

Report of the Chief Executive

MENTAL HEALTH - ACTION PLAN AND CHARITABLE SERVICES1. Purpose of report

To update Committee on the current actions being undertaken by the authority to support the mental health of residents and staff, and to identify various charities working in this field in and around the Borough.

2. Detail

Mental health is an extremely wide topic covering many issues and affecting people of all ages. A large and growing body of research shows that good mental health is essential for individual wellbeing, for a happy, healthy society, and for a prosperous economy. Unfortunately, mental health problems are on the increase, with a rising demand on services and increasing complexity of need.

Local government makes a vital contribution to promoting good mental health in individuals and communities, supporting and complementing the work undertaken by the National Health Service. Much of this is provided by the upper tier authorities with their public health responsibilities to promote mental wellbeing and prevent poor mental health throughout the life course, as well as their statutory duties and powers related to mental health for children and young people and for adults. However, mental health cannot be tackled by any organisation working in isolation. Councils, the NHS, and the voluntary and community sector must all do their part for people who use services (children, young people and adults), carers and advocates, as well as staff. As such, Broxtowe Borough Council has a vital role to play in promotion and support of mental health among its residents and staff.

An action plan detailing current actions which are planned / being undertaken in respect of mental health is attached at appendix 1. The action plan contains 9 themes under which action is grouped- Direct action; financial support; effective communications; supporting tenants; partnership working; preventing suicide; promoting good mental health of children and young people; action relating to people living with dementia and promoting the good health of employees. Appendix 2 is a list of charities which provide mental health services in and around Broxtowe and which can be accessed by residents of the borough.

3. Financial Implications

The 2020/21 budget includes £35,000 for Mental Health Initiatives following on from the work of the Mental Health Working Group. A payment of £35,640 was made to the CAB in May 2020 in respect of an Early Intervention Worker and a Nottinghamshire Mind Information Worker to develop and maintain the Eastwood Wellbeing Hub from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE to approve the current Mental Health Action Plan, and NOTE the organisations providing mental health services.

Background papers

Nil