

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **CABINET**

DATE: **TUESDAY, 10TH JULY 2012**

REPORT BY: **DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

SUBJECT: **THE MENTAL HEALTH MEASURE: AGREEMENT OF
A JOINT SCHEME FOR THE PROVISION OF LOCAL
PRIMARY MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT SERVICES**

1.00 **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To give an overview of the statutory requirements within the Mental Health Measure for Wales for information.
- 1.2 To agree with partners a joint scheme for the provision of Local Primary Mental Health Support Services (LPMHSS) in North Wales, as required under Part 1 of the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010.

2.00 **BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Part 1 of the Mental Health (Wales) Measure seeks to strengthen the role of primary care in delivering effective mental health care and treatment and sets out the requirement that LPMHSS will be provided throughout Wales by October 2012. Under Section 3, Local Health Boards and Local Authorities are expected deliver such services in partnership, and that the services will in the main operate within or alongside existing GP practices.
- 2.2 Section 2 of Part 1 of the Measure requires Local Authorities and Local Health Boards to develop and agree a joint scheme for the provision of Local Primary Mental Health Support Services as part of the Measure, by the end of May 2012.
- 2.3 Under Welsh Government regulations it has been agreed that a regional scheme for North Wales can be developed and agreed by the Partners.

3.00 **CONSIDERATIONS**

- 3.1 The Welsh Assembly has passed the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010 which brings about legislative changes in respect of the assessment and treatment of people of all ages with mental health problems in Wales. The Measure has similar effect to an Act of Parliament.

- 3.2 This Measure is different to current mental health law, as it does not provide for the compulsory admission and treatment of people. The Measure deals with accessing and receiving care and treatment within primary and secondary mental health services. It will apply to everyone receiving care and treatment within these services in Wales.
- 3.3 The Measure does not deal with compulsory admission and treatment, and cannot be used to require a person to receive assessment, treatment or advocacy who does not wish to do so - these remain matters for the Mental Health Act 1983.
- 3.4 The Measure contains four key strands which will have a direct impact upon the legal duties placed upon the LHB and local authorities in relation to the assessment and treatment of people with mental health problems. The four areas and their implementation dates are; –
- Part 1 – Local Primary Mental Health Support Services (LPMHSS) (October 2012)
- Part 2 – Care co-ordination and care and treatment planning (June 2012)
- Part 3 – Assessments of former users of secondary mental health services (June 2012)
- Part 4 – Mental Health Advocacy (January and April 2012)

This report relates primarily to Part 1 of the Measure

- 3.5 Local partners are required as part of the Measure to develop a formal scheme for Part 1 of the Measure in partnership. Section 2 of Part 1 of the Measure sets out the requirement that the local mental health partners for a local authority area must take all reasonable steps to agree a scheme:
- (a) which identifies the treatment which is to be made available for the area (local primary mental health treatment), and
 - (b) for securing the provision for that area of the local primary mental health support services (described in section 5)
- 3.6 Secondary legislation, finalised in May 2012, provides for a scheme to cover more than one local authority area. In North Wales this means the 6 Counties co-terminus to the Health Board.
- 3.7 In the context of the local government elections and to enable required deadlines to be met (i.e. agreement of the Scheme by the end of May 2012), the attached scheme has been agreed in principle by the Chief Executive and Director of Community Services subject to political approval.
- 3.8 Part 1 – Local Primary Mental Health Support Services (LPMHSS)
- 3.9 The Welsh Assembly Government recognises the crucial role that

primary care plays in delivering effective mental health care and treatment. The aim of the Measure is to strengthen that role so that throughout Wales there will be effective LPMHSS. These will be delivered by Health Boards and Local Authorities in partnership, and it is expected that these services will operate within or alongside existing GP practices.

- 3.10 These services are aimed at individuals of all ages who are experiencing mild to moderate, or stable but severe and enduring, mental health problems.
- 3.11 A national service model for LPMHSS Services has been issued by Welsh Government. It sets out that LPMHSS will provide local access to support for people of all ages who have mild to moderate and/or stable severe and enduring mental health problems, including psychosocial, behavioural and emotional difficulties experienced by children and young people and memory impairment experienced by older people, and that the delivery of primary mental health will enrich and enhance relationships between primary and secondary care.
- 3.12 The intention is to provide early intervention to reduce the risk of needs escalating, increasing pressure on secondary mental health services.
- 3.13 The national service model has been developed with children and young people very much in mind and has been drafted to be equally relevant to children and young people, adults of working age and older adults.

The services that will be delivered within LPMHSS are:

- a) Comprehensive mental health assessments for individuals who have first been seen by a GP, and for whom the GP considers a more detailed assessment is required, or who are referred through secondary mental health services (where the local joint scheme provides that individuals in receipt of secondary mental health services are eligible). In addition local partners have agreed to authorise referrals from allied professionals where appropriate and as agreed in local pathways, so as not to break existing and effective routes into equivalent services, recognising that they are not provided for under the terms of the Measure;
- b) Short-term interventions (i.e. treatment), either individually or through group work, if the initial assessment has identified this as appropriate. Such interventions may include counselling, a range of psychological interventions including cognitive behavioural therapy, solution-focussed therapy, family work, online support, stress management,

bibliotherapy and education;

- c) Onward referral and the co-ordination of next steps with secondary mental health services, where this is felt to be appropriate for an individual;
- d) Provision of support and advice to GPs and other primary care providers (such as practice nurses) to enable them to safely manage and care for people with mental health problems;
- e) Provision of information and advice to individuals and their carers about interventions and care, including the options available to them, as well as 'signposting' to other sources of support (such as support provided by third sector organisations), and helping them to access these services.

3.14

Scheme

The attached initial scheme sets has been developed collaboratively with officers from the Health Board and Local Authorities in North Wales to meet the requirements of the Measure and will be reviewed regularly and revised if necessary. It sets out the objectives for the Local Primary Mental Health Support Service (PMHSS), the vision for the service, the eligibility and referral processes, governance and management arrangements and the treatments to be made available.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 It is recommended that the scheme is agreed by Cabinet.

5.00 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 A financial resource of £810k has been made available to BCU by Welsh Government for implementation of the measure and BCU plans to invest in health staff in the following areas across North Wales.
- 5.2 In summary the proposed investment in staffing the service will comprise of;

	Gwynedd & Mon	Conwy & Denbighshire	Wrexham & Flintshire
<u>CAMHS</u>			
Current Staffing	3.80	4.50	6.60
Proposed Additional Clinical Staffing	2.50	2.00	2.00

<u>AMH & OPMH</u>			
Current Staffing	6.15	15.84	14.80
Proposed Additional Clinical Staffing	10.15	3.00	10.00
Proposed Additional Clerical Staff	1.00	1.00	1.00

The additional staffing requirements are based on equalising the relevant caseload across the areas.

- 5.3 It is currently difficult to estimate resource implications for local authorities as these are new statutory duties and there are no baselines to use to judge what take up will be. Every effort has been made to focus the additional resources available to meet the new duties. It is possible that additional demand will arise for local authority services e.g. Social Care Support, Benefits Advice or Housing support. This situation will be carefully monitored and fed into the Scheme Review and revision process.
- 5.4 As the impacts of the Measure become known, Flintshire may need to make representations for additional resources from Welsh Government, and in partnership with the Health Board.
- 5.5 It will also be necessary to monitor internally the financial effects of the measure, and if appropriate the financial impact will need to be included in the budget planning process for Social Services through a budget pressure.
- 5.6 Officers made a pre-commitment in accordance with the legislative timescale but not to additional resources or services changes without fuller review, partnership agreement and formal Cabinet agreement.

6.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 As laid out in Section 5.2.

7.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 7.1 No anticipated impact.

8.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 8.1 No impact.

9.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 9.1 Improvements in access to services for people who experience mental health problems should result positively on equality impact issues.

10.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 No impact.

11.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

11.01 Ongoing detailed discussions with Welsh Government, other authorities and BCUHB.

12.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

12.01 Extensive discussion at Senior Officer fora across North Wales, from Local Authority, Health/ BCUHB, through the North Wales Social Services Improvement Collaborative (NWSSIC). Reference Group and North Wales Chief Executives Meeting.

13.00 APPENDICES

13.01 The following documents are available in the Members Library and on the Council Website :

- The Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010 Part 1 Scheme
- Letter to Wyn Thomas regarding Mental Health Measure

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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