approved the establishment of a fourth subgroup (called the Leicestershire Mental Health Group) at the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting held on 1st December 2022.
4. Mental health is a cross-cutting theme of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Following discussions with stakeholders to look at how best to integrate the work being undertaken at a system, place and neighbourhood level, a place based mental health sub-group to enable co-ordination and collaborative working across Leicestershire, was proposed.
5. Due to the range of areas being covered and the importance of mental health, this would enable greater focus on all aspects of mental health with clear actions and accountability for improved outcomes.

Background

The Leicestershire Mental Health Group

6. The Leicestershire Health and Wellbeing Board Mental Health sub-group was established in January 2022. The group meets quarterly and is well attended by a broad range of key stakeholders in line with the terms of reference for the group.
7. Current Priorities include:
 - Serious mental illness (SMI) - improve health check uptake to address health inequalities experienced by people with SMI including life expectancy.
 - Dementia - improve dementia diagnosis rates to help ensure that those affected can get access to appropriate treatment and support.
 - Children and Young People - Supporting the system work on children and young people's emotional health and well-being.
8. Priorities within the next 12 months include:
 - Co-production of prevention concordat for better mental health for Leicestershire.
 - Develop Leicestershire mental health plan to define a life course approach to mental health strategic priorities and actions including addressing wider determinants such as employment and housing.
9. Other work in progress includes:
 - Development of a multi-agency dashboard to enable monitoring of progress against key indicators.
 - Adults' Mental health Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to inform future commissioning and programmes of work to improve mental health and wellbeing and to reduce health inequalities.
 - Engagement of people with lived experience in the work of the group.

Health and Wellbeing Board Development Session

10. As part of a series of Health and Wellbeing Board development sessions, a mental health development session was held on 7th December 2023.
11. The session raised a number of issues, some of which will be common to other sub-groups, which can be worked through and incorporated into the work of the Mental Health sub-group as follows:

- i. Understanding the patient/resident journey – making sure that partners appreciate how it is to navigate the system from beginning to end from the user perspective recognising the need to design services around people.
- ii. Review overlapping priorities to ensure alignment and prevent duplication. The development session provided an opportunity to review the priorities of different organisations, and this process identified an issue around ensuring that duplication is avoided and collaboration supported where there are areas of overlap.
- iii. Not enough focus on children and young people (CYP) and making sure that children's (CYP) mental health is addressed as is part of the remit in a number of groups, therefore challenging to maintain clear oversight.

12. Discussions at the development session highlighted a number of challenges being faced by partners. As a result, partners were invited to put forward recommendations on areas they felt required improvement. These, as with the challenges, will need to be unpicked and explored further within the MH subgroup to find a resolution. Some of the challenges include:

- Role of the Health and Wellbeing Board to provide a link between system, place and neighbourhood
- How we work effectively across the sub-groups – there is no clear join up between the sub-groups around common themes such as mental health, where there are potential overlaps with other sub-groups including the Children and families Partnership, the Staying Healthy Partnership and Integration Executive.
- Commitment required from all partners to communicate and challenge ways of working to effect change (through greater collaboration).
- Help remove barriers of working across different organisations with different cultures and differing often complex governance structures.
- The need to work effectively across system, in particular the need to work more effectively with districts and neighbourhoods with greater communication between system, place and neighbourhoods regarding priorities.
- How to engage meaningfully with the Voluntary and Community sector.
- Review of Joint Commissioning Group is required (sits within the Integration Executive – subgroup of the Health and Wellbeing Board). Update: this is currently being progressed.
- Strategy and commissioning at place level through joint decision-making processes.

- Proactive early intervention and prevention

13. The learning should be taken forward to help shape future development sessions scheduled throughout the year.

Proposals/Options

14. A further update on progress will be brought back to a future meeting of the Board. Any unresolved issues will be highlighted and guidance sought from Board members on how to unblock any remaining barriers.

Background Papers

Leicestershire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2032

<https://www.healthandcareleicestershire.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/W0089-HWB-strategy40pp-19d.pdf>

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Relevant Impact Assessments

Equality Implications

15. There are no equality implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

Human Rights Implications

16. There are no human rights implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

Crime and Disorder Implications and Environmental Implications

17. Not relevant to this report

Partnership Working and associated issues

18. The Mental Health subgroup is a partnership committee overseen by the multi agency Health and Wellbeing Board. It feeds into a number of other groups and collaboratives to ensure that joined up approach and prevent duplication of work.

Risk Assessment

19. The Mental Health subgroup will consider relevant risks related to prevalent health and care needs and supporting services and work plans. A separate risk management process is in place for services managed by the County Council and is common in other agencies.

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