

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Children & Education Services
2.	Date:	13 October 2014
3.	Title:	Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Strategy
4.	Programme Area:	NAS

5. Summary:

The draft Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Strategy 2014-19 has been produced to support Local Authority and Health Commissioners and service providers to improve the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people in Rotherham.

The final draft of the Strategy and associated action plan, which has been widely consulted upon, is attached to this report and outlines the key recommendations and actions to be taken forward.

6. Recommendations:

Cabinet Member is asked to:

- 6.1 Approve the final draft of the Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Strategy 2014-19**

7. Background

The draft Rotherham Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Strategy for Children and Young People 2014-19 has been produced by RCCG Commissioners, RMBC Commissioners and RMBC Public Health and draws on national and local guidance, local needs information, surveys of local emotional wellbeing and mental health services and information from key stakeholders.

The strategy includes sections on the scope of the strategy, the needs of children and young people, services in Rotherham, investment, challenges and risks and recommendations. The strategy and needs analysis are attached to this report.

The strategy went out for consultation to a wide range of stakeholders, including RMBC CYPS, schools, colleges, NHS providers and VCS providers, in June and July 2014. There have also been specific consultation sessions with parents/carers and with the Youth Cabinet.

The responses from consultation have been evaluated and the draft Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Strategy was substantially amended to take into account the comments that have been made. In addition, the Health Watch Rotherham report on Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services was reviewed to ensure that the key findings are addressed within the strategy.

The Rotherham CCG commissioned Attain, an independent sector consultancy organisation, to review CAMHs and their report was considered by the CCG and the Attain recommendations that the CCG agreed to take forward, have been included within the strategy.

The key recommendations outlined within the Strategy are as follows:

Recommendation 1 - Ensure that services are developed which benefit from input by young people and parents/carers.

Recommendation 2 - Develop multi-agency care pathways which move service users appropriately through services towards recovery

Recommendation 3 - Develop family focussed services which are easily accessible and delivered in appropriate locations.

Recommendation 4 - Ensure that the services being delivered are effective, appropriate and represent the best value for money for the people of Rotherham.

Recommendation 5 - Ensure that the services being provided are delivered at the appropriate time as required and not restricted to normal operating hours.

Recommendation 6 - Ensure that services across all tiers of provision are delivered by appropriately trained staff and that training and support is provided

to Universal/Tier 1 services to ensure that patients do not unnecessarily move to higher tiers of provision.

Recommendation 7 - Ensure well planned and supported transition from child and adolescent mental health services to adult services.

Recommendation 8 - Explore the option of a multi-agency single point of access to mental health services for children and young people to ensure that appropriate referral pathways are followed.

Recommendation 9 - Ensure that services are better able to demonstrate improved outcomes for children and young people accessing mental health services.

Recommendation 10 - Promote the prevention of mental ill-health.

Recommendation 11 - Reduce the stigma of mental illness.

Recommendation 12 - Ensure that patients do not face inappropriate delays in accessing services, across all tiers, for assessment and treatment which adversely affect their recovery.

It should be noted that as the governance process progresses for final approval of the Strategy, the key recommendations and actions are already being acted upon. The development of multi-agency care pathways is a priority piece of work and will address a number of issues in relation to thresholds/access to services and pathways such as post diagnosis ASD. A workshop with stakeholders has been held and is informing the work of small time-limited working groups that have been established for each multi-agency pathway.

The Strategy has been endorsed by CYPS DLT and following consideration by Cabinet Member, will go to the Health and Wellbeing Board for final joint RMBC/RCCG approval at its meeting on 12 November 2014.

8. Finance

There are no financial implications at this stage. There may be financial implications arising from implementing the recommendations contained within the Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Strategy. Any such financial implications that arise will be fully outlined within future reports that are submitted through governance structures.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

- That the Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Strategy recommendations are not implemented within timescales.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

- Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2012-2015
- Ofsted framework and evaluation schedule for the inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers

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