



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET MEMBER

2 September 2021

Report of the Director of Public Health

**Mental Health and Suicide Prevention
(Health and Communities)**

1. Divisions Affected

1.1 County wide

2. Key Decision

2.1 No

3. Purpose

3.1 The purpose of this report is for approval to procure and to award a contract for a mental health and suicide prevention outreach project under protocol 5 and to note the role of Derbyshire County Council Public Health in leading the pan-Derbyshire approach to suicide prevention and investment of NHS Wave 3 suicide prevention funding.

3.2 The Cabinet Member for Health and Communities is asked to:
Approve the procurement of a mental health and suicide prevention outreach project at a value of £0.120m under protocol 5 and note the role of Derbyshire County Council above

4. Information and Analysis

- 4.1 The effects of self-harm and suicide can be devastating. Many people – friends, family, professionals, colleagues and wider society will feel the impact. There are also significant financial costs associated with a suicide. Suicide rates in Derbyshire remain similar to the national average. However, after three years of declining rates, 2018 saw an increase in rates. Historically, there has always been a significantly higher number of males who die by suicide or injury of undetermined intent. In 2018 in Derbyshire males accounted for 66% of deaths and in Derby City 77% of deaths. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has led to an increase in the risk factors for mental ill health and suicide.
- 4.2 In January 2020, Derbyshire County Council Public Health Department, on behalf of Joined Up Care Derbyshire (JUCD), applied for and was successful in gaining Wave 3 Suicide Prevention funding from NHS England of £0.202m per year for three years from 2020-21. The Mental Health System Delivery Board of JUCD agreed for the Derbyshire Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention Partnership Forum (DSSPPF) to have responsibility for overseeing implementation of the projects in respect of the Wave 3 NHS England funding. As hosts of the DSSPPF it was agreed that Derbyshire County Council Public Health (DCC) should manage and lead the commissioning and delivery of the projects.
- 4.3 In 2020/21 Wave 3 Year 1 funding was fully allocated and the respective projects and programmes procured and delivered.
- 4.4 With regard to Wave 3 Year 2 funding, a working group of the DSSPPF developed options for investment. The options were presented to the Mental Health, Learning Disability and Autism System Delivery Board on 8 July 2021 and the proposals were agreed.
- 4.5 One of the agreed proposals was for the procurement of a Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Outreach Project which the Council will lead at a total value of £0.120m. The project will engage and work with different organisations and businesses to increase their awareness, competence and confidence to support mental wellbeing in a sustainable way. This is done through supported development of a simple action plan which may include development of a policy, an awareness campaign or training for staff/volunteers. The impact of Covid-19 has limited the ability to do on the ground outreach work due to many businesses, retailers, clubs and other settings being restricted or closed. As places begin to reopen, key settings such as taxi firms, bookmakers, tattoo parlours, pubs, amateur sports clubs and others could be amongst those targeted. The

opportunity to influence settings that engage people within high risk groups is significant.

- 4.6 This report asks that the Cabinet Member approves the procurement of a provider to deliver this project.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 A working group of the Derbyshire Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention Partnership Forum (DSSPPF) developed the proposal for investment in the Project. The DSSPPF is a multi-agency strategic group which leads on suicide prevention work across Derbyshire and Derby. There are strong strategic links between key partners, and membership of the Forum includes Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Derby and Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Derbyshire Community Health Services NHS Foundation Trust, NHS Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) providers, Voluntary Sector organisations, Derbyshire County Council and Derby City Council, Samaritans, British Transport Police and Derbyshire Constabulary. The options were also presented to the Mental Health, Learning Disability and Autism System Delivery Board, who agreed the proposals.

6. Alternative Options Considered

- 6.1 Option 1
Procurement of the mental health and suicide prevention outreach project
- 6.2 Option 2
Not to procure the mental health and suicide prevention outreach project
- 6.3 Poor mental health impacts negatively on individuals, families, communities and the economy, whilst good mental health is associated with a range of both health and non-health benefits. The Covid-19 pandemic has had a major damaging impact on mental health, increasing the risk factors for both mental ill-health and suicide. The major risk associated with Option 2 is that there will be a missed opportunity to increase capacity to address this via utilising NHS Wave 3 suicide prevention funding.
- 6.4 Option 1 would increase capacity and is also in-line with the Derbyshire place-based approach. The management, leading and delivery of project by Public Health on behalf of Joined Up Care Derbyshire will also further enhance the Council's standing both locally and nationally.

6.5 Related to the above, mental health is not only an essential component of general health but also influences a broad range of social and economic outcomes including education, work, relationships, lifestyle and risky behaviours. In the circumstances Option 1 is preferred.

6.6 The risks associated with approving these recommendations is minimal as a result of the Wave 3 Suicide Prevention funding coming from NHS England.

7. Implications

7.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

8. Background Papers

8.1 Deaths from suicide and injury of undetermined intent in Derby City and Derbyshire County [Microsoft Word - Suicides in Derby and Derbyshire Report 2019.docx](#)

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1- Implications.

10. Recommendation(s)

10.1 That the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities:

- a) Approve the procurement of a mental health and suicide prevention outreach project at a value of £0.120m under protocol 5.

11. Reasons for Recommendation(s)

11.1 To deliver an outreach programme to further embed a preventative approach to mental health and suicide prevention and to increase capacity to help address the negative impact on mental health of the Covid-19 pandemic.

12. Is it necessary to waive the call-in period?

12.1 No

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Appendix 1

Implications**a) Financial**

The £0.120m cost of the mental health and suicide prevention outreach project will be met by Wave 3 Year 2 funding totalling £0.150m from NHS England via the Derby and Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

b) Legal

The procurement of The Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Project will be carried out with the knowledge and support of Procurement, Finance and Legal Services in accordance with procurement protocol 5 and the Council's financial regulations.

c) Human Resources

Any staff will be employed by the provider awarded the contract and not by Derbyshire County Council.

d) Equalities Impact

Mental health status impacts on a broad range of health and social outcomes. Good mental health is associated with a range of important health and non-health benefits. However, the contrary also applies, with inequalities being associated with poor mental health and vice versa. The risks of mental ill-health are not equally distributed. Investment in and delivery of programmes to support mental health and suicide prevention maximise the inclusivity of groups which are at higher risk of mental ill health and suicide. Priority groups are identified by the DSSPPF. We commission and provide services in a way that increases equity.

e) Corporate objectives and priorities for change**Derbyshire County Council Priorities**

The project contributes to delivery against each of the following Council priorities

- A focus on empowered and self-sufficient communities
- A focus on prevention and early intervention
- High Performing Council Services

Public Health Outcomes Based Accountability

The project contributes to delivery against each of the following population outcomes

- Population Outcome 1: Healthy Start
- Population Outcome 2: Healthy Lives
- Population Outcome 3: Health Improvement
- Population outcome 4: Resilient communities
- Population outcome 5: Healthy settings
- Population outcome 6: Foundations of health