

POLICY AND PROJECT ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting held on Tuesday, 25th July, 2023 at the Council Offices, Farnborough at 7.00 pm.

Voting Members

Cllr Marina Munro (Chairman)
Cllr Jessica Auton (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr A. Allen
Cllr Jib Belbase
Cllr Michael Hope
Cllr M.J. Roberts
Cllr Calum Stewart
Cllr Becky Williams
Cllr G. Williams

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllr Peace Essien Igodifo and Cllr T.W. Mitchell.

5. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th June 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

6. ADDRESSING INEQUALITIES - MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The Board welcomed Martha Earley, Director - Partnerships and Communities, Frimley Integrated Care Board, who was in attendance to provide information on existing activities and help available to address mental health and wellbeing within the NHS. Karen Edwards, Executive Director and Emma Lamb, Service Manager – Community and Partnerships, were also in attendance to provide information on Council activities aimed at addressing mental health and wellbeing identified in the Supporting Communities Strategy and Action Plan. Additional information on mental health and wellbeing support and prevention from Hampshire County Council (HCC) had also been provided to the Board prior to the meeting.

The purpose of the meeting had been to understand the current situation related to mental health in the Borough including, planned provision for mental health services, current activities aimed at support for, and prevention of, mental wellbeing. Consideration would also be given to the benefits of signing the Government's Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health and any implication/proposed changes this may have on the Council's Supporting Communities Strategy.

The Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health was a shared commitment, amongst relevant stakeholders, to prevent mental health problems and promote good mental health. To become a recognised signatory of the Concordat, the Council would need to:

- agree to the consensus statement, and
- produce an action plan

The Board were apprised of the activities and commitments within the Frimley ICS Strategy and NHS Joint Forward Plan in which Mental Health had been identified as a priority for 2023/24. It was noted that there were currently a number of offers available for both adults and children to help support and prevent mental health issues.

Following a discussion, it was noted that funding had been identified as a key issue, it was important to ensure that projects/priorities and the related resources could be funded. Other areas for consideration included, sharing best practice across GP surgeries, addressing inequalities, early intervention and taking a holistic view to treating mental health matters.

The Board discussed the information provided within the Hampshire Wellbeing Strategy and Suicide Prevention Plan and requested further information on how the activities in the Plan impacted Rushmoor.

The Board were advised of the working within the Council's Supporting Communities Strategy aimed at addressing mental health and wellbeing. It was noted that the Team worked closely with health partners and other organisations to help facilitate projects and activities addressing a wide range of mental health and wellbeing needs across the Borough. Projects included, wellness walks, Balance Glide & Ride, blood pressure checks, SEEDL, Talk Mental, gardening projects and tackling obesity.

ACTION:

What	Who	When
Provide further information on how the delivery of the Hampshire Wellbeing Strategy and Suicide Prevention Plan is supported by Rushmoor, through the Council's Supporting Communities Strategy.	Karen Edwards, Executive Director Emma Lamb, Service Manager – Community and Partnerships	September, 2023
Engage with Hampshire Public Health to understand how HCC are taking forward their Concordat commitments and potentially invite them to attend a future meeting.	Karen Edwards – Executive Director	September 2023

In summary, the Board agreed that it was important to understand where the Concordat fitted into the work already progressing, within the Borough, to tackle mental health and wellbeing matters and what the benefits of signing it would be for the Council. The matter would be picked up again at the Progress Group at which the next steps would be determined.

7. WORK PLAN

The Board noted the current Work Plan.

ACTIONS:

What	Who	When
Include UKSPF on the Progress Group (PG) agenda, in light of forthcoming revised monitoring information	Adele Taylor – Committee Administrator	August 2023
Include the Prevention Concordat on the PG agenda to determine the next steps	Adele Taylor – Committee Administrator	August 2023

The meeting closed at 8.48 pm.

CLLR MARINA MUNRO (CHAIRMAN)
