HEALTHY MINDS: CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT 24th February 2021

Update & Developments

Recruitment

- **Marketing & Communications Officer:** Post has been accepted by Georgia Thorpe with start date of 22nd March agreed.
- **An additional role of community fundraiser** was created following interviews – this has been offered to Vicky Garrod and we are in process of agreeing JD, etc. The idea here is to have a supportive role for Georgia and teams to lead on community fundraising events. Post is 7.5 hours (1 day) per week.

Quality for Health & Wellbeing

Brilliant news is that Healthy Minds has been awarded Level 2 Q4H – the highest possible level. This is a terrific achievement and recognition that we work to a high-quality standard. There is to be a formal awarding of the certificate, at which time we'll publicise this. Those involved will know this has been a long and arduous process. Every single standard in the assessment was fully met. Thanks to all, especially Di for coordinating the assessment throughout. The full assessment accompanies this report.

Todmorden / Hebden & Hilltops

These services remain of greatest concern as longer-term funding is not yet secured.
CFFC has awarded £40K short-term funding which would take us through to the end of May 2021. With agreement to carry forward any underspend, the plan now is to extend the project to the end of June 2021, during which time we expect to receive other funding decisions which will determine the longer-term future for the projects. This has been discussed with Paul (22nd Jan), Development Subgroup (27th Jan) and Finance Subgroup (9th Feb).
Importantly, we will not endlessly eke out resources and maintain a state of uncertainty: if there is no ongoing funding secured, we will plan for responsible winding down of services and close in June.
I have also approached elected councillors in the affected areas to highlight both the risk to services and the consequences for Calderdale's Flood Action Plan. This has prompted a response and I am due to meet with leads in Calderdale MBC on 17th Feb.
We await a decision on the Environment Agency regional application. Despite requests, I have had sight of the final bid and do not know the extent of resource for ongoing floods resilience work.
Alongside all of this, our floods response was covered in the Guardian over Christmas and the Todmorden team received a Citizenship Award from Todmorden Town Council (the highest award they can offer).

Safespace

Decision just confirmed on link worker (new role), who will give more individual support to people who access Safespace frequently but might be "stuck" in the system ("High intensity users") to progress and reduce the burden on the system. Details are TBC but this should be a 3-year post.
Safespace usage Q3 (Oct-Dec): 642 contacts; Q2 (Jul-Sept) 815 contacts.

Peer Support for people in crisis

The volunteer team is ready to go, with support and supervision from Kate (project worker). It seems the "crisis team" (IHBTT) caseload is uncommonly low at present and no clients are deemed suitable for peer support: there have been zero referrals. At the most recent steering group, we agreed that the project's scope will be extended into Safespace, to offer additional capacity to the new link worker role.

Time Out

With ongoing lockdown and schools being closed, TO delivery has been adversely affected. We have agreed to furlough the team (2 on full furlough; 2 partial 15/30 hours) through February on basis that they cannot deliver.
Kim and Alex (partial furlough) are still providing support for children and young people, and developing a support group for parents and carers in collaboration with partners including Noah's Ark and Northpoint (CAMHS).
I am concerned that Time Out has not been able to adapt delivery in the same way as other HM services. If it does not feel "missed" in the system, it raises questions about its value and future sustainability.
We are reviewing furlough on 22nd Feb and expect to bring staff back on at least partial furlough to allow for future planning and reviewing delivery methods. We need to assertively show value.

Money in Mind
Jane is proving a valuable addition to the welfare rights team, working alongside Billy in a service that has been consistently in high demand. As we come to the end of the 2020-21 financial year, the partnership Money in Mind project is being disbanded and will continue as informal partnerships across the sector. Healthy Minds' welfare rights service is a key service within Calderdale's Anti-Poverty Strategy, yet ongoing funding from CMBC has not been as hoped: we have just been awarded half the requested amount for 2021-22.

Roshani
In better news, Roshani has been awarded a further 12 months' funding from Calderdale Council at the full amount requested: feedback is that this was the highest-scoring application received overall. Neelam continues to extend support to individuals and groups.

Recovery and Support
Continuing programme of support groups and workshops alongside 1-1 support for those who need it. We will be undertaking a review in Feb of our recovery and support approach in readiness for a bid to the Lottery for continuation funding – this will also involve Todmorden and Hebden Bridge-based services.
Although at the time of writing a decision has yet to come from NHS England on the community MH transformation programme, R&S will strongly link with this agenda and, in fact, has helped shape the basis of some principles of the programme on a local and regional level.

Delegated Actions
Annual Report and Accounts 2019-20
Annual Return and accounts have been submitted to Companies House and the Charity Commission.

Funding Strategy
See accompanying paper.

Key Meetings and External Relationships
West Yorks & Harrogate Mental Health, Learning Disability & Autism (MHLDA) Programme Board
Decision imminent (now overdue) on the regional Community Mental Health Transformation application to NHS England. Oddly, NHSE has instructed CCGs to progress planned actions pending agreed funds.
Regional work on shared principles around peer support is now underway – I am feeding in Healthy Minds' expertise to a regional working group.