

**Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting**

Health Select Commission – 01 May 2025

**Report Title**

Mental Health Service Review Update

**Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?**

No

**Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report**

Ian Spicer, Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health

**Report Author(s)**

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**Ward(s) Affected**

Borough-Wide

**Report Summary**

This report provides an update on the Adult Social Care Mental Health review which was implemented in April 2024. The report details the impact and outcomes since implementation.

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Health Select Commission note the:

1. Impact of the Adult Social Care Mental Health model of provision since it was implemented in April 2024.
2. And the planned development of a co-designed Council Mental Health Strategy which will be presented to Cabinet for approval in December 2025.

**List of Appendices Included**

Appendix 1 [Adult Social Care Mental Health Review - Report to Cabinet \(December 2023\)](#)

Appendix 2 [Mental Health Service Review - Report to Cabinet \(February 2023\)](#)

**Background Papers**

[Care Quality Commission \(CQC\) Assessment Framework for Local Authorities](#)

**Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel**

None

**Council Approval Required**

No

**Exempt from the Press and Public**

No

## **Mental Health Service Review**

### **1. Background**

1.1 In December 2023, Cabinet approved the implementation of a new Adult Social Care Mental Health model for Rotherham which included:

- Implementation of a revised Mental Health Pathway.
- Realignment of Council employed staff to deliver social care roles and responsibilities.
- Alignment of Approved Mental Health Professionals (AMHPs) under Council management and co-location with the Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH) Crisis Team at Woodlands.
- Provision of a collaborative approach to crisis alongside RDaSH.
- A commitment to strengthen effective partnerships, working to align the revised mental health pathway with RDaSH and Community Mental Health Transformation.

1.2 The report acknowledged that a joint approach between health and social care delivered the most personalised offer for residents. The model was therefore designed around a collaborative delivery of both clinical and social care needs, in partnership with RDaSH and the South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (SYICB).

### **Benefits**

1.3 The revised model was intended to realise the following benefits:

- Provide a collaborative, preventative approach to ensure people get the right support
- Raise the social care profile and solidify the social care contribution to the mental health pathway
- Provide an effective, holistic and equitable response for people with mental ill-health
- Strengthen the recovery model by providing preventative, proportionate social care interventions
- Ensure that across the pathway, social care staff work to the legislative and statutory duties, enabling the Council to better evidence social care interventions
- Prepare the Council for formal regulation of Adult Social Care by the Care Quality Commission
- Support Rotherham Place to achieve its priority to collectively strengthen the mental health crisis pathway

## 2. Update

2.1 The revised pathway was implemented in April 2024 following a partnership approach with the Council, SYICB, RDaSH, Primary Care and Urgent Care. Initial impact analysis has identified no impact to partners whilst achieving positive impacts for residents through a more appropriate approach focussed on enablement and recovery.

2.2 As part of the pathway, Adult Social Care embedded a consolidated, enhanced front door. This has provided an all-inclusive point of contact, ensuring a simpler and consistent approach and experience for people.

2.3 The support provided focuses on a preventative and early intervention approach and builds upon preventative and enabling offer and supports independence and resilience, providing people with personalised support options. The enhanced front door also refers people with identified unmet social care needs into the mental health enablement offer.

2.4 A new Mental Health Enablement Pathway operates from a variety of community and health venues namely:

- Wellgate Court
- Dinnington Old Library
- Swallownest Court
- Ferham Clinic

2.5 Activity in the community and enablement pathways was summarised at the mid-point review held in June 2024:

- 178 referrals into the 12 – 15-week enablement pathway and the team provided 55 packages of personalised support.
- 5 peer support groups within different community settings were providing support for up to an hour and on average the service supported 7 people per session.
- 2 dedicated sessions are held at Wellgate Court every week (Wednesday and Friday) and supports on average 8 people per session.
- 65 people were screened either not appropriate or declined the enablement offer.
- The 55 people and 16 carers who historically had support from the service remain and continue to be supported.

2.6 The Mental Health Enablement Team have developed a feedback leaflet and have captured feedback from people using the new enablement pathway. People who the service have told us:

*"without this service, I wouldn't be here, it has saved my life"*

*"we want you to know what great support we have had, LC has helped us to sort out our bills and helped to make our home, our home again"*

*“CB is the only person to ever really support us, he has helped with our housing application and practically in our home”*

*“I am really happy with the support I have had, I haven’t felt judged”*

*“KL has been such an amazing support for me, in the weeks we’ve done so far I have gotten more sorted than in the year previous and things had just begun to pile up. She is always bright and chirpy, level headed in a panic, extremely empathetic and we get on really well which is rare for me. An amazing service that I can’t thank enough as it has really had a massive impact on my daily life and my mental health”*

*“More support from MB and JG in the last few weeks than I have had over the last few years from others”*

*“I feel the plan is going well and that I would like to continue focusing and working towards the same goals, as I has already made steps towards progress, the support is working well and is positive, and she also listens on the phone and doesn’t rush me”*

*“I wouldn’t have been able to do the things I’ve achieved without this support”*

*“I couldn’t have sorted some of my problems out without this help”...*

*“LC has done a fantastic job, and has literally changed our lives, we were overwhelmed we now have the house and our health back, thank you”*

Adult social care will continue to seek feedback from people who draw on our services to evidence the positive impact and outcomes to residents’ lives.

- 2.7 The Council and RDaSH had agreed that the AMHP (social care response) and Crisis Team (Health response) would be co-located and is now delivered from Woodlands. The rationale was to ensure a robust partnership approach to crisis intervention, utilising both health and social care expertise and to have a dual response if required.
- 2.8 Due to the co-location, the Council and RDaSH have a robust offer and can undertake urgent partnership visits if required. This negates having two separate approaches, and potentially two visits to the person in crisis and can quickly ascertain how to support each person or situation effectively, and who has what responsibility and legal duty. This in turn supports the right support at the right time for the person in crisis.
- 2.9 As part of the AMHPs coming under the direct management of the Council, the Council can now provide holistic social care interventions as part of the crisis pathway, and this can be evidenced via the social care case management system. The Council has for the first time in over 15 years,

direct access to information and data on activity and performance and can benchmark against other Councils.

- 2.10 A Mental Health Partnership Crisis Specification was also developed with support of the SYICB to complement the review and provide clarity on roles and responsibilities across the partnership.
- 2.11 All Council employed staff including AMPHs and Support Workers are now under the line management of the Council. This means that staff are receiving appropriate support and supervision with a focus on their wellbeing, to ensure compliance with our duties as an employer.
- 2.12 In addition, the Council have developed a dedicated training programme for the AMHP staff to ensure that they continue to meet their Continued Professional Development (CPD). Furthermore, we have developed a continuity plan to ensure that Social Workers who join the mental health team in Rotherham can go onto train as an AMHP, thereby ensuring succession planning to meet the Councils statutory duties and have the appropriate numbers of qualified AMHPs required to meet the remit of the Mental Health Act 1983.

### **Conclusion**

- 2.13 The overall impact of the revised pathway has been the development of a prevention and early intervention approach, meaning that people get the right support at the right time, this includes a social care intervention, crisis intervention, Mental Health Act assessment, a health intervention or a combination of both health and social care or signposting to the most appropriate support or service.
- 2.14 In addition, roles and responsibilities in mental health services are clear and understood across the partnership through the development of the Crisis Specification led by SYICB and supported and signed off by each agency.

As a result of the review, the following benefits and impacts for Rotherham residents have been achieved:

- Enhanced partnership working across Rotherham within mental health services.
- Clarity on roles and responsibilities of each partner agency, and each partner understands each other's contribution to the new pathway.
- Development of a partnership Mental Health Crisis Specification.
- A co-located Mental Health Crisis offer.
- Dedicated Health and Social Care offer, or combination of the two if required to support a personalised approach.
- Enablement pathway to realise a preventative offer, preventing people coming into the service who do not need to and providing alternatives.

- Enhanced personalised community offer for both people experiencing mental ill health and unpaid carers.
- Development of peer support groups
- Readily available data and performance on crisis activity
- Succession planning for the AMHPs
- Social care evidence to meet the requirements of the CQC assurance of local authorities.

2.15 Planning for delivery of a co-designed Mental Health Strategy for the Council has commenced and it is anticipated that the strategy will provide the framework for future evolution of our mental health pathway. The strategy will be presented to Cabinet in December 2025 for consideration and approval.

### **3. Options considered and recommended proposal**

3.1 Health Select Commission note the outcomes and impact of implementing the new Adult Social Care Mental Health model.

3.2 Health Select Commission offer any further recommendations or insights.

### **4. Consultation on Proposal**

4.1 Not applicable

### **5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision**

5.1 The proposal to implement a new Adult Social Care Mental Health model was approved by Cabinet in December 2023 and formally implemented in April 2024.

### **6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications**

6.1 There are no financial or procurement implications associated with this report.

### **7. Legal Advice and Implications**

7.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

### **8. Human Resources Advice and Implications**

8.1 There are no HR implications associated with this report.

### **9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults**

9.1 The implementation of the new Mental Health pathway ensures that all young people in crisis or preparing for adulthood can:

- Grow up prepared for the future.
- Have improved health and wellbeing.
- Are able to exercise control over the support they receive.
- Are able to receive support locally from a range of services that everyone values.
- Have an opportunity to have their own 'front door'.
- Can access the right support in the right place, based on where the young person lives.

## **10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications**

10.1 The proposals in this report support the Council to comply with legal obligations encompassed in the:

- Human Rights Act (1998), to treat everyone equally with fairness dignity and respect with a focus on those who are disadvantaged as a result of disability and Page 12 of 13
- Equality Act (2010) to legally protect people from discrimination in the wider society

## **11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change**

11.1 There are no direct CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions and Climate Change implications associated with this report

## **12. Implications for Partners**

12.1 All relevant partners and key stakeholders including RDaSH and the SYICB were engaged in developing the new model for Mental Health and are actively engaged through the Rotherham Mental Health and Learning Disability Transformation Board.

## **13. Risks and Mitigation**

13.1 There were risks associated with the previous mental health model in operation to ensure a robust social care identity, a pathway which provided support to people at the right time and was focussed on enablement and recovery. The new model has addressed these associated risks.

## **14. Accountable Officers**

Ian Spicer, Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health  
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Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers:

Named Officer	Date
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Chief Executive		Click here to enter a date.
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Choose an item.	Click here to enter a date.
Assistant Director, Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Choose an item.	Click here to enter a date.

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