Council 8 April 2019

Notice of motion - Mental Health and Health Charters

A notice of motion has been received from Councillors Robertson, D. Coughlan, Underhill, Ward, Chambers and Hussain as detailed below:

> "This Council accepts that there is a need to agree a health Charter and mental health Charter to be agreed by our partners – Walsall Mental Health Trust and the Clinical Commissioning Group.
>
> These Charters will ensure that all partners agree a set of aspirations to move forward together."

Council Response

Background

There is no health without mental health. Every year one in four people in England will experience a mental health problem[i] No other health condition matches mental illness in the combined extent of prevalence, persistence and breadth of impact[ii] . It is one of the major causes of the overall disease burden in England and worldwide[iii].

| Depression recorded incidence (QOF): % of practice register aged 18+ NHS Walsall CCG | | | | | | Crude rate - % |
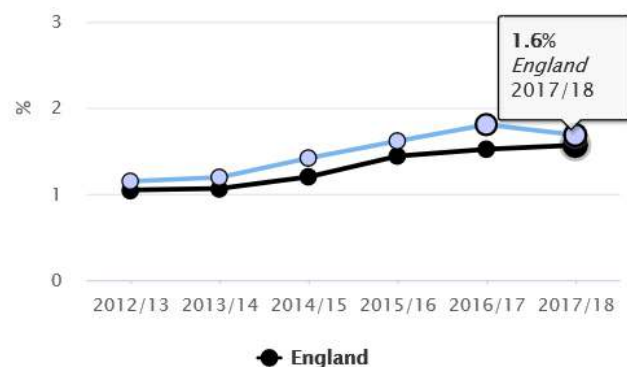
Period		Count	Value	Lower CI	Upper CI	England	England
2012/13	○	2,395	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%		1.0%
2013/14	○	2,502	1.2%	1.1%	1.2%		1.1%
2014/15	○	3,001	1.4%	1.4%	1.5%		1.2%
2015/16	○	3,436	1.6%	1.6%	1.7%		1.4%
2016/17	○	3,903	1.8%	1.7%	1.9%		1.5%*
2017/18	○	3,704	1.7%	1.6%	1.7%		1.6%

Source: Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF). http://content.digital.nhs.uk/qof

Promoting and protecting the mental health of everyone is therefore vital to improve the quality of people's lives (PHE). The impact of healthy lifestyles on mental health

and the need to address the issues of unhealthy lifestyles in the borough is well evidenced within the Walsall Mental Health Needs Assessment.

On average those diagnosed with a serious mental health illness die 15-20 years earlier than the general population. Two thirds of these deaths are from avoidable physical illnesses, including heart disease and cancer, many caused by smoking. Walsall has a higher than regional and national prevalence of smoking (18.7%). To ensure parity of esteem for people with mental health problems is achieved as a partnership we will:

- Work towards developing a mental health pathway for those with Long Term Conditions to ensure timely access to primary care mental health services. This is to include the development of a programme of mental health and emotional wellbeing screening for people with long term conditions.

- Improve the uptake of access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) through marketing and appropriately signing posting for support.

- Develop and enhance the systematic screening of physical health needs of those with mental health needs in primary and secondary mental health services i.e. NHS Health Checks, cancer screening CVD screening and appropriate referrals to prevention and early intervention services

- Work towards systematically integrating Make Every Contact Count (MECC) programme into the role of all staff ensuring signposting of outpatient and inpatient to Stop Smoking Services.

What is a Charter?

A Charter is a set of guiding principles and commitments that organisations operating in Walsall are invited to adopt, whether they are public sector commissioners, service providers, voluntary, community & social enterprise organisations or businesses. Through making these commitments we aim to improve population mental health and wellbeing in Walsall.

Charter signatories commit to the Charter principles and demonstrate either how they are delivering on parity of mental health esteem and wellbeing. Decisions made by signatory organisations take into account the principles of a Charter incorporating them into service delivery, new contracts, and procurement policies.

A proposal has been made for the Council to sign up to the Thrive at work commitment framework, https://www.wmca.org.uk/what-we-do/thrive/thrive-at-work/ .

An example of a mental health Charter

The Equality Commission for Northern Ireland has developed a mental health Charter.
https://www.equalityni.org/ECNI/media/ECNI/Publications/Employers%20and%20Service%20Providers/MentalHealthCharter.pdf

An example of Health Charter for Social Care Providers (PHE) may be adopted for all care needs including those with mental ill health.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/656670/Health_Charter_social_care_2017.pdf

Aim

The aim of a proposed Charter is to enable the Walsall wide systems and stakeholders to join forces to collectively prioritise, invest in and work together across institutions to achieve parity of esteem by maximizing the mental health and physical wellbeing of our population.

Need

There is clear evidence that improving the mental health and wellbeing literacy of our residents and by providing a range of prevention activities and promote good mental and physical health will reduce some poor health outcomes. We want to reduce the risks of poor physical and mental health to the Walsall population. To achieve this we will need to improve our ability to identify need early and intervene in a timely and appropriately manner to prevent the onset of mental health and physical health crisis.

We recognise that to successfully achieve this, Walsall's Multi-Agency partners including the general population must join forces to prioritise the mental health of our population in all activities we do. Furthermore, we recognise that those working with individuals on mental health needs must also prioritise their physical health and needs and those supporting people with physical health needs to prioritise mental wellbeing also.

We believe that taking this dual facet multi-direction approach to prevention and intervention would contribute to improving Walsall's health and social care economy. Leaders will be better equipped to make cost effective decisions about the mental health and physical health of its population. In doing so we believe this would need to address the parity of esteem between mental health and physical health. The Charter might include:

- The prioritisation of investment into mental health prevention, awareness promotion and early intervention

- Prioritising mental health awareness and suicide prevention training as a mandatory requirement for all staff working within the Walsall health and social care economy and across all other Walsall-wide workforces.

- Enabling the active fostering of a borough wide culture of prevention and early intervention and appropriate effective support.

- The shared development, promotion of evidence based policies to which stakeholders can sign up.

- The promotion of dignity and respect of equality underpinned by the diverse responsibilities of Walsall partners.

- The development of local tools to assist Walsall employees and systems to understand the impact their decision making may have on the mental health of individuals and the population and individual and supporting people to develop the ability to effectively reduce associated risks of mental illness

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Director of Public Health

29 March 2019

[i] Health and Social Care Information Centre (2009) *Adult psychiatric morbidity in England - 2007, results of a household survey [NS]*. Available at: http://digital.nhs.uk/pubs/psychiatricmorbidity07 (Accessed: 15 August 2016).

[ii] Royal College of Psychiatrists. Position statement PS4/2010. No Health without Public mental health. http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/pdf/Position%20Statement%204%20website.pdf

[iii] Changes in health in England, with analysis by English regions and areas of deprivation, 1990–2013: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2013 Newton, John N et al.The Lancet , Volume 386 , Issue 10010 , 2257 - 2274