

Children and Families Committee

13 November 2023

Cheshire East Place Plans for Learning Disabilities and Mental Health

**Report of: Helen Charlesworth-May, Executive Director Adults,
Health and Integration**

Report Reference No: CF/41/22-23

Ward(s) Affected: All Wards

Purpose of Report

- 1 This report seeks approval the Cheshire East Place Plans for Learning Disabilities and Mental Health.
- 2 Both plans support the delivery of the following priorities outlined in the Cheshire East Council Corporate Plan 2021-2025.
 - Promote and develop the services of the council through regular communication and engagement with all residents.
 - Work together with residents and partners to support people and communities to be strong and resilient.
 - Reduce health inequalities across the borough.
 - Increase opportunities for all children and young adults with additional needs.
 - Ensure all children have a high quality, enjoyable education that enables them to achieve their full potential.
 - Reduce the reliance on long term care by improving services closer to home and providing more extra care facilities, including dementia service.

Executive Summary

- 3 The development of the new All Age Placed Based Plans will be built around greater integrated partnership working at place level between the two lead organisations, Cheshire East Council and the Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board and our partners.
- 4 Both plans promote a whole system approach, building on existing work and momentum to further the transformative change needed to tackle challenges we face across to provide services for the future needs of people with a variety of different levels of support needs.
- 5 Both plans seek to improve the lives and outcomes of people with learning disabilities and mental health support needs, by focusing on the importance of strong partnership working across health and local authorities. When organisations and teams work together, and when people and families receive support in a joined-up way, we know that people experience better outcomes.
- 6 This report provides details of the approach used for consultation and engagement with a wide range of stakeholders. It has ensured that both plans have been fully co-produced.
- 7 The development of the Plans is not an end. Together with the implementation plans, the respective plans will be continuously reviewed and monitored annually by the Cheshire East Learning Disabilities Partnership Board and the Mental Health Partnership Board, to ensure that the plans are delivering on the key priorities and outcomes.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- 1. Approve the Cheshire East Place Learning Disabilities Plan**
- 2. Approve the Cheshire East Place Mental Health Plan**

Background

- 8 All Age Strategies in Cheshire East have been in place for Learning Disabilities and Mental Health since 2018 and are now coming to the end of their strategic timeframes.
- 9 In their place we are seeking to develop new All Age Placed Based Plans. This will build on previous partnership working in Cheshire East and develop plans built around greater integrated partnership working at place level between the two lead organisations, Cheshire East Council and the Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board.

- 10 It will also shape the way we work with our providers, voluntary, community and faith sector (VCFS) organisations and residents to support people with learning disabilities and mental health support needs.
- 11 The plans promote transformative change which is needed to tackle challenges such as reducing disparities in health and social care; improving quality and performance; preventing mental and physical ill health; maximising independence and preventing care needs, by promoting control, choice and flexibility in how people receive care and support.
- 12 Both Plans have a co-produced vision and several key strategic priorities.
- 13 To enable us to successfully deliver these priorities several high-level outcomes have been identified. These have been captured in the implementation plans will be delivered and monitored by a range of organisations as part of a partnership approach to ensuring the successful delivery of the plans.
- 14 Monitoring will be undertaken and reviewed through the Learning Disability Partnership Board and the Mental Health Partnership Board, with key updates and escalations highlighted up to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Consultation and Engagement

- 15 The development of both Plans is underpinned by 'Together in Cheshire East', a coproduction guide which details how residents and commissioners work together as equal partners toward common goals.
- 16 In the development of both plans we have (where possible) conducted joint engagement and coproduction with other commissioning workstreams, to reduce workload, pool system resources and the need for people to tell their story twice. For example, joint engagement was undertaken with the development of the Children and Young People's Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service to capture the voice of children.
- 17 Engagement with a wide range of stakeholders has been undertaken as part of the development of both plans and there has also been consultation on the draft plans.
- 18 Easy Read versions have been developed with people who have lived experience of mental health and self-advocates with learning disabilities.

Cheshire East Place Learning Disability Plan Engagement

- 19 Engagement on the Learning Disability Plan started at the Learning Disability Conference back on 20 June 2022 which was attended by over 200 people, including children and adults with learning disabilities, health

and social care professionals, providers and community groups. Several key priorities were agreed and highlighted as important by self-advocates and parent carers as the three action to focus on:

Action 1 – Make things better for people who want to stay up late.

Action 2 – Give people more chance to have their say on services and what they want to do.

Action 3 – Provide better access to information for people with learning disabilities and carers.

- 20 To support this, a project group was set up to drive change and improvements around these key priorities, in which progress is governed through the Learning Disability Partnership Board.
- 21 Further engagement has been undertaken to support the coproduction of the refreshed Cheshire East Learning Disability Plan, which has been developed over the past 18 months in consultation with people with learning disabilities (adults and children), families, carers and staff delivering services. The Plan builds on the progress made in delivering the current 'My Life, My Choice' Learning Disability Strategy.
- 22 Working together, we developed both informal and formal platforms for consultation both face to face meetings and an online survey. While responses were low compared to the numbers who attended the Learning Disabilities Conference, overall, the aims and objectives were supported and felt the plan reflected effective change.
- 23 Further engagement has been undertaken with self-advocates, parent carers and residents with lived experience in terms of how the plan will be delivered. An Action Plan is being developed and shaped by this engagement, which will detail how the Plan's priorities will be tracked delivered.
- 24 The plan has also been shared and agreed by the Cheshire East Learning Disabilities Partnership Board.

Cheshire East Place Mental Health Plan Engagement

- 25 In Autumn 2022, we conducted pre-consultation engagement. The feedback from this engagement was then incorporated into the draft plan to be consulted on. This engagement consisted of a survey and a series of face-to-face meetings conducted with a wide range of key stakeholders.
- 26 The survey was made available as both a full and an easy read version and received 452 responses in total, with a total of 57 people attending one of the face-to-face meetings.

- 27 Feedback has been received from a wide range of organisations including Voluntary Community and Faith Sector Groups, Education settings, Mental Health Forums, Carers and people with lived experience.
- 28 Prior to the plan being finalised, we also give people the opportunity to provide further comments and feedback on the draft plan. 40 responses were received in total.
- 29 80% of survey respondents agreed the draft mental health plan should be adopted by partners across Cheshire East, 11% disagreed. 65% of survey respondents agreed the delivery actions will help deliver the priorities of the draft mental health plan, 18% disagreed.
- 30 Final engagement has been held with members of the Cheshire East Mental Health Partnership Board to formally sign the draft plan off.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 31 The development of both plans has been overseen by the Cheshire East Mental Health Partnership Board and Cheshire East Learning Disabilities Partnership Board. Membership of both boards includes representatives from Cheshire East Council, Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board, Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, self-advocates with lived experience and carers, Healthwatch, Cheshire Police and organisations from the Voluntary Community Faith Sector.
- 32 Both partnership boards also report directly into the Cheshire East Health and Wellbeing Board and these plans are fully aligned with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 33 The Cheshire East Place Mental Health Plan and Learning Disabilities Plans will both play an important role in ensuring that the council meets its statutory duties under the Care Act 2014 and Children and Families Act 2014.
- 34 The plans also align with several other strategies and plans at both a local, sub regional and national level. This will ensure that we reduce duplication and ensure that strategic priorities are aligned and in turn ensuring that people using services are able to access better joined up support in a timely and effective manner.

Other Options Considered

35 **Do nothing**

The other option would be to not have any Cheshire East Place Plans for Learning Disabilities and Mental Health. This would not been aligned to the Health and Social Care Act (2022) which supports the need to

develop strategies that support more integrated approaches to delivering health and care.

Implications and Comments

Legal

- 36 Statutory guidance on the preparation of integrated care strategies was published on 29 July 2022. Integrated strategies are viewed as an opportunity to work with a wide range of people, communities, and organisations to develop evidence-based system-wide priorities that will improve the public's health and wellbeing and reduce disparities.
- 37 Under the Health and Care Act 2022, the integrated care partnership must give a copy of the integrated care strategy to each responsible local authority and the integrated care board and must publish the integrated care strategy.
- 38 Within the Care Act (2014) the partnership principle states that organisations should work with other local communities. Local people and authorities also have a part to play in preventing and supporting people.

Finance

- 39 Cheshire East Council has a total spend on commissioned services of £41.5m for (738) adults with learning disabilities and £10.7m for (487) adults with mental health support needs. There are also 259 individuals with autism (this includes people with learning disabilities and mental health support needs), with an annual spend of £17.4m.
- 40 Cheshire East Council Childrens Services data shows that there is an annual spend of £3.9m on services that support children with disabilities (we are unable to break this down to the primary support need of learning disabilities and mental health).
- 41 At the time of developing this report financial data on learning disabilities and mental health services is unavailable from the Integrated Care Board.
- 42 If both plans are adopted, and changes are proposed to local authority and NHS services in the future, then decision papers with the relevant financial information will be written and subject to governance and approval processes as usual.

Policy

- 43 The Cheshire East Place Learning Disabilities and Mental Health Plans firmly align with the Cheshire East Council's Corporate Plan 2021-2025, as identified in paragraph 2 of this report.
- 44 The Cheshire East Mental Health Plan also aligns with NHS Five Year Forward View. This sets out a vision of how NHS services need to change to meet the needs of the population. It argued that the NHS should place far greater emphasis on prevention, integration of services, and putting patients and communities in control of their health, which floating support provision seeks to achieve.
- 45 Both plans also align with vision and aspirations of the The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for the population of Cheshire East 2023-2028 which are to:
- Reduce inequalities, narrowing the gap between those who are enjoying good health and wellbeing and those who are not
 - Improve the physical and mental health and wellbeing of all of our residents
 - Help people to have a good quality of life, to be healthy and happy

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

- 46 Equality Impact Assessments have been completed for both plans; these has been included as an appendix to the report. (Appendix 5 and Appendix 6).
- 47 Each of the EIA's highlights the key protected characteristics around age and disabilities and potential barriers that prevent people from accessing and engaging with mental health and learning disability services. The plans seek to ensure that services and providers seek to identify solutions to improve through areas such as the use of technology, virtual support, making reasonable adjustments and provision of information on services in accessible formats.
- 48 Easy Read versions of the Plans which have been co-produced by people with learning disabilities and with mental health support needs.

Human Resources

- 49 There are no direct human resources implications because of the development of both plans.

Risk Management

- 50 Development of place-based plans and their implementation present challenges and risks, See below identified risks with mitigation.

Risk	Mitigation
Poor response and engagement from key stakeholders towards the development of the plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Comprehensive market development, engagement and coproduction have been key to the development of the plans, building on existing work undertaken (LD Conference). ▪ Both plans have been produced in collaborations with the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board and Mental Health Partnership Board which contains a wide range of stakeholders. ▪ Both plans will also be endorsed by the Health and Wellbeing Board
Implementation actions are unrealistic, and there is a lack of stakeholder engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Detailed implementation plans within each plan identifying key outcomes, deliverables and implementation actions have been developed as part of those plans. ▪ Plans have had input and buy in from key stakeholders through the development of project group. ▪ Many of the key deliverable are already in place or are covered in different strategies and plans which demonstrates wider alignment and buy in across the system
Lack of accountability to the delivery of the plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plans will be monitored by existing learning disabilities and mental health partnership boards with identified leads for each priority. ▪ Monitoring of the plans will take place on an annual basis and any issues will be escalated to the Health and Wellbeing Board

Rural Communities

- 51 There are no direct implications for rural communities. However, services identified in both plans will work to target people in need of support in rural areas and will develop strategies and methods of working to combat isolation and issues around accessibility.

Children and Young People including Cared for Children, care leavers and Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

- 52 Both plans are all age in their scope. There is strong alignment between the plans and the Cheshire East Children and Young Peoples Plan, Cheshire East Preparing for Adulthood Strategy.
- 53 Both plans advocate a move towards move to a more personalised offer will create a wider range of enabled services which will be more attractive to young people preparing for adulthood than at present, to ensure a seamless journey for these individuals.

Public Health

- 54 There has been significant input from the Public Health Team in the development of both plans.
- 55 Through continued joint working and funding with the Public Health Team, the future service provision for people, and improved person-centred approaches can reduce the inequalities that arise from a standardised approach. Thorough consultation and intelligence on inequalities, opportunities can be robustly evaluated to ensure that they do not risk widening inequalities.

Climate Change

- 56 Both plans support the need to reduce the impact of climate change by adopting innovative approaches for future service delivery by reducing the need for travel to access support (where applicable).
- 57 The plans also support ways in which providers can deliver environmental sustainability as part of the social value criteria.

Access to Information	
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Appendices:	<p>Appendix 1 – CE Mental Health Plan</p> <p>Appendix 2 – CE Mental Health Plan – Easy Read</p> <p>Appendix 3 - CE Learning Disabilities Plan</p> <p>Appendix 4 - CE Learning Disabilities Plan - Easy Read</p> <p>Appendix 5 - Equality Impact Assessment All Age Mental Health Plan</p> <p>Appendix 6 - Equality Impact Assessment Cheshire East Learning Disability Plan</p>
Background Papers:	<p>Cheshire East Corporate Plan 2021-2025</p> <p>Guidance on the preparation of integrated care strategies – Published 29 July 2022</p>