

Title: **Mental Health and Wellbeing Member Champion – Annual Report (2020-2021)**

To: **Cabinet** On: **24 August 2021**

Name of Champion: **Councillor Jackie Stockman**

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Adult Social Care in Mental Health

- This year the ASC team have reduced the number of working age people with enduring mental illness living in residential care by 20% - as part of a review and insights project looking at the overuse of residential care for this group.
- The Council has published a Commissioning Blueprint which outlines plans to increase extra care, introduce more specialist providers into Torbay who can support people as they move into their own property.

Mental Health and Suicide Prevention - Public Health

Mental Health Partnership

Torbay Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Partnership was set up in September 2020 to work collaboratively to promote strong and successful partnerships between organisations to ensure support across the continuum of mental health. The Partnership has a wide membership across voluntary and statutory sectors.

Objectives are:

- To enable early identification and rapid response to people of all ages where there is evidence of escalating levels of distress, deteriorating mental health, self-harm or suicidal intent
- To seek to identify gaps in provision to meet need which will help inform commissioning and local development
- To identify and map local resources aimed at promoting the mental wellbeing of the people of Torbay
- To promote clear pathways of support across the continuum of mental health
- To ensure a trained, supported and informed workforce
- To develop consistent public health messages across organisations with regards to mental health
- To share resources and promote community collaboration
- To share and encourage the development of learning, good practice, knowledge and skills across the county in both community and targeted services
- To seek out opportunities to promote mental wellbeing across Torbay.

Members are working on an action plan focusing on:

- Development of community level safer suicide & mental health promoting networks
- Implementation of the Torbay suicide and self-harm prevention plan
- Training (specialist, targeted and universal)
- Supporting implementation of the new model of Community Mental Health
- Supporting initiatives to promote the emotional wellbeing of children and families

Engaging councillors

Suicide prevention training was delivered to Councillors in July 2021 to support members in their awareness, promotion and advocacy role.

Preventing and Promoting Better Mental Health Fund – Wellbeing Engagement Project

Torbay was successful in applying for £270k Public Health England funding to improve mental health in July 2021 and has successfully tendered for a voluntary collaborative to deliver a Wellbeing Engagement Project addressing the presenting needs of residents accessing food banks and children's centres. The team will work across primary food providers and children's centres in Brixham, Paignton and Torquay to engage and build trusted relationships, facilitating support from relevant professionals as well as managing their own caseload of more intensive low level mental health and wellbeing support.

COVID Contain and Management Fund (COMF), NHSE and Public Health funded projects

Mental Health projects being delivered through 2021/22 programme funding include:

- Online adult mental health and wellbeing support service (Torbay element, Devon wide initiative matching Kooth children's online service)
- Mental health coordinators to expand capability and capacity of the Torbay CDT Helpline to address mental health needs
- Community initiatives – peer support, network development, safe spaces

Direct work in my capacity as one of the Mental Health Champions

I have continued my work with the Community of Brixham, please see the website below.

<https://www.brixhambeewell.org/>

- We have engaged with Businesses who are willing to have a logo saying Safe Place in their windows and for their Staff to wear promotional T-Shirts which are currently being designed.
- We have also had a piece of scrub land passed over to us from the Council and are currently producing a Brixham Bee Well Garden. This is being led by a member of the Community whose son suffers from poor mental health and has

already encouraged others with the same difficulties to become involved. Virtually everything for the Garden has been donated by local business.

5 litres paint from Brewers for herb garden, Bolton Street Bathroom shop have offered £75 towards plants; Jewsons webbing for the weeds; Co op have donated 2 hanging baskets; Hammer and Nail are going to donate a water butt; a family in Bolton Street are growing some herbs at home for the herb garden; a neighbour has grown a cherry tree from seed so that's going in and we've been out and sprinkled some wild flowers.

- We have engaged with Primary Care and Dr Trevor Avis attends our meetings and until recently Dr David Somerfield DPT was a member of our group. Members of the Public Health Team also attend and give us guidance as do Steve Honeywill and Tracey Cabache when required.

We hope to officially launch on 12 October and currently have feelers out to find an appropriate person to attend the launch.

- The hope would be that once this is rolled out that others throughout the Bay may wish to do something similar.



