

East Suffolk Community Partnership Board

Report from the Mental Health and Wellbeing Task and Finish Group

March 7, 2022

Introduction and Background

1. Mental Health and Wellbeing is one of the three priorities for the Community Partnership Board, identified through the eight workshops held to launch the Community Partnerships in November/December 2019.
2. At the last meeting of the Board on 6 December, a presentation was received by the Board from Jon Neil, Chief Officer of Suffolk Mind. Jon introduced the Suffolk Mind 'Your Needs Met' model to the Board and talked about the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on Emotional Wellbeing in Suffolk as well as outlining how Suffolk Mind could potentially support improved emotional wellbeing in a number of community contexts.
3. Following the presentation, it was agreed that a Task and Finish Group should be formed to explore the concepts introduced by Jon and to develop one or more outcome proposals to feed back at the next Board meeting.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Task and Finish Group

4. The Task and Finish Group met for the first time on 11th February, chaired by Christine Abraham from Community Action Suffolk. Other organisations represented on the Task and Finish Group included Suffolk Community Foundation, Suffolk Mind, Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation Trust, Britten Arts, Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk Council.
5. The Group undertook an audit of existing activity around mental health and wellbeing in East Suffolk/Suffolk, including the £2.5 million COMF funded programme being led by Suffolk County Council Public Health Team. The conversation then moved on to identifying gaps in terms of emotional wellbeing in East Suffolk communities and these are summarised within the sections below.

Outcome Proposal – Emotional Wellbeing in East Suffolk

6. Attached as Appendix 1 to this report is the Stage 1 Outcome Proposal developed on the basis of the discussion at the Task and Finish Group meeting. This sets out a proposed programme of projects to support Emotional Wellbeing consisting of seven distinct projects. Complementing this programme of activity is work already planned by East Suffolk Council to provide Boost Mental Health and Wellbeing grants totalling £50,000 to be launched at three networking events across the District in March.

7. The overall cost of the programme is £203,900. It is proposed that the remaining funding in the budget for 2021/22 - £63,923 - be allocated towards the programme, plus an additional £58,477 from the 2022/23 budget.
8. The Task and Finish Group will meet again between the March and June Board meetings to progress the individual projects in the Programme and develop the Stage 2 Outcome Proposal and provide a further report on progress to be considered at the June 2022 meeting.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Board:

- 1) Consider and approve the outcome proposal attached as Appendix A to this report which proposes the allocation of £63,923 from the 2021/22 budget and £58,477 from the 2022/23 budget – total funding of £122,400**
- 2) Receive a report on progress at the meeting to be held in June 2022.**

Nicole Rickard, Head of Communities

East Suffolk Council, on behalf of the Task and Finish Group