

**Stakeholder Reference Group on a Whole School Approach to Mental Health
and Emotional Wellbeing
17 February 2020 (Caerdydd 3, 10:30/12, Cathays Park 2)**

Present

Jason Pollard (JP), Chair	Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing in Schools, WG
Zack Campbell (ZC)	Health and Social Services Group, WG
Ella Sivan (ES)	Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing in Schools, WG
Khalid Afzal (KA) (Secretariat)	Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing in Schools, WG
Jacinta Tan (JT)	Eating Disorders, Bro Morgannwg UHB
Kolade Gamel (KG)	CAMHS and Public Health Nursing, ABUHB
Deb Austin (DA)	T4CYP Programme
Lyn Neagle AM (LN)	Children, Young people & Education Committee
Kirrin Davidson (KD)	Children's Commissioners Office
Chris Alders (CA)	Cardiff LA
Barbara Morgan (BM) (via VC)	Hywel Dda UHB - Senior Nurse Quality Assurance School Nursing
Helen Furneaux (via VC) (HF)	Health Visiting and School Nursing, Powys Teaching UHB
Ian Johnson (IJ)	Mind Cymru
Rose Whittle (RW)	The Cardiff and Vale UHB
Stewart Blythe (SB)	WLGA
Gary Catterall (GC)	Cwm Taf UHB
Siobhan Parry (SP)	Platform (For Mental Health and Social Change)
Sarah Stone (SS)	Samaritans
Jacky Mathias (JM)	Pembrokeshire College

Apologies

Dr Cath Norton	RC Paediatrics and Child Health
Heather Potter	NHS Wales
Lynzi Jarman	Youth Justice Board Cymru
Dr Kirsty Fenton	Clinical Lead, Hywel Dda UHB
Zahrah Bashir	Diverse Cymru
Sara Elise Jones	Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhondda
Dr Isolde Shore Nye	RCGP Wales and Republic of Ireland Manager
Ruth Davies	NAHT
Joanne Hopkins	Public Health Wales
Kate Henegan	Papyrus UK
Sam Austin	End Youth Homelessness
Sharon Lovell	National Youth Advocacy Service
Paul Glaze	Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services
Alister Davey	Deputy Director, Social Services, Welsh Government
Tom Davies	The Children's Society
Natalie Field	Public Health Wales
Tracy Handley	Parent Kind
Armani Hassan	RC Psychiatrists
Francis Beecher	End Youth Homelessness
Simon Jones	MIND
Ainsley Bladon	Mental Health Strategy lead
Sarah Andrews	Public Health Wales

1	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>JP welcomed everyone to the meeting and read out the apologies received before conducting a round table introduction.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes for 07 October 2019</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 07 October 2019 and the progress on the actions were reported and agreed. The minutes were amended to reflect Cath Norton's correct job title.</p>	
3	<p>Framework document</p> <p>JP opened discussion in relation to the framework document version 6.0. He noted that comments and amendments were previously requested with a deadline 14 February 2020 and these have yet to be reviewed. However, we do not anticipate this version will change dramatically and it is anticipated that the Minister will sign this off in mid-March, with a view to formal consultation commencing w/c 23 March.</p> <p>The group discussed the document page by page providing comments and updates that will be incorporated. The overall comments received from members were positive on the amount of progress made.</p> <p>DA agreed to email JP with feedback on:</p> <p>Page 9 – include a line on ND to be included Page 20 – include a line on neurodiversity within the school environment Page 28 – look at a paragraph strengthening reference to whole system</p>	<p>Action 1</p>
4	<p>Funding 2020/2021</p> <p>JP provided an update on the current draft budget, where the Ministers have committed to increasing funding on the whole school budget to £5 million for 2020/21. Ministers have previously indicated areas where they would like to see investment, including the CAMHS in-reach pilots, extending them to March 2021 to tie in with the final evaluation due in December 2020; and extending school counselling to provide counselling to below year 6. However, it was noted that in the case of the latter we are discussing with our Knowledge and Analytical Services the potential to formally review the scale of need among younger age groups and also what an appropriate delivery model would look like, as traditional 1-2-1 counselling is inappropriate for younger children. This evaluation would also consider the existing model to ensure it remains fit for purpose. In addition funding could be used to continue to fund local authorities to target waiting lists under the existing school counselling scheme; staff wellbeing and training; and delivering universal and targeted interventions in schools.</p>	

	<p>Funding will be subject to formal ministerial sign off, which we hope to receive in early March.</p> <p>A key point for discussion at the meeting was how Welsh Government could utilise some of the funding to support the implement of the framework. One area officials have been exploring is appointing coordination leads on a regional footprint to work with schools and local authorities to implement the framework. The idea of coordinators was generally well received, with their ability to encourage accountability and leadership at the local level welcomed. Group members were asked to consider and provide any thoughts or ideas on how funding could support the whole school approach by emailing the mailbox (Mentalhealth.Schools@gov.wales).</p> <p>Discussion also focused around a number of other points, including noting that while there are a lot of external agencies schools can utilise to support the mental health and well-being of their learners in some parts of Wales, there is a shortage in other areas, particularly in rural Wales. In turn, this inconsistency in external agencies availability causes concerns of inconsistent support schools are able to provide to their learners.</p>	<p>Action 2</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Online mental health resources for children and young people</p> <p>ES gave a PowerPoint presentation (attached) on a new Welsh Government project which aims to provide an overview of the digital resources to support mental health and emotional welling available locally and nationally. This will allow children and young people in Wales, along with professionals from education and health care backgrounds, to quickly access an overview of both their local provision and nationally recognised resources.</p> <p>ES mentioned that this had been discussed with young people and other stakeholders for feedback. These conversations showed that there is a general awareness that there is a lot of information offered online there is a lack of clarity of what specifically is available. A particular gap noticed was the lack of a simple way for a child or young person, their parents/carers, or involved professionals to see exactly what is available to them. While some health boards and local authorities do provide sign posting, this is not consistent across Wales and the information could be centralised.</p> <p>The PowerPoint diagram shows how an overview of online material would be made accessible from a single location point. The information will be catalogued and uploaded onto the Hwb as users are familiar with this site and it hosts other useful resources such as online safety and anti-bullying materials.</p> <p>It is expected that alpha testing will be conducted by the end of spring, with the hope of launching the revised initiative along with promotional material that local authority and health boards can circulate by autumn 2020. In the long term, the site will be reviewed and updated regularly.</p>	

	 Presentation on online mental health	
ru6	AOB There was no other business to discuss.	
7	Date of the next meeting: 06 July 2020 Location: Welsh Government Building, Cathays Park 2, Caerdydd 3 room.	