

**To:** City Executive Board

**Date:** 15 October 2014

**Report of:** Head of Policy, Culture and Communications

**Title of Report:** Towards Mental Health and Wellbeing in Oxford

## Summary and Recommendations

**Purpose of report:** Oxford City Council agreed a motion on [3<sup>rd</sup> February 2014](#), setting out its support for mental wellbeing and outlining some specific actions.

In response, this document sets out what the Council is and will be doing to turn the Council motion into operational reality.

**Key decision** Yes (city-wide)

**Executive lead member:** Councillor Ed Turner, Board Member for Finance, Asset Management and Public Health

**Policy Framework:** The Corporate Plan: Strong, Active Communities

**Recommendations:** That the City Executive Board:

- a) Notes the response to the motion, including the proposed action plan
- b) Agrees that the Challenge Panel of Elected Member Champions for mental health and wellbeing should act as an informal advisory group to the Executive Board Member for Health and undertake the other actions proposed in the response and action plan
- c) Asks the Member Challenge Panel to play an active role in monitoring progress on the action plan

### **Appendices to report:**

- Appendix 1 Response to the motion with action plan (with Annexes 1-6)
- Appendix 2 Risk register

Appendix 3 Initial equality impact assessment

Appendix 4 Draft outline – Member Challenge Panel for Mental Health and Wellbeing

## Introduction

1. Council confirmed its support for people with mental health conditions in February this year. It acknowledged that it is not directly responsible for healthcare provision, including mental health, but nonetheless has an important role to play in:
  - a) taking action itself (both as an employer and as a provider of services), involving a number of service areas and elected members
  - b) supporting mental health work and best practice in partnership forums.

## The response to the motion

2. The City Council has developed a response to help turn the motion into actions in partnership with key stakeholders within and outside the Council, including Oxfordshire MIND.
3. The document includes additional information:
  - Annex 2 summarises key points from the 2013 report on *Building Resilient Communities* by the Mental Health Foundation and MIND, referred to in the Council motion
  - Annex 3 gives a range of examples of Council services already making a positive contribution to mental health and wellbeing
  - Annex 4 gives an overview of the national context and local responsibilities and work around mental health
  - Annex 5 provides an overview of evidence (a separate background paper on selected local indicators for mental health and wellbeing is also available on [www.oxford.gov.uk/oxfordstats](http://www.oxford.gov.uk/oxfordstats))
  - Annex 6 includes links to relevant national and local documents.

## The action plan

4. An action plan has been developed to show how the Council will:
  - deliver on specific proposals included in the original motion
  - embed wellbeing approaches across key services and work with partners.
5. Actions are set out in the body of the response document, with further details in a table in Annex 1. They are organised under the following headings, in line with the Council motion:
  - a) Elected members

- b) Mindful employer
- c) Promoting wellbeing
- d) Partnership working.

### **Level of risk**

- 6. A risk register has been completed and is included as Appendix 2.

### **Equalities impact**

- 7. An initial equality impact assessment has been completed and is included as Appendix 3. It shows that a positive impact on equalities is anticipated from adopting the proposed response and action plan.

### **Financial implications**

- 8. There are some very limited financial implications. For example, there will be a small fee, payable every two years, for membership of the Mindful Employer Network. The panel of elected member champions might also need support. It is intended that these will be delivered within existing resources. Priorities within the relevant service area will be reviewed if it becomes apparent that this is not possible.
- 9. Where the Council is contributing towards mental wellbeing and community resilience by reviewing existing policies or contracts, any financial implications will be considered as part of that process. This includes re-commissioning advice services, revising the Housing Strategy and developing a Leisure and Wellbeing Strategy.

### **Legal Implications**

- 10. There are no legal implications for the Council.

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**List of background papers:**None

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