

**Report To:** Partnerships Scrutiny Committee

**Date of Meeting:** 10<sup>th</sup> April 2014

**Lead Member / Officer:** Lead Member for Social Care (Adults and Children's Services)/Head of Adults and Business Services

**Report Author:** Service Manager: South Locality

**Title:** Together for Mental Health North Wales Partnership Report

---

## **1. What is the report about?**

- 1.1 This report highlights progress on the actions required in response to the delivery plan in Together for Mental Health and shares some of the challenges and priorities for partners over the coming year.
- 1.2 The report also provides information about the recently established North Wales Partnership Board and its role in relation to supporting and overseeing adherence to and progress against the delivery plan.

## **2. What is the reason for making this report?**

The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the submission by BCUHB to Welsh Government of the annual report Together for Mental Health (Copy attached at Appendix 1) and to bring to the attention of Members the actions recommended for 2014/15.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

That Members receive the report for comment and note the continued commitment to partnership working with BCUHB and other partners across North Wales in respect of the delivery of mental health services generally and more specifically in relation to Together for Mental Health.

## **4. Report details.**

- 4.1 In October 2012 Welsh Government published "Together for Mental Health", a whole population strategy for mental health and wellbeing in Wales.
- 4.2 The vision in the above document and Sustainable Social Services provide an ambitious mental health agenda for the next few years with a clear emphasis on shared responsibility between the health service and local government.
- 4.3 Following consultation with stakeholders Welsh Government developed 6 high level outcomes within Together for Mental Health. These are detailed below and are further developed in the document itself where more detailed outcomes are identified.

- To improve whole population mental health and wellbeing;
- To reduce the impact of mental health problems and/or mental illness on individuals, families, carers and their communities;
- To reduce inequalities amongst people experiencing mental illness and mental health problems;
- To increase the feeling of control that people in receipt of assessment, treatment and services have over decisions made that affect them;
- To demonstrate the long term economic advantage of a whole population, all ages approach to improving mental health and wellbeing and treating mental illness;
- To improve the values, attitudes and behaviour of staff within the public, independent and third sector in relation to mental health and wellbeing.

- 4.4 Together for Mental Health is supported by a Delivery Plan that sets out the details of the actions that the Welsh Government and partner agencies will take to deliver the plan together with relevant timescales for doing so.
- 4.5 The document identifies the contributions required from Welsh Government, local government, the health service, third sector and a range of others including for example housing, education, training and lifelong learning, employers, and the criminal justice system.
- 4.6 The final chapter of the document sets out how this strategy will work at a National and local level and how the new National Partnership Board will ensure that this is delivered.
- 4.7 In June 2013 BCUHB established the North Wales Mental Health Partnership Board (NWMHPB) as a Welsh Government requirement to oversee the delivery and implementation of Together for Mental Health and its delivery plan (see Appendix 2 for Terms of Reference) and in October 2013 submitted the annual report to Welsh Government.
- 4.8 Within the Annual Report Members will see progress to date highlighted along with reference to some of the challenges and priorities for the coming year. The report also provides evidence of the ongoing commitment to working jointly with health and other partners to deliver the necessary actions.
- 4.9 Although the NWMHPB was only established recently there is a long history of partnership working in North Wales in respect of mental health.
- 4.10 Over the next 12 months the NWMHPB will develop a clearer vision for Mental Health Services across North Wales ensuring that the necessary Infrastructure, systems and engagement processes are in place to identify needs along with key issues at a local, regional and national level, as well as monitor progress against the delivery plan and respond to both the local, regional and national priorities.
- 4.11 Progress against the delivery plan is reported to the National Partnership Board as referenced at 4.6 above.

## **5 How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**

This work contributes to the Council's priority that vulnerable people are protected and are able to live as independently as possible. In addition it emphasises the commitment of the Council to working with other partners to enhance the wellbeing of the citizens of Denbighshire.

## **6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

There are no costs identified at this time. As the delivery plan is further developed it is likely that there will be implications for other service areas for example housing and leisure services as the implications of the wellbeing agenda for this service user group are better understood.

## **7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report.**

Members of Scrutiny are not being asked to make a decision at this time therefore no EqIA has been completed. However this may need to be done as the delivery plan is further developed and implemented.

## **8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

Together for Mental Health has been discussed along with the delivery plan at the Denbighshire Mental Health Planning Group (this group brings together the relevant stakeholders in Denbighshire and includes service users and carers). The Chair of the Denbighshire Group along with chairs from similar groups across North Wales are being invited to join the NWMHP to ensure a comprehensive approach across the region.

## **9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

N/A

## **10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

Together for Mental Health, actions in terms of the delivery plan and engagement with the work of the NWMHP are seen by Welsh Government as key to the improvement of mental health services and as such there are considerable risks to the Authority if we were not to engage in these processes.

## **11. Power to make the Decision**

Scrutiny's powers in relation to examining the performance of Council services are set out in paragraph 6.3.4(b) of the Constitution.

### **Contact Officer:**

Head of Adults and Business Services

Tel: 01824 706654