

MENTAL HEALTH STRATEGY FOR SCOTLAND: 2011-15 - A CONSULTATION

1. SUMMARY

1.1 The consultation paper issued by the Scottish Government is presented as an indication of the priority given to mental health issues in Scotland. The document is structured into 14 high level outcomes with the intention of the outcome of the consultation providing the basis of a national strategy which will set out a programme of work over the next four years.

1.2 Written responses are invited to be sent by 31st January 2012.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 To approve the response to the consultation prepared by Council Officers as attached in appendix 1.

3. DETAIL

3.1 The consultation specifically wants to focus on the following issues:

- The overall structure of the Strategy, which has been organised under 14 broad outcomes and whether these are the right outcomes.
- Whether there are any gaps in the key challenges identified
- In addition to existing work, what further actions should be prioritised to help us meet these challenges.

3.2 The 14 high level outcomes subject to consultation are as follows:

1. People and Communities act to protect and promote their mental health and reduce the likelihood that they will become unwell
2. Action is focused on early years and childhood to respond quickly and to improve both short and long term outcomes.
3. People to have an understanding of their own mental health and if they are not well take appropriate action themselves or by seeking help.

4. First contact services work well for people seeking help, whether in crisis or otherwise, and people move onto assessment and treatment services quickly.
5. Appropriate, evidence based care and treatment for mental illness is available when required and treatments are delivered safely and efficiently.
6. Care and treatment is focused on the whole person and their capability for growth, self management and recovery.
7. The role of the family and carers as part of a system of care is understood and supported by professional staff.
8. The balance of community and inpatient services is appropriate to meet the needs of the population safely, efficiently and with good outcomes.
9. The reach of mental health services is improved to give better access to minority and high risk groups and those who might not otherwise access services.
10. Mental health services work well with other services such as learning disability and substance misuse and are integrated in other settings such as prisons, care homes and general medical settings.
11. The health and social care workforce has skills and knowledge to undertake its duties effectively and displays appropriate attitudes and behaviours in their work with service users and carers.
12. We know how well the mental health system is functioning on the basis of national and local data on capacity, activity, outputs and outcomes.
13. The process of improvement is supported across all health and social care settings in the knowledge that change is complex and challenging and requires leadership, expertise and investment.
14. The legal framework promotes and supports a rights based model in respect of the treatment, care and protection of individuals with mental illness, learning disability and personality disorders.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The consultation paper issued by the Scottish Government is presented as an indication of the priority given to mental health issues in Scotland. The Council has been asked to provide a response to the consultation document which is attached.

5. IMPLICATIONS

<i>Policy:</i>	Consultation may lead to change in national guidance and thereafter local policy
<i>Finance:</i>	None
<i>Personnel:</i>	None
<i>Legal:</i>	None
<i>Equal Opportunities:</i>	None

7 November 2011

For further information please contact:

Cleland Sneddon
Executive Director – Community Services
Kilmory
Lochgilphead
Tel: 01546 604112

James Robb
Head of Adult Care
13 East King Street
Helensburgh
Tel: 01436 677197