

OPEN

BRIEFING REPORT

Scrutiny Committee

Thursday, 4 September 2025

Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Community Support

Report of: Director of Public Health

Report Reference No: 1698SC/19/24-25

Purpose of Report

- 1 The Scrutiny Committee has asked for information in relation to suicide prevention - *what services are available across Cheshire East, including wider support for families impacted by those with mental health issues, how services are accessed, and are support services working?*

This report and the appendix set out a response to this question.

Executive Summary

- 2 There are two Boards that have oversight of this thematic area, the Self Harm and Suicide Prevention Board and the Mental Health Partnership Board. Both Boards report up to the Health and Wellbeing Board and prioritise work in accordance with the priorities set out in the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy [Health and Wellbeing Board](#)
- 3 Officers who are involved in both of these Boards have led and contributed to this update to the Scrutiny Committee. Appendix One is a summary of the key support services available to the community. These services are delivered or commissioned in response to identified need. The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment is a key element in the evidence base that informs priorities and thus required services. There are a number that relate to mental health [Mental wellbeing](#)

Recommendation

That the Scrutiny Committee review and scrutinise the information provided in relation to self-harm, suicide prevention and mental health support services.

Background

- 4 The Scrutiny Committee as part of its work plan has asked for a report on 'Suicide Prevention and what services are available across Cheshire East, including wider support for families impacted by those with mental health issues, how services are accessed, and are support services working?'
- 5 The report and appendix set out a response focussed upon the relevant activities across four areas: Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention; Mental Health; Carers and Children and Family Services.

Briefing Information

- 6 The Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention action plan [Cheshire East Self Harm and Suicide Prevention Action Plan 25-27](#) sits as part of the Cheshire East Place All Age Mental Health Plan (2024-2029), overseen by the Mental Health Partnership Board [Cheshire East Place Mental Health Plan](#)
- 7 Suicide Prevention is a significant concern for the Cheshire East Health and Care system. The Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention Board has an action plan for 2025-2027, agreed at the Health and Wellbeing Board in March this year (alongside a review of the 2023-2025 action plan). The Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention Board is a multi-agency Board that brings together all those interested and involved in work to deliver the actions.
- 8 Appendix One sets out the priorities of the Mental Health Plan and the connectivity with the Self-Harm and Suicide prevention work. It also highlights key services and sources of information for residents. There is additional information specifically in relation to support for carers and children and families. A Mental Health Spotlight Review report focussed upon children and families went to the Children and Families Committee in November 2023 [CEC Report Template](#)
- 9 Whilst there are support services available and significant work is underway to raise awareness of these, there continues to be concern regarding levels of mental ill health, self-harm and suicide. Officers and partners continue to work hard to counter this, but service capacity continues to be an issue.

Implications

Monitoring Officer/Legal

- 10 There are no direct legal implications associated with this briefing paper.

Section 151 Officer/Finance

- 11 There are no financial implications, or changes required to the MTFS, as a result of the recommendations in this report. All services detailed in this report are delivered through existing service budgets.

Human Resources

- 12 There are no HR resources implications in relation to this briefing paper.

Risk Management

- 13 There are no specific risk management implications of this briefing paper.

Impact on other Committees

- 14 There are no impacts in relation to other Committees in relation to this briefing paper.

Policy

- 15 The services set out in the Appendix are primarily contributing to the 'Improving health and wellbeing' commitment. However, an individual's mental wellbeing can significantly impact upon their educational opportunities and ability to gain and retain employment, secure housing etc. so there is a link to 'Unlocking prosperity for all'.
- 16 As set out above there are also links to the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Commitment 1: Unlocking prosperity for all	Commitment 2: Improving health and wellbeing	Commitment 3: An effective and enabling council
Yes	Yes	

Consultation

Name of Consultee	Post held	Date sent	Date returned
<i>Statutory Officer (or deputy) :</i>			
Ashley Hughes	S151 Officer	21/07/25	Click or tap to enter a date
Janet Witkowski	Acting Monitoring Officer	21/07/25	22/07/25
<i>Legal and Finance</i>			
Roisin Beressi	Principal Lawyer	21/07/25	23/07/25
Nikki Wood-Hill	Finance Manager	21/07/25	22/07/25
<i>Other Consultees:</i>			
<i>Executive Directors/Directors</i>			
Helen Charlesworth-May	Executive Director	21/07/25	Click or tap to enter a date
Rod Thomson	Interim Director of Public Health	21/07/25	

Access to Information	
Contact Officer:	Guy Kilminster guy.kilminster@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Appendices:	Appendix One: Summary of support services for Carers/Family members
Background Papers:	Cheshire East Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy Layout 1

	<p>Cheshire East Place Mental Health Plan Cheshire East Place Mental Health Plan</p> <p>Cheshire East Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention Plan 2025-2027 Cheshire East Self Harm and Suicide Prevention Action Plan 25-27</p>
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Appendix 1

OPEN/NOT FOR PUBLICATION

By virtue of paragraph(s) X of Part 1 Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.