


Non-Executive Report of the: Health and Wellbeing Board 21 st September 2021	
Report of: Warwick Tomsett	Classification: Unrestricted
Mental Health Strategy update	

Originating Officer(s)	Carrie Kilpatrick Deputy Director Mental Health and Joint Commissioning Phil Carr Strategy and Policy Manager
Wards affected	All wards

Executive Summary

The Mental Health Strategy proposed three key themes of focus for its five-year duration (2019-2024).

- **Theme 1** To raise awareness and understanding of the importance of mental health and wellbeing
- **Theme 2** To ensure early help is available particularly in time of crisis
- **Theme 3** To ensure the provision of high quality mental health care and treatment

A significant amount of work has been undertaken against these three themes in the last year and more is planned however due to the nature of the pandemic not all proposed actions have been taken forward in the way initially proposed.

This presentation seeks to provide an update against these themes and their associated actions / outcomes with a particular focus on recovery from Covid-19.

Recommendations:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

1. Note the presentation

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Mental Health Strategy 2019-2024 was approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board in November 2019 and was launched in early 2020. The strategy stated that an update would come back to the Board a year later and provide an update on progress. This presentation seeks to provide that update and also considers the impact of Covid-19 on future planned actions.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 N/a

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The strategy is a partnership strategy owned by the Health and Wellbeing Board and sets out our strategic priorities relating to mental health over the five years from 2019 to 2024. It is underpinned by a delivery plan that sets out priority activity and with monitoring against delivery. The delivery plan, as updated (September 2019) is attached for consideration.
- 1.2 The strategy considers adult mental health (18+) in its broadest sense – i.e. it seeks to promote mental wellbeing for people who live, work and study in Tower Hamlets as much as it aims to improve outcomes for people with serious mental health issues.
- 1.3 A major interdependency of the draft strategy is its relationship to mental health support offered to children and young people in the borough. Work undertaken by children's services is excluded from the scope other than referencing the CAMHS Transformation Plan and the Children and Young People's Strategy.
- 1.4 The Strategy is framed around three key priorities which emerged from (1) engagement work, (2) the current direction of travel as defined by best practice in our services and other areas and (3) the national policy framework and in particular the NHS Long Term Plan.
- 1.5 Each of these priorities/themes acts as a strategic driver to focus the work that is currently being delivered across the system, in a similar way to the current Health and Wellbeing Strategy with actions for delivery relating directly back to the three priority areas.
- Theme One : To raise awareness and understanding of the importance of good mental health and wellbeing
 - Theme Two : To ensure early help is available particularly in times of crisis

- Theme Three : Theme Three: To ensure the provision of high quality mental health care and treatment

1.6 The first theme broadly relates to prevention and promotion, the second to access and early intervention and the third relates to mental health care and treatment with a focus on personalisation and integration. In the strategy, each theme is followed by a summary of what we know about the issue, a list of the outcomes we want to achieve, and a description of the actions we will carry out to do this.

4. **EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment on Mental Health highlights a number of inequalities related to mental health that the strategy seeks to address:

4.2 **Gender:** Gender is a critical determinant of mental health and mental illness, and there are clear patterns of mental illness for different genders;

4.3 **Pregnancy and maternity:** Pregnant women and women who have recently given birth are at an increased risk of developing mental health problems;

4.4 **Sexual orientation and transgender:** LGBTQ people in the UK and transgender people in the UK are known to experience higher levels of mental health problems than in the general population;

4.5 **Ethnicity:** Different ethnic groups have different rates and experiences of mental health. In general in the UK, people from BAME groups are more likely to be diagnosed with mental health problems;

4.6 **Age:** There are also clear patterns of mental illness for people at different ages, although Dementia is primarily a condition that occurs in the older population;

4.7 **Disability:** Stigma and discrimination in relation to mental health is a key issue that has been particularly highlighted in recent years, especially the interplay between physical and mental health.

5. **OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:

- Best Value Implications,
- Consultations,
- Environmental (including air quality),

- Risk Management,
- Crime Reduction,
- Safeguarding.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- Mental Health Strategy 2019-2024 (Appendix 1)

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report

List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

