

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee****28 June 2018**

Community Support Mental Health: Future Commissioning Approach

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide background on the proposed future commissioning approach for delivery of mental health community support.

**2.0 Introduction and Background**

- 2.1 Health and Adult Services (HAS) currently holds community support mental health block contracts with a number of different voluntary and community sector organisations for delivery of support across North Yorkshire.
- 2.2 Most of these contracts have been in place for many years and the Council is legally required to re-procure this service provision, as continuing to extend the contracts is no longer possible under EU procurement regulations. New arrangements for delivery of support will need to be in place by the 1st October 2018, when the current contracts are due to end.
- 2.3 The review work to date has informed the development proposals for future investment into voluntary and community sector organisations to deliver mental health support on its' behalf. A consultation took place on these proposals from the 22nd January to the 19th February 2018. The consultation feedback is currently being reviewed to finalise the future commissioning plans and procurement documentation for the procurement planned to be launched in early April.

**3.0 Introduction and background**

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- 3.2 Most of these contracts have been held by the Council for many years and the Council is legally required to re-procure this service provision as continuing to extend the contracts is no longer possible under EU procurement legislation. New arrangements for delivery of support will need to be procured and implemented by the 1st October 2018, when the current contracts are due to end.

- 3.3 The review of these contracts has been included as part of the overall HAS Social Care Mental Health Review, which aims to develop a distinct social care mental health offer to meet the needs of the North Yorkshire population.
- 3.4 The community support contracts provide a range of different types of support, including:
- Mental health resource centres/hubs
  - Social inclusion support/social activities
  - Peer support
  - A mental health sheltered workshop
- 3.5 Local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG's) currently contribute £40,652 per annum towards delivery of these contracts.
- 3.6 Service provision has developed in an inequitable way across the County over a number of years, with a higher proportion of the current investment being concentrated in the Harrogate District – 60% of the total investment. None of the current contracts provide any support in Selby or Craven Districts.
- 3.7 An engagement exercise as part of the Health and Adult Services Social Care Mental Health Review has informed the development of proposals for how voluntary and community sector organisations will be commissioned to deliver mental health support on behalf of the Council in the future.

#### **4.0 Future investment approach**

- 4.1 The proposed future investment approach has been based on a range of information, including the review engagement feedback, and is outlined as follows:
- 4.1.1 Adults mental health prevention offer
- 4.1.2 A clear message from the mental health engagement exercise was that people felt there was a need for a mental health prevention offer across North Yorkshire, to help people to avoid developing mental health issues and prevent the escalation of need in those who have existing mental health issues.
- 4.1.3 Hence it is proposed that future investment in third sector mental health will be used to support delivery of adults mental health prevention support across the County. This is in line with the Council's commitments made in our mental health strategy and with current national policy on mental health.
- 4.1.4 Mental health 'hub and spoke' delivery model
- 4.1.5 Based on the feedback received from people through engagement, it is proposed that the available funding be used to invest in delivery of local mental health 'hubs' or 'centres' across North Yorkshire.
- 4.1.6 These would act as a point of contact for local people to be able to access information and advice on mental health issues, provide brief interventions on practical support (e.g. around benefits support and support on training and employment) and also support social inclusion and provide peer support.

4.1.7 Health and Adult Services currently funds a small number of organisations to deliver mental health centres which provide these and other types of support in some parts of the County. During the engagement exercise people described how highly valued these services are in their local communities, about the benefits they provide in helping to prevent people from developing mental health issues and helping people to recover from mental health issues and stay well.

4.1.8 These services accept referrals from a range of sources, including self-referrals, and the intention is that this would be the case for the proposed future model. In addition it is proposed that support would be available to all adults aged 18 and over, and access to support would not be restricted based on mental health condition.

4.1.9 Support would be delivered using a 'hub' and 'spoke' approach to maximise access, to include delivery of support from central 'hubs' as well as from 'spokes' – other venues located in local communities.

4.1.10 The key areas which would be supported through delivery of the hub and spoke model are as follows:

- Information, advice and signposting
- Practical support brief interventions (for example around benefits, employment/training or housing)
- Support with self care and life skills
- Social and peer support



Figure 1: Mental health hub and spoke functions

4.1.11 It is proposed that locality-based contracts for hub and spoke delivery would be awarded to organisations to deliver support.

4.1.12 Investing in the future prevention offer

4.1.13 Use of current investment in community support mental health contracts that support delivery of preventative support provides a maximum total annual funding available from Health and Adult Services and CCG's for investment into a mental health prevention offer across North Yorkshire of approximately £240,000.

4.1.14 Some of the other community support contracts are not a natural fit with the proposed future preventative model, and Health and Adult Services will be exploring alternative options for people who currently access these services may be supported in the future using a person-centred approach. This will include looking at individual support plans and options around personal budgets.

4.1.15 In addition, it is proposed that the County-wide out of hours mental health support line service jointly funded by Health and Adult Services and CCG's be re-procured for an additional period of time in order to allow for further time to review the need for out of hours support, which is to include consideration of ongoing developments around crisis support.

4.1.16 The available investment for the prevention offer is acknowledged as being challenging for delivery of all elements of the proposed approach. Initial analysis of the consultation feedback indicates strong support for the approach described but some concerns about how much support may be deliverable within the budget available.

4.1.17 However, it is known that there are a range of other existing mental health and wellbeing community support assets within local communities which also contribute towards promoting good mental health and wellbeing, and preventing mental health problems. It is proposed that the investment into community mental health prevention should be used to complement and support partnership working with existing local community assets and resources. There is evidence from the existing community support mental health contracts of some organisations already working to this type of approach.

4.1.18 In order to establish a more equitable approach to allocation of funds based on population need an evidence-based funding formula has been developed with Public Health, which incorporates a number of factors linked to need for mental health support. This formula will form the basis for future allocation of funds through locality contracts.

4.1.19 The formula takes account of:

- Age profiles
- BME
- Rurality indicators
- Prevalence of common mental illness
- New cases of psychosis rate per 100,000
- Employment Support allowance claimants for mental disorders
- Homelessness
- Deprivation indices
- Long term unemployment

4.2 This would result in the proportions allocated to be as follows

District/Borough Council area	New allocation	Current allocation
Craven	9.2%	0%
Hambleton	13.1%	16.7%
Harrogate	22.5%	40.2%
Richmondshire	8.6%	16.7%
Ryedale	8.3%	9.1%
Scarborough	24.6%	17.2%
Selby	13.5%	0%
Total=	100.0%	100%

## 5.0 Significant Risks and Mitigation

- 5.1 It is identified that the majority of the currently contracted community support mental health organisations are local small voluntary sector organisations, and many are inexperienced in tendering for contracts, with some of these highly reliant on Health and Adult Services funding. Hence there are potential risks to organisational sustainability of some organisations if they were unsuccessful in continuing to receive funds as a result of the pending procurement.
- 5.2 As part of service reviews discussions have been held with all currently contracted organisations about pending re-procurement of services, and organisations have been signposted to support for organisational development. There are also plans for Community First Yorkshire to jointly deliver with NYCC a 'tender ready' workshop for the voluntary sector in March 2018.
- 5.3 There is a risk that if future commissioned mental health prevention delivery is not be suitably aligned with Health and Adult Services operational (in-house) mental health support, then there may be duplication in functions and resources used.
- 5.4 Development of preventative support within is also key to development of the operational social care mental health offer. As both elements of review work have been integrated, there is ongoing close joint working between commissioning and mental health operational staff to ensure development of a

single overall model. The review working group chaired by the Commissioning Team includes membership from mental health operational staff.

- 5.5 Many existing contracts have been in place for several years with organisations that are highly valued and respected by local stakeholders and the public. Hence there are potential risks of political or public interest in the event that any of these are unsuccessful in receiving funds for future delivery as a result of the procurement.
- 5.6 As part of the review planning, a detailed communications plan has been developed and will be regularly reviewed by the project working group.

## **6.0 Consultation**

- 6.1 An engagement exercise as part of the adult social care mental health review took place during September and October 2017. This engagement included a number of locality engagement events which were used to explore what was working well with mental health services and support in different North Yorkshire localities, and how things might be improved. A copy of the review engagement report is available from:  
<http://www.nypartnerships.org.uk/mentalhealthreview>
- 6.2 A consultation on proposals for how the voluntary and community sector would be commissioned to deliver mental health support on behalf of the Council in the future took place from the 22nd January –19th February 2018.
- 6.3 As part of the consultation a stakeholder event was held on the 5th February at the Forum in Northallerton to hear people's views on the proposals. The event was attended by a range of stakeholders, including people with lived experience of mental health issues and family members and carers of those with mental health issues, Health and Adult Services and Mental Health Trust staff, and voluntary and community sector mental health and wellbeing support organisations. The event was attended by approximately 50 people.
- 6.4 In addition to the stakeholder event, people were able to respond to the consultation by completing either an online or paper-based survey, or emailing feedback to the commissioning team.
- 6.5 24 respondents completed the survey and a further 12 responses were received either through the feedback forms or by email.
- 6.6 A report summarising key findings from the consultation is published on the review webpage.

## **7.0 Contract Award**

- 7.1 The expectation is that contracts will be awarded soon. For commercial reasons no further information can be shared at this stage regarding the likely outcome of this process; however, updates could be made to committee later in the year.

## **8.0 Recommendations**

- 8.1 The Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note the information in this report.

**Kathy Clark**

**Assistant Director Commissioning, Health and Adult Services**

Email : [Kathy.Clark@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:Kathy.Clark@northyorks.gov.uk)

County Hall  
Northallerton

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Background Documents Nil