







READING HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

DATE OF MEETING: 7th October 2022

REPORT TITLE: Health and Wellbeing Strategy Quarterly Implementation Plan

Narrative Update Report

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report presents an overview on the implementation of the Berkshire West Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2030 in Reading and, in Appendix A, narrative information updates on performance and progress towards achieving the local goals and actions set out in the both the overarching strategy and the locally agreed implementation plans.
- 1.2 The Health and Wellbeing Implementation Plans narrative update report (appendix A) contain an update on actions agreed for each of the implementation plans and the most recent update of key information in each of the priority areas.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes the following updates contained in the report:
 - Priority 1 Tasks supporting Priority Items relating to developing decision-making processes and use of information and intelligence data, have been updated.
 - Priority 2 Tasks supporting Priority Items, focusing on identifying individuals at risk
 of poor outcomes and actions for developing support to people diagnosed with
 dementia and people who sleep rough, have been updated.
 - Priority 3 Tasks in Priority Items, focusing on the development of evidence-based parenting programmes, rollout of trauma informed practice to early years settings, a parent volunteer scheme and increasing uptake of free two-year-old funding.
 - Priority 4 Update on all Implementation Plan Priority Items, especially focusing on the work of the Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs).
 - Priority 5 Update on all Implementation Plan Priority Items, describing activity carried out in task and finish groups and updating on the Mental Health Needs Assessment.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 sets out the requirement on Health and Wellbeing Boards to use a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) to develop plans which:
 - improve the health and wellbeing of the people in their area;

- reduce health inequalities; and
- promote the integration of services.
- 3.2 In 2021 The Berkshire West Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2021-2030 was jointly developed and published on behalf of Health and Wellbeing Boards in Reading, West Berkshire and Wokingham. The strategy contains five priority areas:
 - Reduce the differences in health between different groups of people
 - Support individuals at high risk of bad health outcomes to live healthy lives
 - Help families and children in early years
 - Promote good mental health and wellbeing for all children and young people
 - Promote good mental health and wellbeing for all adults
- 3.3 In Reading the strategy was supplemented by the development of implementation plans for each priority area. These were presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board and approved in March 2022.
- 3.4 In 2016 the board had previously agreed to introduce regular performance updates, including a Health and Wellbeing Dashboard Report, at each meeting to ensure that members of the board are kept informed about the Partnership's performance in its priority areas. The current Health and Wellbeing Dashboard Report has been developed to reflect the new priorities set out in the Berkshire West Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2030 and the associated implementation plans.
- 3.5 The Health and Wellbeing Dashboard provides the latest data available to support the Board to scrutinise and evaluate the performance of the Partnership against the agreed priorities set out in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Some of the national data used to measure public health outcomes, particularly for those indicators based on annual national survey and hospital data, goes through a process of checking and validation before publication, which can mean that it is published some time after it was collected. Other data contained in this report is reported directly from local health service providers, including primary care providers, and, as these data are not validated or processed before publication, there may therefore be some minor discrepancies and corrections between reports.
- 3.6 At each Health and Wellbeing Board meeting Health and Wellbeing Strategy Priority Leads for Reading Borough Council will provide a narrative update against selected tasks and priority items that have been actioned during that period. Statistical data will be refreshed every six months. The schedule for reporting for 2022/23 is therefore as follows:

Health and Wellbeing Board	Narrative updates - selected tasks and priorities	Data refresh
July 2022	<u></u>	<u> </u>
October 2022	<u> </u>	X
January 2023	✓	<u> </u>
March 2023	<u></u>	X

4. THE PROPOSAL

4.1 Current Position

The Reading Integration Board (RIB) is leading this priority implementation plan and we are focusing on the work funded through the Better Care Fund and through our voluntary care sector partners, to collaborate on integration projects which support the Integration Board Priorities, which in turn are aligned to support the H&WB Strategic Priority Implementation Plans. A Berkshire West wide Inequalities Dashboard has been developed and is in the stage of data checking and testing. Once finalised, expected in October 2022, this will form the basis for a robust Population Health Management approach, enabling us to identify disparities and work with our partners in health and the voluntary sector to address these. There are a range of services provided through our system partners to support people to stay healthy and well and we are working with colleagues in health, to promote health checks, and particularly focussed on groups who may be at higher risk e.g., those with a learning difficulty, the homeless, with dementia, or their carers.

Priority 2 - Support individuals at high risk of bad health outcomes to live healthy lives

We are using Connected Care, our shared care records system across health and social care, to effectively identify people at higher risk of poor health outcomes and making referrals for a review via the Primary Care Network (PCN) Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDT) meetings to ensure all care needs are identified and addressed, and thereby reducing pressure on primary and secondary care services by keeping people well at home. We also have a priority project focussed on improved access to information and services through digital access, particularly in areas of deprivation; enabling supported access within community settings to support the health and wellbeing of people at risk. Through the 'Closing the Gap' initiative, contracts have been awarded that include Carers Advice and Respite and a range of voluntary care sector services to support the wellbeing of Reading residents, in particular those at risk of poor health outcomes. The Better Care Fund (BCF) supports a range of mental and physical support services, including adaptations to homes through the Disabled Facilities Grant element of the BCF, to enable people to remain in their homes safely, and reablement services to support people to regain independence and confidence after a stay in hospital.

Priority 3 - Help families and children in early years

The Under 5s workstream of the One Reading Partnership is leading on the priority implementation plan with representatives from maternity service health visiting, education including SEND and the voluntary sector. Our priority project areas are to increase the take up of the free two-year-old entitlement especially in disadvantaged communities. We have relaunched a parent volunteer scheme to reach parents and families who have not accessed their entitlement. The Department for Education have also extended the entitlement to include families from Ukraine and asylum seekers so they will be added to the target groups across Reading. A project to rollout trauma informed practice to early years settings continues with positive response and good take up.

Priority 4 - Promote good mental health and wellbeing for all children and young people

Our second Mental Health Support Team is live from September, with an official launch on September 14^{th.} These two teams offer interventions and training for mild to moderate needs, in schools across two thirds of Reading. NHS England is continuing to roll out further waves of MHSTs and we hope to secure our third team in the future, as part of Berks, Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire's mental health provision. Our Primary Mental Health Teamwork with Children and Young People (CYP) with more complex mental health and emotional wellbeing (MHEWB) needs and have reflected on the increasingly complexity of need over the last year. They also support with training and support other professionals through consultations around MHEWB. The newly jointly commissioned Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Service for Children Looked After (CLA) is recruiting staff. We have a Task & Finish group in place to work with an Assistant Psychologist on developing culturally appropriate services and information and will work closely with local community groups and CYP to develop this. Partnership working continues with a focus on understanding the local MHEWB offer and having a consistent approach to mental health. Trauma informed work in schools continues through our Therapeutic Thinking approach, with a focus on neurodiversity and vulnerable populations.

Priority 5 - Promote good mental health for all adults

The task and finish groups attached to the Mental Wellbeing Group are launching at the end of September to focus specifically on developing culturally appropriate resources and signposting; development of data collection and sharing across the system; and developing training and workforce development programmes across the system. Partnership working continues to grow with the development of a partnership project tackling specific actions around linking physical activity and mental health to training and workforce development. The first draft of the Mental Health Needs Assessment will be complete by early October and the piloting of a mental health referral resource for frontline workers will be completed by January 2023. The procurement of services through the Closing the Gap funding has also resulted in further services supporting mental health and wellbeing for the community from 1st November, alongside increased joint working.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO READING'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGIC AIMS

5.1 This proposal supports Corporate Plan priorities by ensuring that Health and Wellbeing Board members are kept informed of performance and progress against key indicators, including those that support corporate strategies.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The recommended action will have no impact on the Council's ability to respond to the Climate Emergency.

7. COMMUNITY & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

7.1 A wide range of voluntary and public sector partners and members of the public were encouraged to participate in the development of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The indicators included in this report reflect those areas highlighted during the development of the strategy and included in the final version.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required in relation to the specific proposal to present an update to the Board in this format.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Not applicable

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The proposal to update the board on performance and progress in implementing the Berkshire West Health and Wellbeing Strategy in Reading offers improved efficiency and value for money by ensuring that Board members are better able to determine how effort and resources are most likely to be invested beneficially on behalf of the local community.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 APPENDIX A - HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLEMENTATION PLANS UPDATE









APPENDIX A - HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLEMENTATION PLANS UPDATE

PRIORITY 1: Reduce the differences in health between different groups of people (Implementation Plan narrative update)

Action name	Status	Commentary (100 word max)

Action name	Status	Commentary (100 word max)
Take a 'Health in All Polic approach that embeds he and wellbeing across pol and services.	nealth	At the time of policy development or review and update, a health and wellbeing approach is taken to assess how the policy will impact on the health and wellbeing of our residents and our staff.
2. Address the challenge of funding in all areas and e that decisions on changir services, to improve outdoes not adversely affect people with poorer healt	ensure ng comes, it	The Reading Integration Board will focus on groups of people who have been identified as being at a higher risk of poor health outcomes. The board is comprised of system partners from adult social care, voluntary care sector, acute hospital, primary care and community care as well as Healthwatch Reading, who represent the voice of the service users. The Better Care Fund (BCF) is reviewed annually and plans are submitted in line with the Planning Guidance for each year. The BCF Planning Guidance for 2022/23 was released late and the BCF Plans are due for submission on 21st September. At the time of writing this report the Draft Plans are awaiting approval. We work closely with our commissioning colleagues to ensure effective services are commissioned to support the needs of our Reading residents in the most effective and efficient way.
3. Use information and intelligence to identify th communities and groups experience poorer outco and ensure the right servand support are available them while measuring th impact of our work.	s who omes vices e to	A Population Health Management Approach is being used to inform priority areas of work. The aim of the Better Care Fund, and as such the board, is to enable integrated working for the best use of resources and to enable care that is tailored to the needs of individuals, that is informed by population health management data. Reducing pressure on acute hospitals by implementing intermediate care to enable people to remain at home, living as independently as possible for healthy and active lives. Data packs at a Primary Care Network (PCN) level have been produced from the Connected Care platform (a shared care records system) that shows the prevalence of conditions in their respective areas and can inform focussed pieces of work with those patients to improve outcomes.
4. Ensure an effective progrof NHS Health Checks an follow up support service are designed to meet the of all people in the commensuring appropriate communication and engagement methods th culturally sensitive.	es that e needs munity,	The Reading Integration Board (RIB) has a focus on health inequalities, and in particular those affecting people in areas of deprivation within Reading. The programme of work for 2022/23 is agreed with four overarching priorities and 9 projects. The new projects are supporting and promoting health checks and developing a Self-Neglect pathway, and we are continuing with our Multi-Disciplinary Team programme within the Primary Care Networks, which has seen significant successes, such as reducing Acute attendances by 82%. We recognise that there is more work to be done in respect of supporting people with Learning Disabilities to receive their Health Checks and this has been flagged as a priority area.
5. Continue to develop the we work with ethnically community leaders, volu sector, unpaid carers, an help groups that sit within Authorities.	diverse untary nd self-	The Community Participatory Action Research group created connections within our communities and this is being build on by the Covid Vaccine Champions programme. There are a number of forums at which our Voluntary Care Sector are engaged, along with Carers and community service leads.
1. Ensure fairer access to se and support for those in need through effective signposting, targeted hea education and promoting inclusion, all in a way tha empowers communities ownership of their own h	most alth g digital at to take	The social prescriber model that is in place within Reading is working well, ensuring people are referred in a timely way to the most appropriate services to support their health and wellbeing needs. One of the Reading Integration Board (RIB) Priorities is to support effective Care Navigation and Education, to facilitate improved access to information and services for Reading residents that ensures the right support is accessible and resources are used effectively. This will include a focus on digital inclusion, enabling disadvantaged people within our communities to learn how to use digital devises and gain access to them within community settings, with appropriate support and training to enable people to access services to support their health and wellbeing needs.

Action name	Status	Commentary (100 word max)
2. Increase the visibility and signposting of existing services and improve access to services for people at higher risk of bad health outcomes, whilst also providing pastoral support through faith-based organisations linked to health and social care services.	Green	The three main projects within Priority 4: Care Navigation and Education, for the Reading Integration Board are: 1. Improve access to and awareness of services available (New) 2. Co-ordinate the Making Every Contact Count (MECC) Programme in Reading (New) 3. Digital Inclusion - Ensuring people are enabled to use digital technologies (New) Reading is investing in voluntary care sector engagement to support their Front Door services to ensure effective referral and signposting.
3. Monitor and assess how Covid- 19 has differentially impacted our local populations, including through the displacement or disruption of usual services. Ensure health inequalities exacerbated by COVID-19 are addressed as we recover and ensure access to services.	Green	There are regular updates on Covid at the Reading Integration Board and the activity in progress to address any areas of low vaccine uptake and support recovery within communities following the impact of Covid, particularly in relation to isolation and 'low level' mental health issues, which are having a significant impact on GP surgeries. The Covid Vaccine Champion programme also supports this work. The Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings that are taking place at Primary Care Network (PCN) level have regular membership from mental health services to ensure appropriate referrals and support for people with low level mental health needs.

PRIORITY 2: Support individuals at high risk of bad health outcomes to live healthy lives (Implementation Plan narrative update)

Act	ion name	Status	Commentary (100 word max)
1.	Identify people at risk of poor health outcomes, using Population Health Management data and local data sources, as well as increase visibility of existing services, and signposting to those services, as well as improving access for people at risk of poor health outcomes.	Amber	The Reading Integration Board is using a Population Health Management (PHM) approach to identify areas and groups as a focus for activity, producing appropriate datasets to inform the work we are doing and engaging with 'at risk' groups. The shared care records system, Connected Care, is used for case finding based on specific conditions that we know are more prevalent, and particularly in areas of deprivation within the Reading area. These cases, with consent of the service user, are then discussed at the Multi-Disciplinary Team review panels to ensure a holistic approach to supporting those individuals to stay well and avoid hospital admissions. All access to data is in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). A Berkshire West Inequalities report has been developed and is currently in the process of testing. This report will provide a range of data that highlights areas of inequality and will be used to support commissioning and planning of initiatives to address areas of need.
2.	To raise awareness and understanding of dementia. Working in partnership with other sectors, we can introduce an integrated programme ensuring the Dementia Pathway is robust and extended to include pre diagnosis support, and improve early diagnosis rates, rehabilitation and support for people affected by dementia and their unpaid carers.	Amber	Reading Borough Council Public Health and Wellbeing Team are engaged in the wider discussions about dementia pathways with commissioning teams, to ensure alignment of approach and working towards early diagnosis. The Reading Dementia Friendly Group has participating members from voluntary care sector and commissioning services. There is a clinical pathway in place for people with dementia and the non-clinical supporting pathway will be developed with our system partners once resources are in place, together with a programme of awareness and information to support both people with dementia and their carers.
3.	Improve identification and support for unpaid carers of all ages. Work with unpaid carers and partner agencies to promote the health and wellbeing of unpaid carers by giving them a break from their caring responsibilities, whilst allowing them to fulfil their caring role.	Green	Our Carer's Information, Advice & Guidance Service is part of a consortium commission with West Berkshire Council, the NHS Integrated Care Board, DACHs and Brighter Futures for Children. The commissioning of this service is in line with our statutory duties under the Care Act 2014.
4.	We will work together to reduce the number of rough sleepers and improve their mental and physical health through improved access to local services.	Green	Within Reading Borough Council (RBC), Adult Social Care (ASC) Advice and Wellbeing Hub and Housing are working together to narrow the gap with rough sleepers and create a joint approach to address health, wellbeing and housing needs. Working with the Rough Sleeping Interventions Team a jointly funded post for an experienced social worker to support our residents who have experience of rough sleeping, rough sleeping lifestyles and homelessness, and will enable us to support the government's Rough Sleeping Strategy to end rough sleeping by 2027. There are a range of commissioned services across Reading to support rough sleepers.
5.	Prevent, promote awareness, and provide support to people affected by domestic abuse in line with proposals outlined in the Domestic Abuse Bill.	Green	We work closely with our Voluntary Care Sector Partners, Thames Valley Police to ensure safeguarding concerns are reported to enable action to be taken to support people at risk of domestic abuse.
6.	Support people with learning disabilities through working with voluntary organisations in order to concentrate on issues that matter most to them.	Green	We are working with our Voluntary Care Sector partners, some of whom are specialists in supporting people with Learning Disabilities, who are involved in a range of forums to enable engagement and feedback to support commissioning and priorities across Reading and the wider Berkshire West "Place"

PRIORITY 3: Help families and children in early years (Implementation Plan narrative update)

Action name	Status	Commentary (100 word max)
1. Explore a more integrated universal approach that combines children's centres, midwifery, health visiting as outlined in the Best Start for Life report. This will aim to improve the health, wellbeing, development, and educational outcomes of children in Reading	Choose an item.	Work continues through the under 5s workstream to collate services already delivered and identify gaps to develop a cohesive offer for parents and families Hospital link worker to support new parents in maternity unit at RBH with low level information/guidance/signposting. To support midwives accessing services for parents and families below threshold.
2. Work to provide evidence-based support for mothers, fathers, and other carers to help prepare them for parenthood and improve their personal and collective resilience during pregnancy and throughout the early years.	Choose an item.	Rollout of new suite of parenting support- Mellow parenting from April 2022. Training has been provided to 16 children's centre workers to facilitate the programme. Mellow bumps- delivered to 15 pregnant women. Mellow babies- delivered to 8 parents Mellow Toddlers-course started September 2022-6 parents A new course has been developed and co-facilitated BFfC and Maternity for new dada called "Dads to be". Three course have been run April-September attended by 18 participants.
Increase the number of 2-year-olds (who experience disadvantage) accessing nursery places across Reading	Choose an item.	Increase of 1.25% from Spring term (76.62%) to Summer term take-up (77.87%) Parents champion scheme relaunched September 2022. Marketing campaign over Summer in town centre, parks, libraries
4. We will ensure that early year's settings staff are trained in traumainformed practice and care, know where to find information or help, and can signpost families	Choose an item.	Over 100 Early Years staff have now started the training courses. A trauma informed network has been developed to share good practice.
5. We will publish clear guidelines on how to access financial help; tackle stigma around this issue where it occurs.	Choose an item.	Two DWP advisors have been seconded to BFfC to provide information/advice and guidance for parents on benefits/employment. Work continues on developing clear guidelines that will be available via FiS.

Act	ion name	Status	Commentary (100 word max)
6.	Develop a speech, language, and communication pathway to support the early identification and low- level intervention to prevent later higher cost services	Choose an item.	A multi-agency group has been established to focus on creating a clear pathway for professional and parents to understand the options to support children with SLC difficulties. A roadmap has been created and published for parents and professionals. The group are now being supported by national charity ICAN to provide insight in reframing the culture and expectations of speech, language and communications being everyone's responsibility. The aim is to reduce the waiting time for children to be assessed for therapy and to develop low level support to avoid escalation to higher level services.
7.	Explore the systems for identification of need for ante natal and post-natal care of pregnant women and unborn/new-born babies to reduce non-accidental injuries	Choose an item.	There are three multi-agency meetings held monthly for vulnerable pregnant women/new parents/unborns and newborns. Multi-agency meetings are held in children's centres between midwives, health visitors and children's centre managers to discuss families of concern and to offer packages of support. This is informed by maternity pathway referrals from maternity to children's centres for low level support below threshold. A new infant family worker has been employed to support the further integration of services for pregnandt women/new parents/unborns and newborns including breastfeeding, safer sleeping and coping with crying.

PRIORITY 4: Promote good mental health and wellbeing for all children and young people (Implementation Plan narrative update)

Act	cion name	Status	Commentary (100 word max)
1.	Provide early intervention for children and young people with the right help and support at the right time	Choose an item.	Q2 update: MHST 1: POSITIVES: 85 new referrals; outcome data shows 75-100% improvement in symptoms/goals. 70 parents attended parent sessions; RISKS: staff leaving for career progression. MH ambassadors. MHST 2: Launch date 14 th Sept. PMHST: Working with 50 CYP; outcomes 90-95% improvement in symptoms/goals. 155 professional consultations; Waitlist 6-8 weeks; Kooth: July 2022: 174 service users EPS: 90% schools buy in EP service; 31 parent/carers attended Overcoming Your Child's Anxiety workshops. MHEWB training to schools;
2.	Support settings & communities in being trauma informed and using a restorative approach	Choose an item.	New Trauma Informed Practitioner started in September. Schools have rolling training programme of Therapeutic Thinking Schools; This is supported with TTS Network s and new offer to schools from September is schools can book for EP support in implementing TI practice in a particular area of difficulty or concern that the school has.
3.	Coproduction and collaboration with children and young people, families, communities and faith groups to shape future mental health services and in delivering transformation of mental health and emotional wellbeing services	Choose an item.	Assistant Psychologist working with local community and faith groups to shape local services for CYP who are black or from an ethnic minority. Multi agency/ partners Task & Finish group has been set up to support and inform this work. The Consistent Approaches to Mental Health is a 6- weekly meeting with partners across Reading who offer a service or project for CYP's MHEWB and parent/carer reps; it is working to ensure close partnership working, and an understanding of what support is available to CYP/F. We are producing a MHEWB offer directory which will be live and updated 6-weekly. This is in its infancy but very promising. The group aims to ensure we are up to date with projects and teams and what the offer is, so we can support each other's work, consider any gaps and look at commissioning new or different projects and services.
4.	Develop an easy to navigate local mental health and emotional wellbeing offer for children, young people, parents, carers and professionals/practitioners	Choose an item.	The local place-based commissioners have employed a charity to develop this work. Berkshire MIND has made recommendations after scoping. Work continues.
5.	Identify and provide services for targeted populations i.e. the most vulnerable children and young people to ensure equality of access to support and services	Choose an item.	New Specialist CAMHS Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Service for Children Looked After (CLA) is recruiting staff. IFA is supported by the PMHT & the TI Practitioners. All Children Looked After (CLA) are supported by a Specialist EP for CLA. Early Years mental health training programme offered by EPs & PMHT. BFfC has a Growth Approach to Autism, to focus on CYP having a positive experience of schools and to achieve their aspirations; Reading is a training hub for the Autism Education Trust. Schools have been trained as trainers to roll out the training. Intensive Interaction training is offered to schools. See above for CYP from minority backgrounds, and TTS for reducing exclusions.
6.	Recovery after Covid-19/ adolescent mental health	Choose an item.	EBSA team is in place and working with CYP, families and schools.
7.	Local transformation plan	Choose an item.	The draft update will go to the HWB Board in October.

PRIORITY 5: Promote good mental health and wellbeing for all adults (Implementation Plan narrative update)

Act	Action name Status		Commentary (100 word max)
1.	Raise mental health awareness and promote wellbeing	Choose an item.	The responsible task and finish group will be meeting on 4th October for the first time. Work has already been completed around this via the funding Compass Recovery College received, working in partnership with voluntary sector partners including ACRE, Weller Centre, Reading Community Learning Centre and Sadaka to co-produce culturally appropriate workshops and resources around mental health and wellbeing. A pilot will also be launched in September to trial a mental health referral resource for frontline workers, partners involved include Department for Work and Pensions, Reading Borough Council's debt advice team and income recovery team along with Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust's wellbeing leads.
2.	Address social factors that create risks to mental health and wellbeing, including social isolation and loneliness	Choose an item.	The Reading Borough Council debt advice team and homelessness prevention and pathways teams are working to develop data collection methods around mental health and wellbeing to evidence the scale of mental health support required for their clients. A pilot referral pathway is also being developed across these teams into the Talking Therapies service, alongside their involvement in the pilot project to trial a frontline worker mental health resource.
3.	Focus targeted support on groups at greater risk of experiencing mental health challenges, loneliness and social isolation and health inequalities to support early identification & intervention	Choose an item.	The responsible task and finish group will be meeting on 27th September to assess current targeting and data collection to further understand the current situation in order to develop this support. This targeted support will also be increased through the Closing the Gap funded services due to launch on 1st November. Under this action, the work of the Suicide Prevention group is also mentioned - this strategy is currently being refreshed by the DPH.
4.	Foster more collaborative working across health, care and third sector services to recognise and address mental health support needs	Choose an item.	A partnership project is currently being developed with partners across the Mental Wellbeing Group with a specific focus on training and workforce development with a strong emphasis on a community of learning approach. This will work to foster more collaborative working across the system and build relationships across health, care and third sector services. The task and finish groups will also work to nurture partnerships across health, care and third sector.
5.	Develop and support peer support initiatives, befriending and volunteer schemes, particularly recognising the impact of Covid-19 on smaller voluntary sector groups	Choose an item.	A Ready Friends review has taken place and will be presented on 19 th September at the Mental Wellbeing Group. There is also a campaign running currently, led by Reading Voluntary Action, around recruitment of volunteers called Chat, Connect, Befriend. The Befriending Forum and Social Prescribing Forum continue and the Loneliness and Social Isolation Group are due to meet on 29 th September.
6.	Build the capacity and capability across the health and social care workforce to prevent mental health problems and promote good mental health	Choose an item.	The Mental Wellbeing Group are working with Get Berkshire Active and a range of partners from the group to co-design a programme of training for partners across the system, specifically focusing on upskilling the workforce with Mental Health First Aider courses, Suicide Prevention and First Aid along with relevant training around physical activity delivery in the form of coaching qualifications, walk leader training and the active medicine training. This project will create a community of learning for partners to share knowledge and experience and will act as an opportunity to work with partners to design a longer-term training programme around mental health and wellbeing.
7.	Support people affected by Covid- 19 with their mental wellbeing and associated loneliness and isolation	Choose an item.	This priority focuses on upskilling voluntary sector partners to feel confident in supporting members of the community where their mental wellbeing has been affected by Covid-19 - this will be supported by the project outlined in the update above.
8.	Develop local metrics to measure progress linked to Reading Mental Health Needs Assessment	Choose an item.	The responsible task and finish group are meeting to discuss this action on 27th September to assess what local metrics are currently in place and how we could work towards one set of local metrics that is used across partners, feeding back in to the JSNA and commissioning decisions. Already conversations are taking place to look at how we collect data within Reading Borough Council across departments and how we could introduce a set of metrics that can be used across teams, and similar conversations are happening with partners including Department of Work and Pensions, commissioned services such as Change Grow Learn, Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust and primary care.