

**SCRUTINY POLICY REVIEWS 2012/13:  
RESPONSE FROM CABINET – 13 MARCH 2013**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide feedback from the Cabinet meetings held on 13 March 2013, regarding one of six of the first round of scrutiny policy reviews undertaken by scrutiny in 2012/13. The remaining policy reviews will be considered by the Scrutiny Committee at its meeting of 25 April 2013.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 Within the revised scrutiny arrangements, it is now the responsibility of the Committee to consider feedback from relevant portfolio holders on Cabinet's consideration of the policy reviews undertaken by the scrutiny panels and how it intends to deliver the recommendations of each panel.
- 2.2 Cabinet considered the Policy Review; Accessing Mental Health Services in Sunderland undertaken by the Health, Housing and Adult Scrutiny Panel at its meeting of 13 March 2013.
- 2.3 This report provides feedback from the Portfolio Holder for Health, Housing and Adult Services following Cabinet's consideration of, and decisions in relation to, the Scrutiny Panel's recommendations.
- 2.4 Following the Scrutiny Committee's consideration of feedback from Cabinet on each of the Policy Reviews of 2012/13, progress towards completion of the actions contained within each Action Plan will be monitored on an annual basis by the Committee.

**3. RESPONSE FROM CABINET TO THE POLICY REVIEW**

- 3.1 Following consideration of the Final Reports, Cabinet approved the recommendations in their entirety. Details of the Policy Review recommendations and proposed actions to be taken are provided in the Action Plan attached at **appendix one**.
- 3.2 Cabinet thanked the Scrutiny Lead Members, Scrutiny Panels and its officers for their hard work in undertaking the policy review and additional work.

**4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 That the Committee:-

- (a) Notes the proposed actions detailed within the Action Plan appended to this report (**Appendix 1**) and seeks clarification on content where felt appropriate; and
- (b) Refers the action plan to the Health Housing and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel for further consideration.

## **5. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

5.1 The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

- (i) Cabinet Agenda, 13 March 2013.

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## Appendix 1

### Health, Housing and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel

#### Accessing Mental Health Services in Sunderland: Policy Review recommendations 2012/13

Ref	Recommendation	Action	Owner	Due Date	Progress Commentary
(a)	To develop the frontline councillor role to enable elected members to identify the signs associated with mental illness within their own communities and enhance their understanding of the mental health pathway and services available for people with mental health problems in their own wards.	<p>Arrange members briefing sessions using 'No Health without Mental Health' material, including Mental Health first aid information, to be delivered by MH Team Managers and partner agencies.</p> <p>Link named MH social workers to each ward for locality working, inform members of nominated worker in their area.</p>	Pippa Corner, Head of Personalisation (HHAS)	July 13	
(b)	To develop and implement an awareness-raising strategy to ensure that all stakeholders across the city understand the services available to people with mental health problems, including health practitioners, voluntary and community sector organisations and the Local Strategic Partnership.	<p>Work with the Model of Care Programme Board (this board is changing in line with Sunderland CCG) to develop the strategy.</p> <p>The strategy would sit under the Health and Well-being Board as part of the HWBB strategy for Sunderland</p>	Neil Revely (Executive Director of HHAS) on behalf of HWBB	October 13	
(c)	To look at raising the awareness of the signs and symptoms of mental illness among local authority employees through mental health awareness sessions, held in partnership with VCS organisations, and promoting the benefits of awareness raising to the wider audience of employers in Sunderland.	Develop as part of the Wellness initiative for employees for the council; materials could then be extended for use in the economic forum	Julie Gray (Head of Community Services) working with Economic Forum	March 14	.

<b>(d)</b>	To investigate an approach that ensures that all directorates operate in a way that is complementary to the access pathways to mental health services or support for potentially any individual coming into contact with local authority services, including the council website.	<p>Ensure the council operating model for accessing the Council through the CSN has information relating to pathways for mental health services or support.</p> <p>Good information and advice should be part of that as standard</p> <p>Work with NTW to ensure the Council access routes are complementary to the recently developed Initial Response Team</p>	Pippa Corner (Head of Personalisation)	September 2013	
<b>(e)</b>	That the Health, Housing and Adult Services Directorate looks at how it can actively involve frontline staff and service users in future service design and delivery of mental health services.	We have recently developed a plan with partners to develop a MH strategy for Sunderland. Engaging staff and service users and carers in that work will be central to it.	Pippa Corner (Head of Personalisation) Working with CCG and other partners	March 14	
<b>(f)</b>	That the Health, Housing and Adult Services Directorate monitor the appropriate use of the Government's additional funding prescribed for the expansion of the Improved Access to Psychological Therapies programme through the Council/CCG Joint Commissioning Group	The Joint Commissioning Group will include the recommendation within its work programme and monitor the use of funding reporting to the Scrutiny Committee as required	Graham King (Head of Strategic Commissioning) on behalf of JCG	September 2013	