



CABINET – 15 JULY 2014

REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY REVIEW PANEL ON THE REFERRAL PATHWAY FOR OLDER PEOPLE WITH ANXIETY OR DEPRESSION

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present the key findings and recommendations of the Scrutiny Review Panel investigation into the referral pathway for older people with anxiety or depression.

Recommendation

2. The Cabinet is recommended to:
 - (a) accept the report and recommendations of the Scrutiny Review Panel;
 - (b) request the Chief Executive ensure that the recommendations of the Review are acted upon.

Reasons for Recommendations

3. The Panel has made a number of recommendations to help improve outcomes for older people with anxiety or depressions. Some of these recommendations are made to the Health Service and therefore this report is also being submitted to the governing bodies of the County Clinical Commissioning Groups.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

4. The Review Panel was established in winter 2013. The Scrutiny Commissioners, when appointing the Panel, considered that scrutiny activity in this area was timely as it would address the recommendation in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment which identified the need for people over the age of 65 to have better access to mental health services.. The findings of the Panel will also be fed into the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Strategic Mental Health Group which oversees the delivery of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Priority of improving mental health and wellbeing.

Background

Scope of the Panel

7. The following outcomes for the Review were identified by the Scrutiny Commissioners:-
- (i) To understand the referral pathways for older people with anxiety and depression and identify any areas where access or service provision could be improved;
 - (ii) To understand the quality of services provided to older people and the outcomes for users regarding anxiety and depression;
 - (iii) To examine the partnership arrangements currently in place and make recommendations for improved integration in the light of examples of best practice;
 - (iv) To identify ways of increasing the potential for older people suffering from more than one medical condition to access appropriate support for anxiety and depression.

Membership of the Panel

8. The following members were appointed to serve on the Panel:
- Mrs R Camamile CC
 - Dr T Eynon CC
 - Mr J Kaufman CC
 - Mr D Jennings CC
 - Mr W Liquorish CC

Report of the Panel

9. The Panel's Final Report, including conclusions and recommendations, is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

Consideration by the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11 June 2014

10. The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11 June agreed the following:-
- a) That the report of the Scrutiny Review Panel on the Referral Pathway for Older People with Anxiety or Depression be supported and that the recommendations therein be referred to the Cabinet and County Clinical Commissioning Groups for consideration;
 - b) That recommendation (b) of the report be amended to include reference to Day Centres;

- c) That the Chairman of the Panel be requested to liaise with the appropriate Cabinet Lead Member, Chief Officer, and partners with a view to monitoring progress made against the recommendations.

Background Papers

11. File containing the reports submitted to the Scrutiny Review Panel on the Referral Pathway for Older People with Anxiety or Depression and minutes of the meetings of the Panel.

Resources Implications

12. None specifically arising from this report.

Equal Opportunities Implications

13. In the course of its investigation the Panel had focused particularly on the needs of socially excluded groups, including those identified as protected in the Equalities Act 2010.

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

14. None.

Appendix

Final Report Scrutiny Review Panel on the Referral Pathway for Older People with Anxiety or Depression

Officer to contact

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