

Agenda Items 6 and 7

Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

At the July Health and Wellbeing Board we have two items which are clearly related and which will be taken consecutively.

The Board is asked to formally endorse the Southend, Essex and Thurrock Mental Health Strategy. In so doing, we will be particularly interested to hear from members and partners:

- a) What they believe the highest priorities to be;
- b) Their view as to the greatest obstacles and challenges;
- c) How we can better evolve governance and collaborative working to optimise implementation.

There will also be the first discussion on the latest report providing information on suicide rates across Essex in 2022. The accompanying paper updates us on work underway and particularly highlights the need to amend our focus and to operationalise. Together they will provoke questions in the minds of members which we believe need to be aired as soon as possible.

There will clearly be more thought and discussion, in this item in particular, than can be accommodated in the available time, so we intend to come back to the topics of mental health and suicide at the next meeting in September. The Board's discussion this time will guide us as to how best we utilise the time available at the next meeting.