

## **DRAFT KENT'S EMOTIONAL WELLBEING STRATEGY CONSULTATION**

### **Committee – Health Liaison Board 3 December 2014**

Report of Chief Officer Communities & Business

Status: For Consideration

Key Decision: No

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**Executive Summary:** This report sets out details of a Kent wide consultation on 'The Way Ahead: Draft Kent's Emotional Wellbeing Strategy for children, young people and young adults' from the Kent Children's Health and Wellbeing Board.

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**This report supports the Key Aim of** improving outcomes for children and young people and improve health and wellbeing for all

**Portfolio Holder** Cllr. Hogarth

**Contact Officer(s)** Hayley Brooks Ext. 7272

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### **Recommendation to Health Liaison Board:**

Members are asked to give their views on the consultation and note the report.

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**Reason for recommendation:** Members are asked to give their comments as this Council is a key partner in delivering services to improve the health and wellbeing of residents.

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### **Introduction and Background**

- 1 Emotional well-being plays a crucial role in the journey from childhood to adolescence and adulthood, shaping a person's ability to learn and develop, to form and maintain healthy relationships, and to achieve a range of positive long-term outcomes.
- 2 Children and young people's emotional wellbeing (which includes mental health) is an area of concern at both national and local levels, and across the country there is increasing demand for support from specialist mental health services.
- 3 The most common mental health problems faced by children of a school age (5-16 year olds) in Kent are conduct disorders. Boys are more susceptible than girls (5% of boys compared to 2% of girls); in Kent the numbers of boys with this disorder is higher than girls, with conduct disorder in boys increasing with age.
- 4 The second most common mental disorder for Kent children is emotional disorder including anxieties, phobias and depression. According to the 2011 Kent Joint

Strategic Needs Assessment for Children in Kent, it is estimated that 1% of children and 3% of adolescents suffer from depression in any one year.

- 5 In Sevenoaks District, 27% of children of school age are reported to have Special Educational Needs (Source: May School Census 2010), fourth highest in Kent. The total number of inpatient admissions due to a mental health disorder for those aged 19 and under from 2007-2010 is 48 for Sevenoaks District. This is the third lowest in Kent.

### **Draft Emotional Wellbeing Strategy for Kent**

- 6 The Kent Children's Health and Wellbeing Board (which draws together partners including Clinical Commissioning Groups, Kent County Council Education and Young People's Services, Social Care Health & Wellbeing, District Councils, and Voluntary and Community Sector groups) have been working to develop a new draft Emotional Wellbeing Strategy for children, young people and young adults in Kent. The draft Strategy is set out at Appendix A.
- 7 Part 1 of the draft Strategy sets out four key outcomes which have been identified by children, young people and families in KCC's initial consultation exercises. These four outcomes have been identified as being key to improving the offer and overall experience of support around emotional wellbeing:
  - Early Help
  - Access
  - Whole Family Approaches
  - Recovery and Transition
- 8 A fifth 'overarching' outcome is proposed that will centre on 'promoting emotional well-being' at every developmental stage and level of need.
- 9 Kent County Council has opened a consultation to gather the views of partners about the principles set out in Part 1 of the draft Strategy. They are also asking for thoughts about how these principles could be put into practice within a Delivery Plan (which will form Part 2 – not yet available).
- 10 The draft Strategy and a consultation questionnaire are available online on the Kent consultation website, see link below. The consultation opened on 15 October 2014 until 5 January 2015. A copy of the consultation questions are set out at Appendix B.

### **Key Implications**

#### Financial

- 11 In 2014/15, Sevenoaks District Council receives a total of £130,741 from Kent County Council to deliver health prevention programmes. As part of this funding, £14,000 is spent on interventions to support the emotional health of young people. This includes £5,000 for the SAFE (Suicide Prevention for Everyone) project in schools, delivered by Voluntary Action Within Kent. It also includes

£9,000 for the Family Weight Management Programmes which have dedicated sessions for emotional wellbeing as part of the programme.

### Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

12 There are no legal implications relating to this report

Risk	Mitigation
Funding withdrawn for Health Prevention Programmes in 2015/16 resulting in interventions being significantly reduced or no longer running	Alternative external funding may be sourced to deliver healthy weight interventions targeted at those of greatest need, depending upon external funding criteria's and availability

### Equality Impacts

Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty:		
Question	Answer	Explanation / Evidence
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to disadvantage or discriminate against different groups in the community?	No	This work has a positive impact in reducing health inequalities across the District.
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have the potential to promote equality of opportunity?	Yes	
c. What steps can be taken to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		N/A

### Conclusions

13 Members are asked for their comments on this consultation and asked to note this report.

### Appendices

Appendix A – Emotional Wellbeing Strategy (Part 1) – Draft for Consultation

Appendix B – Draft Strategy Consultation Questions

### Background Papers:

<http://consultations.kent.gov.uk/consult.ti/EWStrategy/consultationHome>

**Lesley Bowles**

**Chief Officer – Communities & Business**