

Update on Aim 4

10th March 2021

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Rotherham
Metropolitan
Borough Council 

Aim 4: All Rotherham people live in healthy, safe and resilient communities.

Delivery of a loneliness plan for Rotherham.

Promote health and wellbeing through arts and cultural initiatives.

Ensure Rotherham people are kept safe from harm.

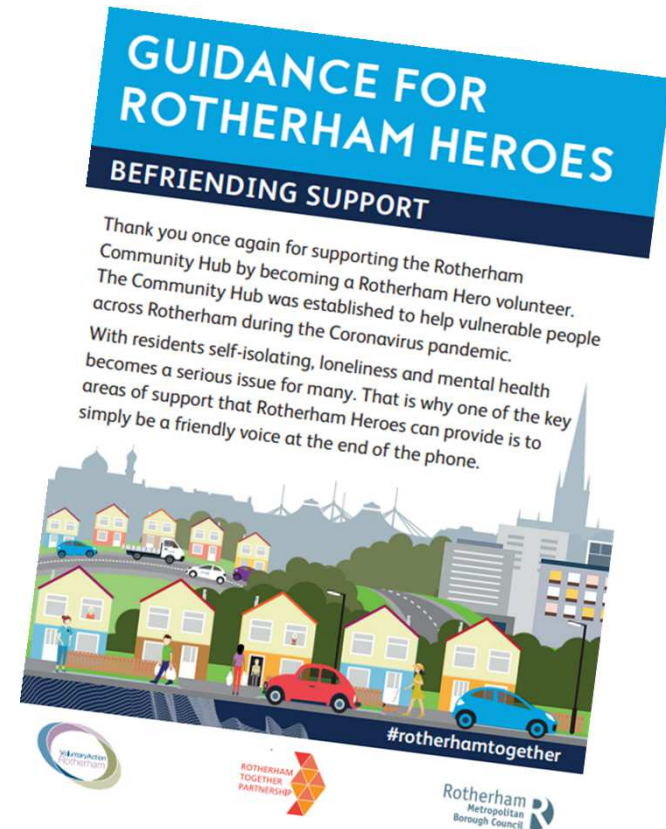


Priority 1. Delivery of a loneliness plan for Rotherham.



What's working well?

- Befriending support continues to be in place for local people, via the Rotherham Community Hub and the voluntary and community sector.
- [A promotional video](#) was produced and shared via social media, sharing positive stories about befriending.
- Work continues to reach out to 'at-risk' groups.
- The Loneliness MECC training has been updated to reflect referral routes and the impact of COVID-19.
- The Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board was asked to present on work taking place around loneliness as an example of good practice.



Issues to address

- There has been an increase in younger people reporting that they are feel lonely all the time or sometimes (according to second Mental Health Survey.)
- Parents are reporting their children are suffering from being in the home for too long leading to increased anger, frustration, loneliness and mental health deterioration.
- Carers have reported loneliness, isolation; reduced contact/no contact with other family members and not feeling connected to the outside world
- There has been an increase in local people requesting support with loneliness through the Rotherham Community Hub.



Next steps

- Continue to operate the Rotherham Community Hub to provide support to local people.
- Take forward learning from Rotherham Community Hub and Rotherham Heroes approach.
- Rollout of MECC training from March 2021.
- Continue with our Place Comms and Engagement planned activity.
- Evaluate Year 3 MH and Suicide prevention small grants scheme and take learning forwards.



Priority 2. Promote health and wellbeing through arts and cultural initiatives.



What's working well?

- Around 200,000 people have engaged in online activities and targeted events as part of the Rotherham Together creative programme.
- Activities have included:
 - Wildflower Park land art commissioned at Clifton Park
 - Light and Hope projection on to the side of the Rotherham Minster
 - Two partnerships with Women of the World
 - 'No Leotards Necessary' programme of physical activity through guided exercises, self-led walks and activities in parks
 - Online StoryTime with Rotherham libraries
 - Virtual celebrations for Chinese New Year
- The libraries service has actively contacted more vulnerable users and are offering click and collect and e-books/e-magazines etc.



Issues to address

- The joint workshop between the Health and Wellbeing Board and Cultural Partnership Board has been delayed due to workforce capacity.
- Library buildings have been mainly closed during the pandemic, meaning it has not been possible to hold activities and events as planned.
- Many Culture, Sport and Tourism staff are currently redeployed on essential COVID work i.e. testing.
- Parks and open spaces have been busy, particularly during periods of good weather – (this could be a challenge around social-distancing.)



Next steps

- The Rotherham Together programme will culminate in March 2021 with the opening of a memorial garden at Thrybergh Country Park – Hope Fields.
- Work is ongoing to prepare for the reopening of libraries (which will be no earlier than 12th April.)
- The joint workshop for Health and Wellbeing Board and Cultural Partnership Board has been rescheduled for the summer.



Priority 3. Ensure Rotherham people are kept safe from harm.



What's working well?

- The Council and South Yorkshire Police are undertaking joint patrols around COVID-19 hotspots and problematic areas.
- A dedicated mental health nurse is in place within community safety and referrals are increasing.
- Successful partnership working is taking place around domestic abuse.
- There has been investment in neighbourhood policing teams, who are leading work to respond to district organised crime.
- A campaign has been launched to encourage everyone to 'Spot the Signs' of CSE.
- South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue have had positive engagement with local housing associations regarding the Home Safety Partnership Referral Scheme.



Issues to address

- Continuing to address COVID hotspots and supporting outbreak control work from an enforcement perspective.
- Challenges around the visibility of safeguarding issues.
- There is a temporary pause to the Victim Perpetrator Programme due to CRC being absorbed by the probation service.
- The level of acuity and complexity of the referrals made to the mental health nurse.
- There is currently uncertainty relating to the ongoing funding of the mental health nurse.



Next steps

- A joint safeguarding partnership development session will be taking place in March.
- Continuing to enforce the lockdown rules, particularly as schools and businesses gradually re-open.
- Resolving funding options for the mental health nurse role.

