

# Report to Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board

**28 July 2021**

<b>Subject:</b>	Mental Health Services
<b>Director:</b>	Director of Public Health – Lisa McNally Director of Adult Social Care – Rashpal Bishop
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Senior Democratic Services Officer Stephnie Hancock – <a href="mailto:Stephnie_Hancock@sandwell.gov.uk">Stephnie_Hancock@sandwell.gov.uk</a>

## 1 Recommendations

- 1.1 To consider and agree on the scope of the review of Mental Health Services in Sandwell.

## 2 Reasons for Recommendations





- 2.1 The Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board has agreed to carry out a review of Mental Health Services in the Borough. The scope document (appendix 1) sets out the rationale and suggested way forward for the review to progress, with the possibility of working group being set up to review and refine the scope further.
- 2.2 At the mental health scrutiny review sessions undertaken in Autumn 2020, it was predicted that the pandemic would lead to a steady increase in the presentation of common mental disorders. Sixteen months into the pandemic the mental health impact of lockdowns on Sandwell communities has been considerable, with increased social isolation has been perhaps the most visible aspect. Thus, the Board considered it



necessary to investigate issues relating to mental health services in Sandwell.

- 2.3 The scope document (appendix 1) sets out the proposed areas of inquiry for the mental health services review plan, together with a description of range of methods that could be used to gather evidence including experts by experience and carers interviews, public engagement focus groups, and local and national datasets. Views will also be sought from health partner organisations in Sandwell and voluntary organisations.

### 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	<p><b>People Live Well and Age Well</b></p> <p>The review will enable the Board to gain an understanding of the issues faced by residents in terms of mental health services access and quality. The Board will be able to analyse data and evidence considered through the review process to make informed recommendations, so that mental health services are coordinated and responsive to residents' varied needs.</p>
	<p><b>Best Start in Life for Children and Young People</b></p> <p>Young people are one of the groups at greater risk of suffering with mental health and depression.</p>
	<p><b>Strong and Resilient Communities</b></p> <p>Addressing any barriers people have to accessing mental health services will contribute towards creating stronger and more resilient communities.</p>
	<p><b>Quality Homes in Thriving Neighbourhoods</b></p> <p>Housing is one of the wider determinants of health and housing conditions and security of tenure can significantly impact on people's mental health.</p>



	A Strong and Inclusive Economy
	Mental health has enormous impact on people's mental health. It is essential that people are provided with support to remain in employment during or following a mental health crisis.
	A Connected and Accessible Sandwell
	Access to walkable and cyclable places in green spaces is another wider determinant of good mental health.

## 4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 The Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board, at its work programming meeting, received suggestions collated from a general scrutiny public consultation conducted in May 2021. Mental health services had been recommended as a topic for review by the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board. At the work programme setting in June 2021 meeting, the Board took the decision to review mental health services in Sandwell in 2021/22.
- 4.2 The review aims to gather evidence to inform service shaping and future provision of mental health services. Recognising and protecting the future of these valuable services is important for the residents of Sandwell, but it is also important to note an environment of increasing demand.
- 4.3 The review will gather evidence from stakeholders, the Council and partners, evaluate findings and options and make recommendations to influence service delivery and provision in regard to mental health services in the borough.

## 5 Consultation

- 5.1 There is no content within this report that requires any further consultation at this stage.



## 6 Alternative Options

- 6.1 The purpose of the review is to develop an understanding of the mental health services in the Borough and if the Council should consider alternative options.

## 7 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	The National Health Service Act 2006, as amended by the Health and Social Care Act 2012, confers health scrutiny functions to local authorities.
<b>Risk:</b>	There are no associated risks with this report.
<b>Equality:</b>	There are no current considerations.
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	Effective and efficient mental health services contribute to the wellbeing, cohesion and resilience of Sandwell's communities.
<b>Social Value</b>	There are no specific social value implications arising from this report.

## 8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix A – Mental Health Review Scope Document Draft

