

Health and Wellbeing Board

20 September 2022

Walsall Multi-Agency Mental Wellbeing Strategy

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) with an interim update of the Walsall Multi-agency Mental Wellbeing Draft Strategy.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the HWBB **NOTE** the direction of travel of the delivery of the Walsall Multi-Agency Mental Wellbeing Strategy.

3. Report detail

- 3.1 Promoting and supporting mental wellbeing in Walsall is a key issue for the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB), which supports the findings of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
- 3.2 The approach for delivering the Walsall Multi-Agency Mental Wellbeing Strategy is set out in the Mental Wellbeing Thematic Wheel. The strategic ambition is to achieve optimal mental well-being for all Walsall residents and reduce mental health and wellbeing inequality.
- 3.3 To achieve the ambition, multi-agency stakeholders must work together to increase opportunities for better mental wellbeing. This includes raising awareness of mental wellbeing, tackling mental health stigma, providing training and self-care, and tackling common causes of poor mental wellbeing in Walsall.
- 3.4 The HWBB supported the Walsall Mental Wellbeing Multi-Agency Partnership group to work closely with key strategic partnerships to deliver this strategy. The strategy is now published on the Walsall Intelligence website and is promoted to multi-agency stakeholders.
- 3.5 A mental well-being multi-agency group was initially set up during the Covid-19 pandemic, to identify and coordinate action to address the mental well-being needs of the population. Since the approval of the strategy, this group has been re-established as the Walsall Mental Wellbeing Multi-Agency Partnership group.
- 3.6 The group is Chaired by the Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. The meeting takes place bi-monthly and delivery of the Mental Wellbeing Strategy is the responsibility of the group and its partners. The first meeting was

a stakeholder scoping event, which took place in April 2022, and the second more general meeting took place in June 2022.

- 3.7 **Governance structure** - The Walsall Multi-Agency Mental Wellbeing Partnership is accountable to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The board will receive annual reports from the Chair of the Multi-Agency Steering Group. A Terms of Reference and a draft action plan is currently being developed. This will be monitored by the partnership.
- 3.8 The Partnership will also receive reports from the Walsall Multi-Agency Suicide Prevention Steering Group, the Ethnic Minority Committee, and the Community Mental Health Partnership. This links to the Resilient Communities steering group and will continue to interlink with other committees as appropriate.
- 3.9 **Socialisation of Strategy** - A range of interventions to improve mental wellbeing awareness are being developed and implemented. Examples include gardening and mindfulness sessions; interventions for carers; crafts; peer-to-peer support; mental health training; bereavement support and counselling. A No Wrong Door network has been developed in addition to a Wellbeing Mobile Unit, which operates in the hotspot areas, to address some of the greatest needs identified across Walsall's most economically challenged wards.

4 Implications for Joint Working arrangements

- 4.1 To ensure delivery of the strategy, will require leadership, multiagency partnership and resources to improve mental well-being across Walsall, as part of the system wide consideration of the social and wider determinants that impact mental wellbeing.

5. Health and Wellbeing Priorities

- 5.1 Mental wellbeing is a key priority for the HWBB and is identified in the JSNA, which will be underpinned by the new Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The new Mental Health Strategy aims to reduce mental health inequalities and empowers stakeholders to support individuals across the life course, to maximise their capabilities and take control over their lives. This is in addition to facilitating a healthy standard of living for all, creating and developing healthy and sustainable communities, and strengthening the impact of ill-health prevention.

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