

Delivery of the Mental Wellbeing Strategy through the Walsall Multi-agency Mental Wellbeing Stakeholder Partnership

For Assurance

1. Purpose

The report is to update the Health & Wellbeing Board on progress made by the Walsall Multi-agency Mental Wellbeing Stakeholder Partnership in delivery of the [Walsall Mental Wellbeing Strategy](#) (2022 – 2032) - "Together We Can".

2. Recommendation

To note the content of this bi-annual progress report.

3. Report detail

- 3.1 This report is a biannual progress report on activities undertaken to date in delivery of the Walsall Mental Wellbeing Strategy. A report to Health and Wellbeing Board in March 2023 outlined new governance arrangements for the Mental Wellbeing Stakeholder Partnership.
- 3.2 The Walsall Multi-Agency Mental Wellbeing Stakeholder Partnership is committed to taking forward:
- a. A universal partnership approach to promote good mental health and emotional resilience and prevent mental ill health for all age groups and populations.
 - b. A focused and partnership approach to community-based early help and support for emerging mental illness.
 - c. A proportionately targeted approach to reduce inequalities in mental wellbeing and health, to consider the clear mental health inequalities, both in terms of who experiences the greatest risk of poor mental health and in terms of unequal access to intervention.
 - d. To lobby and link mental health and wellbeing into wider population health activity across Walsall.
- 3.3 The Partnership has been meeting monthly and is co-chaired by The Head of Mental Health Transformation & Integration from Black Country Healthcare Foundation Trust (BCHFT) and Consultant in Public Health responsible for Mental Wellbeing at Walsal Council. It includes wide ranging membership across the partnership from the Council, the third sector (including One Walsall and community associations), social housing (whg) and Walsall Together (health and care place-based partnership).

3.4 Current priorities identified for the Walsall Multi-agency Mental Wellbeing Partnership, and allied partnerships, are highlighted in the below diagram:

Mental Wellbeing Priorities for 6-12 months – May 2023	
1	Improving knowledge and understanding of mental wellbeing through engagement and communication
2	Improving some of the economic and housing challenges that impact residents' mental wellbeing
3	Improving social Connections
4	Talking therapies
Mental Health Partnership Priorities for 6-12 months – May 2023	
6	Improving physical wellbeing, and improving physical health of people with mental illness
7	Primary Care / Mental Health interface
8	Dual Diagnosis
9	Improving Partnership working linked with Mental Health

4. Implications for Joint Working arrangements:

The Walsall Multi-Agency Mental Wellbeing Stakeholder Partnership reports to both Walsall Place (accountable to Health and Wellbeing Board with regular updates also being fed into Walsall Together Partnership Structures) and BCHFT Lead Provider governance. The Community Mental Health Partnership (of provider and voluntary sector organisations) is accountable to the Stakeholder Partnership, and there is appropriate information sharing with a number of other allied groups, including the Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing Strategy group.

5. Health and Wellbeing Priorities:

5.1 Mental Wellbeing is one of the three current priorities outlined in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Below is a summary of activities undertaken over the last 6 months, linked to the deliver of the Walsall Mental Wellbeing Strategy, and the above identified priorities.

Mental Wellbeing Priorities

5.2 Birmingham Mind has been commissioned for 3 years to deliver community suicide prevention and mental wellbeing training.

5.3 An 8 Steps to Wellbeing awareness raising campaign has been delivered, and several well-attended Mental Health awareness-raising events were held across Walsall to improve the population's mental health and wellbeing and tackle stigma. See appendix 1 for campaign assets and evaluation.

- 5.4 A Plan on a page mental wellbeing strategy document has been produced. See Appendix 2.
- 5.5 8 Small mental wellbeing grants awarded to community providers are mobilising, and Crowdfund Walsall is launching the men's wellbeing grants.
- 5.6 The Thrive Mental Wellbeing Mobile unit continues to successfully deliver across Walsall, supporting people with challenges impacting on their mental health and wellbeing. This partnership between Bloxwich Community Partnership, Manor Farm, Citizens Advice Sandwell and Walsall and Walsall Community Transport has delivered 6720 interventions between May 2022 and July 2023.
- 5.7 Community Bereavement and counselling support services commissioned through Public Health are delivering in community locations across Walsall.

Mental Health partnership priorities

- 5.1 Co-production has taken place for the wider determinant aspects of the Community Mental Health Transformation programme. 10 VCSE organisations from across Walsall attended: Reach for a star, Aspire4u, Walsall FC, Manor Farm, Rethink, MindKind, Aaina, Glebe Centre, Brownhills, Citizens Advice Bureau.
- 5.2 There is £200, 000 available, via BCHFT, to organisations in Walsall to deliver holistic interventions for wider determinants with a focus on ESOL, employment, training, activities, mentoring, health awareness, befriending, support with benefits, access to food banks etc.
- 5.3 Collaborative proposals will be submitted and taken through the Walsall Multi-Agency Mental Wellbeing Stakeholder Partnership to agree allocation.
- 5.4 Following a coproduction process two organisations from Walsall have been commissioned to provide additional Recovery College courses: Aaina to deliver an introduction to lifestyle, recovery and nature course at Aaina Community Centre and Tumende will be providing a literacy skills course at The Recovery College base in Walsall YMCA.
- 5.5 Ablewell have been commissioned by BCHFT to provide Welfare Rights support for Severe Mental Illness.
- 5.6 The next coproduction process will be for the new Talking Therapies Plus model (previously IAPT) and there are 7 VCSE organisations from Walsall attending, with potential for them to become provider partners.

Background papers

None

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