

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1. Meeting:	Cabinet
2. Date:	18th June 2014
3. Title:	Update on recommendations for improving access for young people seeking help and support around self harm
4. Directorate:	Children & Young People's Services

5. Summary

The report provides a response to the ten recommendations made by the Youth Cabinet to improve young people's access to appropriate help and support around self harm. The recommendations were presented to Cabinet at the meeting on 9th April 2014. In response to those recommendations, this report offers a way forward that will develop a holistic approach through both strategies, training and service delivery.

6. Recommendations

That Cabinet receives and accepts the report in response to the Youth Cabinet Scrutiny recommendations

7. Proposals and Details

The Rotherham Youth Cabinet Scrutiny Review of Improving Access for Young People Seeking Help and Support around Self Harm was presented to Cabinet on 9th April 2014. The focus of the review's recommendations was to develop clear and concise information that will improve young people's access to services. It was also recommended that a more integrated approach at a strategic level was established to ensure that young people receive an appropriate and timely intervention through clear pathways and protocols.

8. Finance

The Review highlights the value of supporting young people around self harm within tight budget constraints and reduced capacity. However, the financial impact of any future identified needs will require careful consideration.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

By not following the review recommendations, Rotherham will find it difficult to:

- Consistently raise public awareness regarding self harm
- Improve access to appropriate support and intervention
- Destigmatise the issue of self harm
- Ensure appropriate commissioning of services
- Evidence the outcomes of The Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Strategy for Children & Young People 2014-19

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

By responding to the recommendations, Rotherham will be able to:

- Ensure a consistent approach to young people
- Provide a timely response according to the needs of an individual
- Evidence that all agencies are proactively undertaking a co-ordinated approach to the issue of self harm in young people
- Evidence that the voice of young people has impacted on the strategies and guidelines
- Raise professionals' skills and knowledge to be able to respond more appropriately to young people

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The following people were consulted and provided information to support this report:

Ruth Fletcher-Brown - Public Health Specialist (Mental Health and Domestic Abuse)

Paul Theaker - Operational Commissioner
Commissioning, Policy & Performance Unit

Kay Denton-Tarn – Health Schools Consultant

Sherran Finney - RLSCB Learning & Development Co-ordinator
Safeguarding Children's Unit

Andrew Danylkiw - Youth Offer Project Officer
Integrated Youth Support Service

Anna Clack - Public Health Specialist (Starting and Developing Well)

Barbara Murray, Deputy Assistant Director
Children and Young People's Mental Health Service RDaSH

Nigel Parkes – Senior Contracts and Service Improvement Manager RCCG

Paul Theaker - Operational Commissioner
Commissioning, Policy & Performance Unit Resources Directorate

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