

Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Strategic Planning Advisory Group		
Held on:	19th March 2024		
Agenda item:	8		
Title:	Mental Health Strategy - Update		
Summary:			
<p>The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the development of the SA HSCP Mental Health Strategy.</p>			
Author:	Rebecca Hunter – Planning and Performance Officer (Policy)		
Recommendations:			
<p>It is recommended that the Strategic Planning Advisory Group:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Note draft timescales for strategy completion. II. Note the progress made so far with the development of the Mental Health Strategy. III. Note regular progress reports will be brought to SPAG. 			
Route to meeting:			
<p>There have been a number of previous conversations and thinking in relation to the development of this strategy. It was previously agreed by the Directorate Management Team to await the publication of the national strategy and delivery plan before commencing local development.</p>			
Directions:		Implications:	
1. No Directions Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Financial	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Directions to NHS Ayrshire & Arran	<input type="checkbox"/>	HR	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Directions to South Ayrshire Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Directions to both SAC & NHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	Equalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
		ICT	<input type="checkbox"/>

MENTAL HEALTH STRATEGY - UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the SPAG an update on the progress to far made to develop SA HSCP Mental Health Strategy during 2024.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Strategic Planning Advisory Group:

- I. Note draft timescales for strategy completion.**
- II. Note the progress made so far with the development of the Mental Health Strategy**
- III. Note regular progress reports will be brought to SPAG**

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 In recent months the Scottish Government has published a new Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy. This was a timely publication given SA HSCP intention to refresh the local strategy in line with the national strategic direction.
- 3.2 The delivery plan for the Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy was published in October 2023.
- 3.3 It was initially the intention to develop this in South Ayrshire within 2023 but due to the delayed publishing of the Scottish Government Strategy and accompanying delivery plan this was pushed back.
- 3.4 A conclusion report for the existing Adult Mental Health Strategy 2017-2022 was taken to the Performance and Audit Committee in April 2023 by Sharon Hackney who was the Mental Health Senior Manager at the time. This report provided an update on any remaining actions held within the action plan of the existing strategy and concluded the Adult Community Mental Health Strategy 2017-2022 delivery in keeping with the IJB's agreement to remit monitoring of delivery to the Performance and Audit Committee.
- 3.5 A report was brought to SPAG on the 19th of December 2023 outlining the direction of travel for the development of the Mental Health Strategy. It was noted at this time the proposed timescale and that regular updates would be brought to SPAG during 2024 as the strategy progressed development.

4. REPORT

- 4.1 A new South Ayrshire Mental health strategy has begun its development from February 2024. This will provide the foundation for the specification for the new framework for commissioning specialist Mental Health support and will seek to engage with people with lived experience, families, and carers.

- 4.2 A separate Dementia Strategy is also being developed, the stages and timeline will be broadly the same for both strategies and a draft timeline is set out within this paper.
- 4.3 There will be opportunities to join up some of the consultation process to avoid an ‘over consulting’ of groups of stakeholders where there may be a cross over. Both strategies will be developed and in operation by the end of 2024.
- 4.4 Separate timelines have been included for each strategy; however both are working to similar timeframes with a view to be fully launched by September 2024.

Early Engagement -Strategic Context and Policy Review Workshop with Mental Health Stakeholders across South Ayrshire.	February 2024
Develop Groups.	February – Early March 2024
Review current Position.	March 2024
Needs Assessment.	March – September 2024
Early Consultation / Engagement.	March – end of April 2024
Strategy Development / Writing.	April – June 2024
Further Engagement.	June – August 2024
Final Amendment / Group agreement.	August 2024
Agreement at IJB and Implementation.	September 2024
Monitoring of Delivery Plan.	Early 2025 - onwards

- 4.5 There have been leads from operational teams identified to provide leadership of the strategy, additionally a policy officer from Planning and Performance will support the lead officer in the development process. Oversight will be provided by the Senior Manager for Mental Health, Partnership Facilitator and Co-ordinator for Planning and Performance.
- 4.6 During the writing process, regular reports will be brought to the Strategic Planning Advisory Group until the strategies are agreed by the IJB towards the end of 2024.

4.7 It is proposed that the drafting process for each strategy follows a series of steps, broadly set out below:

Engagement

- A Steering Group has now been established. This group will meet approximately monthly throughout the period of developing the strategy.
- Having a development time of approx. nine months will allow us to implement good practice in engagement e.g., more than one phase of engagement, employing a range of engagement methods to reach as many people as possible.
- A range of methods will be used to engage with people and a full range of citizens, partners and stakeholders will be encouraged to participate.

Governance

- A Strategy Development Group has been set up to: develop and agree on the scope and vision of the strategy; oversee the development of the strategy document; develop arrangements for the implementation and review of the strategy; oversee the communications strategy.
- This group will meet monthly and will include representation from: HSCP managers; managers from other parts of the local authority with responsibility for services that can impact upon mental health/dementia e.g., Housing, Education, Third sector organisations; and the Strategy Steering Group.
- Regular oversight and input will be provided by the IJB Strategic Planning Advisory Group.

Communications

- A communications plan will be developed to make sure all stakeholders are aware that a strategy is being developed and are aware of the part they can play in its development. This will be shared with SPAG in due course.

Review, Plan and Monitor

- A strategic review of the implementation of the current strategy and what the current landscape of mental health services looks like in South Ayrshire has commenced.
- There will be ongoing planned activities and services that will help move towards the strategic outcomes and vision of life in South Ayrshire. Engagement with people with lived experience at this stage will be useful to hear, not only people's life experiences, but views about solutions and the kind of support that would be most useful.
- It will be important to know how well the implementation of the plan is progressing. Therefore, the implementation plan should include detail on measurable performance indicators and outcomes, agreed responsibilities with timescales, a clear reporting process, a feedback loop process that ensures the HSCP learns along the way and enables it to change course when needed, and a plan for mental health services and other stakeholders to continue to influence the plan (engagement is not just for the strategy development phase).

Next Steps

- A scoping workshop session was carried out 6th February 2024 with teams across Mental Health Services attending. The sessions main aim was to map how services are being delivered across South Ayrshire and how the new Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy can scope these going forward to best suit the needs of service users in line with the Scottish Governments Strategy. The event was led by Kevin Milton, Phil White and the strategy leads supported by Planning and Performance. Both the Mental Health and Dementia sessions were well attended, and key themes identified by the services involved. From the key themes, oversight groups have been agreed and are in the process of being set up and will take place monthly. Key theses from the day included:
 - Strengthen our infrastructure between services and work more collaboratively.
 - Clearer pathways for accessing services.
 - The standard opt-in culture for appointments needs to change as it is not supportive or inclusive.
 - The disparity of supports within South Ayrshire depending on location.
 - limited inpatient beds for mental health.
 - Managing the publics expectations.
 - Co-production of strategy with the service group.
 - Getting people the right support at the right time.
- A revised timeline has been created with a view that the strategy will be fully launched by September 2024 alongside with the Dementia Strategy.
- An Equality Impact Assessment is being completed within a small working group and will be completed by mid-March.

5. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

5.1 The Mental Health Strategy will align to the following strategic objectives:

- We nurture and are part of communities that care for each other.
- We work together to give you the right care in the right place.
- We help build communities where people are safe.
- We are transparent and listen to you.

5.2 The new Adult Community Mental Health Strategy will be informed by the new National Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Quality Standards for Adult Secondary Mental Health Services and the Specification for Psychological Therapies and Interventions.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial Implications

6.1.1 There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

6.2 Human Resource Implications

6.2.1 There are no human resource implications to agreeing this report.

6.3 Legal Implications

6.3.1 There are no legal implications to agreeing this report.

6.4 Equalities implications

6.4.1 A detailed Equality Impact Assessment will be completed and will be developed and expanded at each stage of strategy development to ensure it is robust. The new Integrated Impact Assessment Tool (currently in testing phase withing South Ayrshire Council) will be used if this is in operation during the timescales concerned.

6.5 Sustainability implications

6.5.1 There are no sustainability implications to agreeing to this report.

6.6 Clinical/professional assessment

6.6.1 There is no requirement for clinical/professional assessment for this specific report.

7. CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

7.1 This report has been prepared in consultation with relevant officers.

7.2 Significant consultation will be undertaken during the preparation of the strategies. A full range of citizens, partners and stakeholders will be encouraged to participate. A communication and engagement plan for each strategy will be drafted in due course.

7.3 Partnership working across Pan-Ayrshire, The Pan-Ayrshire Mental Health Engagement Officer (based within North Ayrshire Council) has been engaged to provide support to the development of the strategies.

8. RISK ASSESSMENT

8.1. There are no risks in agreeing this report.

REPORT AUTHOR AND PERSON TO CONTACT

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

[Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#)

[Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy – Delivery Plan](#)