

# SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

21<sup>st</sup> May 2021

## Mental Health Update Report

**To consider and comment on the Mental Health Update report.**

**Reasons:**

To provide Scrutiny Committee with a position statement regarding the impact of the pandemic on mental health and wellbeing and highlight the service priorities and developments going forward.

**To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: NO**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-**

**Cllr. Jane Tremlett (Social Care & Health Portfolio Holder)**

**Directorate**

Communities

Jake Morgan

**Report Author:**

Avril Bracey

**Designations:**

Director of Community Services

Head of Adult Social Care

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**21<sup>st</sup> May 2021**

**Mental Health Update Report**

**BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.**

This document explains the current and potential impact of Covid -19 on the mental health and wellbeing of Carmarthenshire's population, what this means for services and how this is informing our priorities going forward.

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES**

# IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Avril Bracey, Head of Adult Social Care

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>

## 1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

1. We must make sure that we learn from this unprecedented experience as we re-set our strategic and operational priorities.
2. The COVID-19 pandemic has led to inevitable changes to the way in which services are delivered by local authorities. We will need to reprioritise services and our resources in budget setting.
3. It is critical that Local Authorities involve those who use services and their carers and adhere to equality policies when resetting social care service priorities.

## 2. Finance

The authority has increased the resource allocation for mental health services this year which will enable us to enhance and improve services to respond to the increased demand for services following the pandemic.

## 3. ICT

Digital solutions will play an ever-increasing role in shaping what we do. Technology and forms of virtual communication have been invaluable through this time.

## 4. Staffing Implications

Staffing has remained relatively stable during the pandemic and staff have demonstrated remarkable resilience. Further investment will enable us to increase the staffing resource in mental health services to respond to the anticipated increase in demand.

# CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Avril Bracey, Head of Adult Social Care

1. Local Member(s) – N/A

2. Community / Town Council - N/A

3. Relevant Partners – N/A

4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – Monthly meetings with trade unions ongoing. Corporate staff surveys informing services. Regular team meetings and briefing ongoing via Teams online.

EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIO  
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED:  
YES/NO

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Impact of COVID-19 on Carmarthenshire Executive Board Report 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2020	CCC Website