

# Blackburn With Darwen

## Mental Wellbeing and Inequalities Steering Group

### Terms of Reference

October 2021

#### 1. Background

The Five Year Forward view for Mental Health 2016 places a responsibility on Public Health England and Local Authorities to take a lead in the planning and delivery of public mental health prevention interventions inclusive of suicide prevention.

The national *Prevention Concordat for better mental health* document (PHE 2017) provides guidance on evidence-based prevention activity across a local area placing the lead agency responsibility with the Local Authority.

BwD's Public Health Team want to develop a Mental Wellbeing and Inequalities Framework to inform council and partner's policy. The aim of the Mental Wellbeing and Inequalities Framework will be to address inequalities by providing a guide for policy makers, council and partner workers to ensure equity of services and resources reach an equal 'high standard' outcome for all residents.

We define Mental Wellbeing, as:

"Wellbeing is about lives going well, the combination of feeling good and functioning effectively. It includes the positive emotions of happiness and contentment, but also such emotions as interest, engagement, confidence, empathy and affection, the development of one's potential, having some control over one's life, having a sense of purpose (e.g. working towards valued goals), and experiencing positive relationships." (Manchester Health and Wellbeing Strategy)

We recognise that physical wellbeing is also important, but that is being looked at elsewhere and will not be within the remit of this group.

We will use the following definition for Wellbeing Inequality:

"Wellbeing Inequality can be understood as the extent to which Peoples' experience of life vary within a population, or between groups." (Measuring Wellbeing Inequality in Britain (2017), What Works Centre for Wellbeing.) [measuring-wellbeing-inequalities-in-britain-march2017\\_0243450800.pdf \(whatworkswellbeing.org\)](https://www.whatworkswellbeing.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/measuring-wellbeing-inequalities-in-britain-march2017_0243450800.pdf)

## **2. Purpose of the group**

**To improve the mental wellbeing of the population with a focus on addressing inequalities, taking a life course approach, using evidence, data and local insights.**

**To provide strategic leadership and coordination of mental wellbeing programmes, initiatives and services to maximise and target resources to improve the equity of mental wellbeing outcomes**

## **3. Objectives:**

- To development, implement and monitor the Mental Wellbeing & Inequalities framework for BwD
- Work towards OHID's Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health for All. Including the development and oversight of the action plan
- To receive mental wellbeing programme updates from partners to inform evaluation, impact and recommendations for further action
- To ensure residents and service users are involved in the planning, delivery and evaluation of mental wellbeing programme
- Discuss the data and findings from the "[Beyond Imagination Life Survey](#)" from 1,500 Blackburn with Darwen residents, through a wellbeing lens and provide recommendations.
- To also consider other pieces of work such as the ICS Mental Health Transformation, and the development of the Pennine Lancs ICP to help our place based thinking.

## **4. Governance, Accountability & Reporting:**

The steering group is accountable to the Health and Wellbeing Board

Reporting into Start Well, Live Well, Age Well (H&WB Sub-Groups), Suicide Prevention Group, Elected Members Mental Health Champions network, Scrutiny Committee. Mental Health ICS Meeting. LSCFT Transformation programme, OHID North West, Community Safety Group.

The Steering Group will provide an annual report of their work.

## Interdependencies

As the Pennines Structure develops we will need to be cited on what they are doing to avoid duplication also the Primary Care Neighbourhood Development, and the Marmott Health Equality Commission.

## 5. Membership

- Public Health Mental Health Leads
- Local Councillors
- CCG Mental Health Commissioner
- Mental Health Representative from the ICS
- Healthwatch
- Partners from VCFS
- Regional representative from Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID formerly PHE)
- Lancashire and South Cumbria Foundation Trust representative
- Co-op in Experts

## 6. Meetings

The Mental Wellbeing and Inequalities Steering Group meeting will be held monthly until the Mental Wellbeing and Inequalities framework is ready to go to the Health & Wellbeing Board (March 2022) and then continue Bi-Monthly.

A schedule of meetings will be issued.

## 7. Roles and Responsibilities

The Chair will be Shirley Goodhew, Public Health Consultant. In her absence she will nominate a Vice-Chair.

The Chair and Vice Chair will make all necessary arrangements to ensure that all meetings are chaired and that cover is provided all year round to handle agenda items as they arise.

The Chair and Vice-chair will set the agenda with contributions from members received at least one week in advance of the meeting

All members agree to share local intelligence, local activity, practice and knowledge, to meet the aims of the Steering Group.

## 8. Decision Making

It is expected that the majority of decisions will be made by consensus, however in the case of disagreement within the group the Chair can put the decision to a vote. The view of the majority of members will carry the decision.

The Chair (or Vice chair in his/her absence) has the casting vote.

All decisions will be reported formally in the action notes.

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**To be reviewed annually October 2022.**

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