

Cheshire East Place Mental Health Plan (2024-2029) update by the Mental Health Partnership Board

Adults and Health Committee – March 2025



#BecauseWeCare
Cheshire East Partnership



Cheshire East Mental Health Partnership Board

We will strive to ensure good mental health and well-being for people who live in the borough of Cheshire East

Reports to:
Cheshire East Health and Wellbeing Board

Provides updates on the implementation of the Cheshire East Place Mental Health Plan to:

- Adults and Health Committee
- Children's and Families Committee

Updates are provided on request

Mental Health Partnership Board Membership

- The Mental Health Partnership Board includes partners from a range of organisations across health, the local authority., police, VCFSE sector and people with lived experience.
- Many of the partners have their own plans/strategies and workstreams which have been aligned and are reflected in the development of the Cheshire East Place Mental Health Plan



Monitoring of the Cheshire East Place Mental Health Plan 2024-2029

- Monitoring of the plan is undertaken on a bi-monthly basis
- Partnership Board meetings focus on specific priorities from the plan on a rolling cycle
- Nominated Lead Officers submit a highlight report detailing progress updates and provide a verbal updates at meetings
- Officers can obtain feedback, collaboration opportunities and also escalate items which require further support.
- The board has a risk register in place, which contains identified actions to explore and mitigate their impact.

Working with other lived experience forums

Representatives from lived experience groups/forums attend the MHPB

- East Cheshire Mental Health Forum (Macclesfield/Congleton, adults)
- Cheshire East Parent Carer Forum
- Cheshire East Carers Forum
- Representative from the Children and Young People's Co-Production Workstream

CEC Communities Team has been working with the Partnership Board to re-establish an adult user led forum in Crewe to ensure representation from this local area.

Priority 1: Children and Young People’s Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing



What have we achieved?

- An Early Help Partnership Board is now in place
- 6 Family Hubs have opened across Cheshire East, with a digital Family Hub offer available.
- MyHappyMind is supporting 61 schools and 13,469 pupils across Cheshire East with positive feedback from children, parents and teachers.
- Solihull approach evidenced based training to support mental health and wellbeing in parents and children, been made freely available to all parent carers across Cheshire East and all professionals within Cheshire East’s children’s workforce.
- The Healthy Young Minds service, launched in April 2024, is offering an accessible, inclusive service aimed at building resilience in children and young people (CYP) and their families, to address emotional wellbeing issues, at the earliest opportunity, to enable CYP to live their best lives in the future. A logo for the service was developed by one of our children and young people. Since its launch, 715 young people have been receiving bespoke package of support and 100% of young people (and families have reported satisfaction with the service received.
- The Healthy Young Minds Alliance was established October 2024, where providers are working together, towards a shared ambition of building resilience in CYP and their families, to achieve consistency and equality of delivery, address gaps in services as a collaborative and provide a mechanism for channelling funding, to enhance the impact of early intervention.
- Meetings between MH Hub and Healthy Young Minds Service providers- JDI and Visyon, to build relationships and reduce blocks in the system for CYP and families
- Demonstrable, positive co-production with children and young people across a range of activities/ topics. The Voice of the Child Partnership and Make your Mark programmes have been highly successful.

What does the data tell us?

Area	Date	Count / Wait time	Trend
Absenteeism in primary and secondary school	22/23	Primary: 3,320 children / 12.4% Secondary: 5,149 children / 23.4%	↓
1 st contact MH appt	Jan 25	between 8 – 12 weeks	↑
Intervention MH appt	Jan 25	between 14-16 weeks	↔
Neurodevelopmental assessment	Jan 25	between 23-25 months	↓

What’s next?

- Early Help Strategy Consultation
- Further development of Wave 11 of the Mental Health in Schools Team programme
- Further development of a shared outcomes framework across the Healthy Young Minds Service
- Further work in Healthy Young Minds Service priority areas population groups
- AAT , further drops in to support Parents / families waiting for assessment

Priority 2: Education, Employment and Training



What have we achieved?

- Senior Mental Health Lead role in place at all college settings, 21/23 secondary schools and 113/124 primary schools. The Senior Mental Health Lead Network continues with high attendance, predominantly from schools, but including health and 3rd sector
- Engagement with rural isolated schools is underway
- IPS service in place via Standguide covering Cheshire East.
- Continued development and expansion of Supported Internships: 74% of young people with an EHCP and complex needs are achieving paid work within 12 months. On target for an increase in places from 40 to 60.
- Welfare to Work Partnership in place.

What does the data tell us?

Area	Date	Count	Trend
% of people in employment over the lifetime of the plan	23/24	183,400 (81.6%) in employment England average is 75.7%	↔
Working age claimant count	Jan 25	5,695 people / 2.4% North West average: 4.5%	↔
16-17 years old not in education, employment or training	22/23	205 people / 2.7% England average is 5.2%	↓
NEET as a % of pupils	22/23	2.6%	↔

What's next?

- Continue work with SMHL Network
- Agreement on use of Shared Prosperity Fund in 25/26
- Workshop to agree allocation of the Universal Support investment

Priority 3: Early Intervention and Prevention



What have we achieved?

- Cheshire East Self Harm and Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2023-2025 in place. Listed priorities and workstreams are discussed/updated at the Self Harm and Suicide Prevention Board each quarter.
- Domestic abuse and suicidality toolkit launched May 2024.
- 384 people have completed the Public Health Suicide Prevention training surveys, with between 500-600 completing the training.
- A wide range of public health work is in progress to promote good wellbeing in children and families, including the HENRY programme, the launch of the Eat Well and Move More Partnership, and the coproduction of the children and young people’s [lifestyle prescription](#).
- Active Cheshire have joined a national advisory group working to ensure that the benefits of physical activity in improving mental health outcomes are realised.
- Development of Active Futures: a project to deliver early interventions through sport and physical activity for young people at risk of crime.

What does the data tell us?

Area	Date	Count	Trend
stabilisation or reduction in % suicide rate for CE during lifetime of Plan	3 year rate	12.5/100,000 (previously 8.8/100,000) England 3-year rate: 10.7/100,000	↓
increase in % of physically active adults during lifetime of the plan	22/23	67.1% active (previously 63.2%) England average: 63.4%	↑

What’s next?

- Evaluation of the 2-year CE Self Harm and Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2023-2025, with updated plan to be reviewed at the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- Work to strengthen the evidence base on clinical outcomes and cost effectiveness of physical activity to support integration into the Talking Therapies offer

Priority 4: Building Sustainable Communities



What have we achieved?

Housing

- The Cheshire East Specialist Housing Group meets on a bimonthly basis with representation from CWP. A key priority is establishing a pathway for those who are currently residing in inappropriate mental health accommodation.
- The Government has recently revised the National Planning Policy Framework which introduces changes to the way in which Local Plans are developed. Cheshire East’s Strategic Planning Team are taking this forward.

Domestic Abuse

- The Custody suite intervention offer has been expanded to 7 days a week and supports front line officers to offer the right support to perpetrators before leaving custody.
- The Whole Housing Approach pilot for Cheshire East will conclude in March 25. University of Lancashire are conducting an evaluation of the pilot.

What does the data tell us?

Area	Date	Count	Trend
Homelessness: households owed a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act	23/24	1,723 / 9.9% England average: 13.4%	↓
no of adults in contact with secondary mental health services who live in stable and appropriate accommodation	22/23	Adults with Learning Disability: 763 / 85.1% (22/23) Adults: 54% (20/21)	↔ Not known

What’s next?

- Specialist Housing Group to engage with developing Registered Housing Providers.
- Revised Hospital Discharge Protocol to launch
- Whole Housing Approach pilot evaluation

Priority 5: Transformation of Mental Health Services



What have we achieved?

- Floating Mental Health Support Service commissioned through Making Space
- A low level mental health pathway has been extended following evaluation.
- ARRS workers in Primary Care (NB: not available across all 8 Care Communities yet)
- Implementation of 4 week waiting time standard for community MH access
- Work to strengthen the Community Alliance relationships and review contracts/ available funding for 3rd sector
- Personality Disorder Pathway work has agreed a strategic model with a clinical management pilot due to commence in East, Spring 25
- Autism outreach support workers recruited to support adults either waiting for autism assessment or following diagnosis.

What does the data tell us?

Area	Date	Count/ Wait	Trend
% of adult social care users who have as much social care contact as they would like	22/23	18+: 1,980 / 48.7% 65+: 1,165 / 45.4%	unknown
Excess under 75 mortality in adults with severe mental illness	21/23	508.7% England average: 383.7%	unknown
Access to adult secondary care mental health services	Jan 25	Referral to First Contact wait between 1-3 weeks (average)	↑
Neurodevelopmental assessment	Jan 25	ADHD: 21 months (ave) Autism: 23 months (ave)	↓

What's next?

- Implementation of MaST system at CWP to better support caseload oversight and clinical prioritisation
- PD pathway to work on CYP transitions and interface with Eating Disorder Services

Priority 6: Crisis Support



What have we achieved?

- CYP Urgent Support Team in place, in reaching to Cheshire East acute Trusts & EDs
- Ancora Care in place to support admission avoidance for young people and to facilitate earlier discharge from hospital
- Deep dive undertaken into CYP self-harm (ICB/ CWP)
- Review of Community Crisis beds completed
- Crisis Cafes remain in place in Crewe and Macclesfield, supported by information leaflets in a range of languages.
- NHS 111, option 2 offer now live for access to MH First Response, alongside CWP Crisis Line
- Mental Health Response vehicles now live. Crewed by a mental health nurse (employed through CWP) and a Emergency Technician (employed through NWAS). One vehicle is based in Northwich and one is based in Bebington.

What does the data tell us?

Area	Date	Count	Trend
Emergency hospital admissions for intentional self-harm	23/24	690 Value 180.9 England value 117.0	↑
hospital admissions for self-harm	22/23	10-14 years: 130 15-19 years: 150 20-24 years: 80	↓ ↔ ↔

What's next?

- Re-commissioning of the Crisis Cafes
- Community crisis beds: scoping for a new model with provider market and users
- Action plan to be developed following deep dive into CYP Self-Harm.

Risks

The MHPB holds a risk register which is reviewed at every meeting. 3 of the risks score 15 or above. These risks are around:

- Smaller rural schools finding it difficult to access the mental health support/ training available (score 16)
- Support for carers (all ages) is not being delivered as planned and according to statutory responsibilities (score 16)
- There are an increasing number of CYP presenting with self-harm at acute units in Cheshire East, with concerns being raised at the Parent/Carer forum about increases in self-harm behaviour in the community (score 15)

Discussions have been held at the MHPB about the actions partner organisations are taking to address these risks and updates are sought for the next meeting.

Overall Assessment



There is demonstrable progress across the Priorities with some commitments already completed. There is a high level of engagement from partners in this work.

Areas for focused attention include:

- Improving support for carers
- Supporting rural and isolated schools
- Addressing waiting times (CYP and adults)

Any Questions?