

AGENDA ITEM X.

2. The Draft Strategy

The Essex Strategic Review of Mental Health, commissioned by all the CCGs and local authorities in Greater Essex, found that the current system was driven by several complexities including multiple commissioners and commissioning bodies, a 'ragged-edged' integration agenda, a shrinking market for specialist mental health trusts and challenging finances throughout. The implication of this, in the words of the review, was that 'the status quo is not an option.'

Shortly after the Strategic Review, the two Essex specialist NHS mental health trusts announced their intention to pursue a merger. This provides further opportunity to reshape local mental health services.

In order to plot a path through this (whilst also ensuring that that mental health is a priority for Essex's three Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs)), CCGs and local authorities have agreed to produce a single strategy for mental health and across Essex, Southend and Thurrock. This is guided by a vision for mental health in Essex, in turn informed by the national prospectus set out in NHS England's Five Year Forward View for Mental Health.

The strategy is primarily concerned with adult mental health, but it sits alongside Essex, Southend and Thurrock's Future in Mind strategy for children and young people's services to form a comprehensive, cradle to grave ambition for mental health and emotional well-being in our county.

There is also a new, cross-partner (all the CCGs and local authorities in Greater Essex) dementia strategy which is considered a 'sister' product and is expected to go through governance shortly after the strategy for mental health.

The strategy also dovetails with the work across Essex on domestic abuse and suicide prevention strategies and the authors of those documents have been sighted as the work has progressed.

The strategy exists as a suite of three documents which will together comprise *Essex, Southend and Thurrock Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-21*:

- A 'strategy on a sheet' to provide an accessible overview;
- A short version for a wider audience; and
- The full strategy, primarily for system leaders and professionals.

Consultation on the strategy has taken place with service users and carers, providers, local authorities authorities and criminal justice colleagues, as well as clinical NHS colleagues for clinical oversight.

An action plan will be developed to support implementation of the strategy. An important part of this work will be to align the mental health strategy implementation plans with the contract for specialist mental health services and the merged specialist mental health Trust's plans for implementing its proposed new service model. All of these focus on the transformation of mental health services and the re-allocation of existing resources to address strategy priorities and financial challenges.

AGENDA ITEM X.

3. Approval Process for the Strategy

The Clinical Executive Committee reviewed this draft strategy at its meeting on 17 November and agreed that it should proceed to the Governing Body with a recommendation that it is approved.

There has been extensive consultation on this draft strategy and a very wide range of comments and suggestions have been incorporated into this final version. However, as the strategy needs approval by each of the seven CCGs and three local authorities in Greater Essex, it is possible that at this final approval stage further amendments may be suggested by CCG Governing Bodies or Local Authority Health and Wellbeing Boards. Consequently it is requested the Governing Body approves the draft strategy, but also that it agrees that any changes proposed by other responsible bodies subsequent to Governing Body approval can be accepted or declined on the basis of CCG Chair's action.

4. Recommendations

It is recommended that Governing Body approve this strategy, and delegate authority to the CCG Chair to approve or decline any subsequent changes to this strategy recommended by other responsible bodies.

Hugh Johnston
Mental Health & Learning Disabilities Commissioner

22 November 2016

APPENDICES	
Appendix 1	Draft Southend, Essex and Thurrock Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy
Appendix 2	Draft Executive Summary (Southend)
Appendix 3	Draft "Strategy on a Sheet"