

**Report To: Cabinet**

**Date of Meeting: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2012**

**Lead Member / Officer: Councillor Bobby Feeley**

**Report Author: Phil Gilroy/ Leighton Rees**

**Title: Agreement of a Joint Scheme for the Provision of Local Primary Mental Health Support Services.**

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

1.1 Agreeing a joint scheme for the provision of Local Primary Mental Health Support Services (LPMHSS) in North Wales, as required under Part 1 of the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010.

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

2.1 To seek agreement from partners to the attached scheme.

2.2 Part 1 of the Mental Health (Wales) Measure seeks to strengthen the role of primary care in delivering effective mental health care and treatment and sets out the requirement that LPMHSS will be provided throughout Wales by October 2012. Under Section 3, Local Health Boards and Local Authorities are expected to deliver such services in partnership, and that the services will in the main operate within or alongside existing GP practices.

2.3 Section 2 of the Measure requires Local Authorities and Local Health Boards to develop and agree a joint scheme for the provision of LPMHSS as part of the Measure, by the end of May 2012.

2.4 Under Welsh Government regulations it has been agreed that a regional scheme for the area of the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board can be developed and agreed by the Partners.

**3. What are the Recommendations?**

3.1 That the attached scheme is formally approved by Cabinet.

**4. Report details**

**4.1 Background**

4.1.1 The Welsh Assembly has passed the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010 which brings about legislative changes in respect of the assessment and

treatment of people of all ages with mental health problems in Wales. The Measure has similar effect to an Act of Parliament.

4.1.2 This Measure is different to current mental health law, as it does not provide for the compulsory admission and treatment of people. The Measure deals with accessing and receiving care and treatment within primary and secondary mental health services. It will apply to everyone receiving care and treatment within these services in Wales.

4.1.3 The Measure does not deal with compulsory admission and treatment, and cannot be used to require a person to receive assessment, treatment or advocacy who does not wish to do so - these remain matters for the Mental Health Act 1983.

4.1.4 The Measure contains four key strands which will have a direct impact upon the legal duties placed upon the LHB and local authorities in relation to the assessment and treatment of people with mental health problems. The four areas and their implementation dates are; –

Part 1 – Local Primary Mental Health Support Services (LPMHSS) (October 2012)

Part 2 – Care co-ordination and care and treatment planning (June 2012)

Part 3 – Assessments of former users of secondary mental health services (June 2012)

Part 4 – Mental Health Advocacy (January and April 2012)

This report relates to Part 1 of the Measure

4.1.5 Local partners are required as part of the Measure to develop a formal scheme for Parts 1 of the Measure in partnership. Section 2 of the Measure sets out the requirement that the local mental health partners for a local authority area must take all reasonable steps to agree a scheme:

- (a) which identifies the treatment which is to be made available for the area (local primary mental health treatment), and
- (b) for securing the provision for that area of the local primary mental health support services (described in section 5)

4.1.6 Secondary legislation, finalised in May 2012, provides for a scheme to cover more than one local authority area. In North Wales this means the 6 Counties co-terminus to the Health Board.

4.1.7 In the context of the local government elections and to enable required deadlines to be met (i.e. agreement of the Scheme by the end of May 2012), the attached scheme has been agreed by the Director of Social Services subject to member approval.

## 4.2 Part 1 – Local Primary Mental Health Support Services (LPMHSS)

4.2.1 The Welsh Assembly Government recognises the crucial role that primary care plays in delivering effective mental health care and treatment. The aim of the Measure is to strengthen that role so that throughout Wales there will be LPMHSS. These will be delivered by Health Boards and Local Authorities in partnership, and it is expected that these services will operate within or alongside existing GP practices.

4.2.2 These services are aimed at individuals of all ages who are experiencing mild to moderate, or stable but severe and enduring, mental health problems.

4.2.3 A national service model for LPMHSS Services has been issued by Welsh Government. It sets out that LPMHSS will provide local access to support for people of all ages who have mild to moderate and/or stable severe and enduring mental health problems, including psychosocial, behavioural and emotional difficulties experienced by children and young people and memory impairment experienced by older people, and that the delivery of primary mental health will enrich and enhance relationships between primary and secondary care.

4.2.4 The intention is to provide early intervention to reduce the risk of needs escalating and the pressure on secondary mental health services.

4.2.5 The national service model has been developed with children and young people very much in mind and has been drafted to be equally relevant to children and young people, adults and older adults.

The services that will be delivered within LPMHSS are:

- a) comprehensive mental health assessments for individuals who have first been seen by a GP, and for whom the GP considers a more detailed assessment is required, or who are referred through secondary mental health services (where the local joint scheme provides that individuals in receipt of secondary mental health services are eligible). In addition local partners have agreed to authorise referrals from allied professionals where appropriate and as agreed in local pathways, so as not to break existing and effective routes into equivalent services, recognising that they are not provided for under the terms of the Measure;
- b) Short-term interventions (i.e. treatment), either individually or through group work, if the initial assessment has identified this as appropriate. Such interventions may include counselling, a range of psychological interventions including cognitive behavioural therapy, solution-focussed therapy, family work, online support, stress management, bibliotherapy and education;

- c) Onward referral and the co-ordination of next steps with secondary mental health services, where this is felt to be appropriate for an individual;
- d) Provision of support and advice to GPs and other primary care providers (such as practice nurses) to enable them to safely manage and care for people with mental health problems;
- e) Provision of information and advice to individuals and their carers about interventions and care, including the options available to them, as well as 'signposting' to other sources of support (such as support provided by third sector organisations), and helping them to access these services.

#### 4.3 Scheme

The attached initial scheme sets has been developed collaboratively with officers from the Health Board and Local Authorities in North Wales to meet the requirements of the Measure and will be reviewed regularly and revised if necessary. It sets out the objectives for the Local Primary Mental Health Support Service (PMHSS), the vision for the service, the eligibility and referral processes, governance and management arrangements and the treatments to be made available.

4.4 The scheme will be reviewed at least annually by partners and in the first instance will be reviewed more frequently.

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

5.1 Signing up to the scheme will enable the Health Board and Local Authorities to adhere to the requirements placed upon them by the Mental Health Measure.

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

6.1 Welsh Government has informed the Health Board that indicatively a sum of £810,000 additional funding will be made available across North Wales to provide the LPMHSS. This will be used to recruit additional workers in adult mental health and Child and Adolescent Mental Health CAMHS services and commission additional services from the third sector that support LPMHSS. These will supplement existing staff and services providing mental health services in primary care.

6.2 In summary the proposed investment in staffing the service will comprise of;

	Gwynedd & Mon	Conwy & Denbs	Wrhxm & Flint
<u>CAMHS</u>			
Current Staffing	3.80	4.50	6.60
Proposed Additional Clinical Staffing	2.50	2.00	2.00
<u>AMH &amp; OPMH</u>			
Current Staffing	6.15	15.84	14.80
Proposed Additional Clinical Staffing	10.15	3.00	10.00
Proposed Additional Clerical Staff	1.00	1.00	1.00

The additional staffing requirements are based on equalising the relevant caseload across the areas.

6.3 It is currently difficult to estimate resource implications for local authorities as these are new statutory duties and there are no baselines to use to judge what take up will be. Every effort has been made to focus the additional resources available to meet the new duties. It is possible that additional demand will arise for local authority services e.g. Benefits Advice or Housing support, arising from 4.2.5 (e) above i.e. the information, advice and signposting duty. This will be carefully monitored and feed into Scheme Review and revision processes and into representations to Welsh Government on funding arrangements, should the need arise.

## **7. What consultations have been carried out?**

7.1 Welsh Government has consulted on the overall Measure and individual elements and regulations over the past 12 months.

7.2 The Health Board has undertaken engagement with various service user groups, third sector organisations and primary care contractors and their staff.

7.3 Involvement of senior social care managers in the development of the scheme

## **8. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

There is a requirement to deliver a joint mental health provision under the Measure and additional funding has been earmarked to support this by Welsh Government. It is difficult at this stage to assess whether there will be additional direct or indirect costs to the council as a result of implementing the

new requirements and therefore the impact must be monitored to inform the Scheme Review.

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

9.1 The Measure is intended to provide improved access to primary mental health services. While there is an assumption that this should reduce demand on secondary mental health services, there is a danger that it will increase demand as more patients/clients are identified.

9.2 Regular monitoring of activity and demand will be undertaken by the partners to assess the impact of the Measure.

**10. Power to make the Decision**

The Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010