

Note to staff following board meeting 14th July 2020

Dear colleagues,

The Healthy Minds board of trustees met via videoconference on Tuesday morning, 14th July 2020, with nine trustees present, and Jonny, Di, Peter and Wendy also in attendance.

We began the meeting with a presentation of the Todmorden project, from Deborah Corbyn. This was much appreciated by trustees. Deborah helpfully covered the breadth of services pre-lockdown, and how services have been re-provided over the past few months. Trustees took the opportunity to ask questions relating to responsiveness to service user need, connections with other providers, support sought from the board, numbers of service users and volunteers. Trustees were impressed by how much was being achieved through the Todmorden project, and by the flexible approach taken.

Following a brief general operational and performance update, Jonny proposed an approach for HM to emerging from lockdown, as COVID-19 restrictions are eased nationally. The board agreed a cautious approach. Staff wellbeing is our primary concern. We are, in line with national guidance on planning, partly in “thinking about it”, and partly in “actively preparing”. Risk Assessments have been completed for the office, Safespace, face to face activities and outdoor activities (e.g. walking group), and these give us an excellent basis on which to proceed. We agreed Jonny’s proposed plan of action for July and August. We asked Jonny to bring an update and next steps for emerging from lockdown to our next board meeting in two months’ time (15th September).

The board agreed in principle an intention for enabling annual leave to be accrued and taken over a two year period, instead of the usual contractual one year period. Again, for the board, staff wellbeing is our primary concern. The board will consider a detailed proposal, informed by annual leave entitlement and contract lengths, in September.

We also considered other matters, including: Safeguarding, Budget 2020/21 approval, Inclusion Programme update, Finance reporting to board, review of financial controls.

Thank you for maintaining and developing service delivery, and for your contributions to emerging from lockdown. You are a credit to Healthy Minds and to health and wellbeing provision across Calderdale.