

Sandwell Health and Wellbeing Board
23 February 2022

Report Topic:	Sandwell Better Mental Health Strategy update
Contact Officer:	Dr Lina Martino, Consultant in Public Health lina_martino@sandwell.gov.uk
Link to board priorities	<p>1. We will help keep people healthier for longer Good mental health is integral to overall health. On average, people with severe mental health problems die 15-20 years younger than the general population and poor mental health is both a cause and consequence of health and social inequalities.¹</p> <p>2. We will help keep people safe and support communities A cohesive, multi-agency approach to mental health is key to reducing the impact of poor mental health on individuals, families and communities. This includes wellbeing promotion and mental health improvement as well as ensuring that those experiencing mental health difficulties are able to access timely and appropriate care and support.</p> <p>3. We will work together to join up services The new governance arrangements for mental health services in Sandwell are an opportunity to develop a comprehensive and cohesive Strategy and Action Plan that will make the best use of available resources and community assets.</p> <p>4. We will work closely with local people, partners and providers of services The Strategy promises were agreed through consultation with Sandwell residents, with the Strategy and Action Plan being developed through local stakeholder groups. A draft version will go out for consultation to develop the final version.</p>
Purpose of Report:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update Health & Wellbeing Board on progress against the draft Better Mental Health Strategy, updated governance arrangements, and revised timeline for publication; • Outline our intentions for Strategy and Action Plan development, including stakeholder engagement and consultation.
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Health & Wellbeing Board to note and endorse these plans

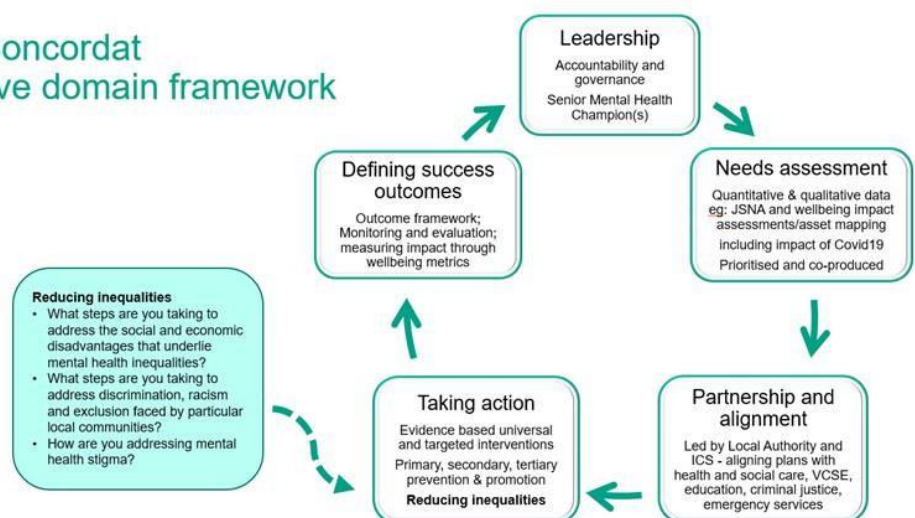
¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/severe-mental-illness-smi-physical-health-inequalities/severe-mental-illness-and-physical-health-inequalities-briefing>

Key Discussion points:

Current position

1. Promises originally presented to HWBB June 2021 by CCG MH commissioner and Changing Our Lives (Appendix 1)
2. In absence of CCG MH commissioner and a Mental Health Strategy Group (MHS), the activity has been ongoing through the Community Mental Health Task Force (CMHTF) and State Of Sandwell (SOS) working group
3. The relaunched MHS has now met twice to agree TOR, key stakeholders and the timeframe for the MHS development.
4. Consultation with Sandwell residents has already taken place through the SOS consultation and resulting report throughout 2019 to 2021, which helped shape the promises, recommendations and current activity.
5. Feedback has highlighted the need to transform the language used in the original promises, and to take a prevention focused approach, aligned with the Prevention Concordat.
6. As part of the Better Mental Health funded project, managed by Sandwell Public Health, SMBC have committed to signing up to the Prevention Concordat. This piece of work will directly support the development of the SMHS by taking a Public Health approach to mental health improvement through local action to prevent mental health problems and promoting good mental health.
7. Public Health have committed additional resource to support this piece of work through the recruitment of a 12 month fixed-term Mental Health Project Officer.
8. The strategy development and action plan with address the Concordat 5 domain framework:

Concordat five domain framework



Next steps and timeframe

9. February 2022: brief HWBB on MHS current position. Confirm our commitment to be a Prevention Concordat signatory.

	<p>10. By April 2022: Update the 9 promises to reflect recent feedback through consultation with the SMHSG, and align governance with the Mental Health transformation project.</p> <p>11. By June 2022: Co-produce a strategy and action plan that underpins the 9 promises, through consultation with key stakeholders, aligned to the Prevention Concordat process.</p> <p>12. By August 2022: Undertake a community consultation on the strategy, and submit final plans to the National PMH team.</p> <p>13. By October 2022: Present the final MHS to the HWBB and officially launch on World Mental Health day (10/10/22)</p> <p>References</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health 2. Mental Health & Wellbeing JSNA area profile for Sandwell & West Birmingham CCG (2019/20) https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile-group/mental-health/profile/mh-jsna/data#page/1
Implications (e.g. Financial, Statutory etc)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Care Act (2014) set out a statutory duty for Local Authorities to promote wellbeing, including mental and emotional wellbeing. • Sandwell MBC is a key strategic partner for both the Black Country STP and the West Midlands Combined Authority. Health services and their commissioning are now aligned across the Black Country following the merger of Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG and the Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. • The NHS Long Term Plan sets out an ambitious programme of transformation for mental health services and sets out a number of strategic priorities and a programme of funding to support their delivery. • The Good Mental Health strategy will ensure that Sandwell retains a stake in the delivery of these priorities by holding commissioners and providers to account and linking large strategic programmes to local corporate plans (Sandwell 2030). • Good mental health as an outcome is key to the delivery of an effective suicide prevention plan, better parity of esteem for people of all ages, reasonably adjusted services for people with autism, workforce wellbeing and support for carers. 	
<p>What engagement has or will take place with people, partners and providers?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with Sandwell residents has already taken place through the SOS consultation and resulting report throughout 2019 to 2021, which helped shape the promises, recommendations and current activity. • The draft Strategy will go through a 60-day consultation process to gather feedback from wider stakeholders and the public to shape the final version. Approval of the draft will be sought from HWBB prior to going out to consultation.

APPENDIX 1

SANDWELL'S GOOD MENTAL HEALTH STRATEGY OUR PROMISES

SANDWELL WILL BE A MENTAL HEALTH AWARE COMMUNITY

- Mental health is a strategic priority
- Communities will be supported to access the means to look out for each other
- We will increase mental health literacy through training opportunities for non-professionals (eg MH First Aid)
- Communities will take a lead in service development

THINK ALL AGE

- Remove barriers to support because of a person's age.
- Ensure children approaching adulthood are supported through those transitions, especially those most vulnerable and in our care.
- Older people shall receive service appropriate to their needs and free from discrimination.
- More older people shall access talking therapies and be considered equal in the planning of services.
- The good mental health strategy will link closely with the SANDWELL DEMENTIA STRATEGY and

AVAILABLE WHEN YOU REALLY NEED IT

Not all services will be open at all times, but when a person requires a response that cannot wait, we will ensure it is available 24/7

ZERO SUICIDE

We will strive to deliver a SUICIDE PREVENTION STRATEGY for Sandwell aimed at ensuring nobody dies from suicide and a delivering high quality depression and crisis care.

RECOVERY

Everyone's needs will be considered based on what is a meaningful recovery means to them and support will always look to help achieve this. Where possible give people access to the means to design their own care and support.

EXPERT RESPONSE

People needing help can expect that whoever they look to for support will be equipped to provide them with the best possible response. People in all sectors, including volunteers, will have access to high quality training and supervision to do their job to the best of their ability. Ensure the workforce is supported to maintain their own good mental health.

TACKLE THE CAUSES OF POOR MENTAL HEALTH

Commitment not only to help those struggling a mental health problem, but support those individuals and services working to prevent difficulties through improving people's lives. Work with local system partners to address LONELINESS & ISOLATION.

SAFE PLACES

We will create spaces where people can go to feel safe and get access to the range of support they may need to give them back control and push for all communities to be able to safe and pleasant recreational places that enable good physical and mental health.