

Health and Wellbeing Board Thursday 8th March 2018

MENTAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP BOARD BRIEFING TO THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

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1.0 Summary

This is the regular update briefing commissioned by the Health and Wellbeing Board from the Shropshire Mental Health Partnership Board (MHPB). The briefings will provide regular assurance to the Health and Wellbeing Board on the work of the MHPB and highlight areas for closer consideration by the H&WBB.

2.0 Recommendations

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

- a) note the information in the report
- b) Encourage people to undertake the free training being provided online by the Zero Suicide Alliance

REPORT

3.0 Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

The Mental Health Partnership Board through its associated health and wellbeing outcomes supports the reduction of inequalities across Shropshire

4.0 Financial Implications

No financial decisions are explicitly required with this report, there may be associated resource implications to be considered for some actions. However, any financial decisions will be taken through the appropriate governing bodies and not within the MHPB itself.

5.0 Background

This update briefing provides the Health and Wellbeing Board with regular assurance from the Mental Health Partnership Board concerning the partnership approach to promoting and supporting the mental health and emotional wellbeing of the people of Shropshire.

6.0 Mental Health Partnership Board (MHPB) - update

“Shropshire is a place where mental health is everyone’s business, positive emotional wellbeing is promoted and services and communities work together to provide appropriate support when our people need it.”

The work of the Mental Health Partnership Board since our last update includes:

- Mental Health Needs Assessment
- Safe Shropshire – Safe Place Scheme at Shirehall
- Shropshire Suicide Prevention Action Group

6.1 Mental Health Needs Assessment

The Mental Health Needs Assessment for Shropshire is drawing to a close and the draft report will be presented to the MHPB at its March 2018 meeting.

6.2 Safe Shropshire - Safe Place Scheme at Shirehall, Shrewsbury

What Is Safe Shropshire?

Safe Shropshire is a community led initiative supported by West Mercia Police, Mencap, Shropshire Council, Taking Part, OSCA Citizen Advocacy, Shropshire Disability Network, Shropshire Voluntary and Community Sector Assembly was launched in July 2013 at the Guildhall Shrewsbury.

What are Safe Places?



'Safe Places' are a *short term* safe place for vulnerable people who feel threatened.

How do they work?

- Shops businesses and public buildings sign up to the project.
 - Staff are briefed in what to do if someone needs help.
 - The premises that sign up are provided with a sticker symbol that goes in a visible place in the window.
 - The scheme is supported by West Mercia Police. Local Police Community Support Officers are aware of where local Safe Places are.
- People using the 'Safe Places' Project are given a card by the organisations involved which has the same Safe Places symbol as the window sticker. They add details of people to contact if help is needed.
 - If the person feels threatened or has a crime committed against them while they are out in the community they can come into any 'Safe Places' premises to ask for support.

Shirehall, Shrewsbury is a Safe Place

If a person in the vicinity of Shirehall feels that they need a short-term safe place because they feel vulnerable or threatened, they would make themselves known to Shirehall reception staff and then one of the Shirehall volunteers is called to meet the person in reception to:

- Find a quiet but visible space to sit with them. This would be in the public areas of reception or outside the Council Chamber
- Ask if the person has a 'safe place card', and if there's someone who can be contacted on their behalf. They may just need somewhere to relax until they feel safe, and not want anyone contacted
- Record the occurrence on the contact sheet

6.3 Shropshire Suicide Prevention Action Group

The Shropshire Suicide Prevention Action Group is encouraging everyone to undertake this free training being provided by the Zero Suicide Alliance

Could you spot the signs in someone contemplating suicide? Even if you could, how confident would you be to intervene? ... read on to find out how YOU could prevent a tragic death by suicide, and it'll only take you 20-30 minutes!

The Shropshire Suicide Prevention Action Group knows how busy we all are, but they would urge as many colleagues as possible to spend 20-30 minutes to undertake this free training, which provides the essential life-skills required to spot and manage risk and signpost to appropriate support. They would also urge you to cascade this invitation to anyone you feel may benefit from the training. If you are reading this document as an electronic version then to access the online training, click on the link. Or go to <http://zerosuicidealliance.com/>



7.0 Summary

Ensuring our population has good mental and emotional health is important as it impacts on all aspects of people’s lives, including links with good physical health, social participation, ability to cope with the normal stresses of life, developing personal relationships, education, training and ability to fulfil potential in employment opportunities. It is also a key component in nurturing resilient communities and can therefore be seen as the responsibility of individuals, families, friends, employers and the wider community to enable people to develop and maintain good mental health.

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| List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information) |
| Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) Lee Chapman |
| Local Member All |
| Appendices - |