

Appendix X – Creating a Mentally Healthy City Forum Highlight Report

1.1 Context

1.2 The 'Creating a Mentally Health City Forum' (CMHC) has an explicit focus on the mental wellbeing of citizens in Birmingham, with an emphasis on upstream prevention and promotion of better mental health. This includes also Suicide Prevention which has its own Advisory Group Strategy and Action Plan. It is one of five Fora created within the Public Health Division with reporting responsibility to the Health and Wellbeing Board. These reports are based on the activities set out in the Public Health Delivery Plan.

1.3 The aim of the CMHC Forum is to work with partners, stakeholders, academics, voluntary and third sector organisations, faith groups, and importantly our local communities to ensure that we are creating a City where all our citizens have equal opportunities to thrive and build a life that will enable them to achieve their potential and prosper.

1.4 A decision has been made by the Chair of the Forum and the Director of Public Health that we will step down the Health and Wellbeing Board and all sub-committees in January and February 2022 in light of the Covid Omicron variant, and this includes the CMHC Forum.

1.5 Current Circumstance

1.6 In line with organisational governance, the Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health was taken to the Public Health Senior Management Team (SMT) for approval. The Concordat is at three levels: a) Commitment level our entry point; b) Achievement Level at year two; and c) Exemplar Level at year three. The Concordat had previously been presented in draft format to Public Health England and the Director of Public Health (DPH) for their input. The document was also submitted to the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing via Councillor Member Briefing (CMB) for approval. It has now been disseminated to Forum members for approval and sign off by their organisations.

1.7 The Terms of Reference (TOR) is currently being refreshed after a year's delay due to Covid and lockdown. We have taken the impact of the pandemic and have engaged with organisations (including local communities working on inequality in some of our most deprived areas) that are committed to 'making a difference' to citizens who are disadvantaged. These community organisations can add value to the work we are dedicated to, and resolute in, addressing within the Forum, e.g. mental health and wellbeing, suicide prevention, domestic abuse, and justice health but most importantly we will be listening to people with lived experience of mental health conditions and act accordingly. We aim to invited representatives from organisation that are involved in the Better Mental Health fund as we are committed to working with partners in community settings, charities, sporting, and faith organisations. The new membership in the TOR will reflect the changes to how we intend working and engaging with local communities in the future.

- 1.8** The contracts from the Better Mental Health funds are now fully allocated and running. Monthly reports on each of the 11 successful bids are being sent to Public Health England for analysis and will be evidenced and evaluated for their lasting legacies beyond the fixed-term of the funding which ends on 9 May 2022. The focus will be on skills and resources development and value for money for each of the projects.
- 1.9** In addition to the Better Mental Health Funds the Public Health Division is also funding projects from their core budget that on merit were equally supportive in addressing mental health and wellbeing, including for people with lived experience.
- 1.10** Information against the actions from the Suicide Prevention Action Plan are being actively collected from providers and the Plan updated as and when information becomes available.
- 1.11** Good progress is being made against the delivery of a Real Time Surveillance and Referral System and the pathway flow diagram is now with the Coroner for review and comment. A joint meeting is planned to secure buy-in from parties involved and to work out logistics.
- 1.12** The Zero Suicide Alliance Basic Suicide Awareness Training has now been launched on the Learning and Development Service website and can be accessed both internally and externally on their portal via:
<https://tlds.learningpool.com/course/view.php?id=1358>
- 1.13 Next Steps and Delivery**
- Incorporate any feedback received from Forum members into the Prevention Concordat ensuring organisations have signed the Pledge to work in partnership on delivering the actions.
 - Prevention Concordat to be signed off by the Chief Executive or a senior corporate colleague before submission to Public Mental Health publicmentalhealth@phe.gov.uk to express the commitment of the organisation in becoming a signatory to the cross-sector, prevention-focused actions through the adoption of public mental health approaches.
 - Terms of Reference for the CMHC Forum to be refreshed and sent to Chair, DPH, and Forum members for approval.
 - Will be seeking a replacement Wave 3 Suicide Prevention Co-ordinator for Birmingham and Solihull by advertising the post as soon as possible.
 - The Suicide Prevention Action Plan will be updated with recommendations from members of the Suicide Prevention Advisory Group.

