

Agenda Item

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Title/Subject: Mental Health Strategy: Action 15 Funding Proposal
Meeting: Integration Joint Board
Date: 6 September 2019
Submitted By: Chief Finance Officer
Action: For Decision

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to present the Integration Joint Board (IJB) with the Action 15 Planning and Monitoring Group recommendation for funding for Community Mental Health Nurses attached to the Justice Service.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The IJB is asked to:

- 2.1. approve the use of Action 15 funds to appoint two Community Mental Health Nurses
- 2.2. delegate decision making for future funding proposals to the HSCP Leadership Group for the remaining balance of funding.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. The Mental Health Strategy 2017 - 2027 contains a number of actions for the realisation of the ambition to achieve parity of esteem between the prevention and treatment of mental ill health and physical ill health across Scotland. One of these actions is to:

“Increase the workforce to give access to dedicated mental health professionals to all A&Es, all GP practices, every police station custody suite, and to our prisons. Over the next five years increasing additional investment to £35 million for 800 additional mental health workers in those key settings.”

3.2. The funding allocation to the Forth Valley area is shown in the table below:

| | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| Falkirk | £315,580 | £487,715 | £688,539 | £918,051 |
| Clackmannanshire and Stirling | £280,549 | £433,575 | £612,106 | £816,141 |
| Total | £596,129 | £921,290 | £1,300,645 | £1,734,192 |

4. ACTION 15 FUNDING UPDATE

4.1. The Board received a report in October 2018 outlining the purpose of Action 15 funding and approved proposals for the allocation of this funding. The Forth Valley wide projects approved were:

- Enhancement of Liaison Psychiatry
- Provision of local Eating Disorder Liaison Service
- Police Access to Mental Health Assessment
- Night Buddies
- Decider Training
- Primary Care Psychology Enhancement
- Establishment of 24/7 Emergency Mental Health Assessment Service
- Establishment of an Adult Autism Assessment Service.

4.2. The following projects have either not proceeded or there has been a change in the project as follows:

- Night Buddies – there were no bids from third sector organisations. The development of the Mental Health Acute Assessment and Treatment Service (MHAATS) to provide Police with access to mental health services has addressed the identified need
- Social Work post for the Adult Autism Service – following further engagement, there is limited evidence of need for this post across the Forth Valley area and people can be supported within existing provision
- Social Work in Prisons – following further engagement with Prisons, this has resulted in the proposal for Community Mental Health Nurses based in Justice Service. Further information is set out below.

4.3. The Action 15 Planning and Monitoring Group have been liaising to consider bids for these funds. The group has a role to help plan and monitor the effectiveness of the projects funded through Action 15. The group comprises stakeholders from across both Health and Social Care Partnership's, Police and Justice Services.

- 4.4. The group has identified the need for Community Mental Health Nurses attached to the Justice Service, rather than Social Work posts. The nurses will provide support to people with enduring mental health needs who are subject to community based orders. They will also provide an outreach service to those in custody nearing release. This aims to ensure a seamless transition for people back into the community.
- 4.5. The Community Mental Health Nurses will also provide support as identified by an individualised care plan with the aim to improve the individual's quality of life whilst reducing stigma of mental illness within the community and supporting their journey to recovery.
- 4.6. The nurses will work in partnership with Justice Services, Scottish Prison Service, both HSCP's and other agencies to provide an accessible and responsive service to meet peoples mental health needs. This will help them to support the individual's engagement with statutory supervision requirements.
- 4.7. The HSCP Leadership Group has supported this proposal which was presented at a meeting on 4 July 2019. This included support to fund the posts on a permanent basis. The rationale for permanent funding is that the recruitment of Mental Health Nurses is challenging and temporary posts have shown to be unattractive to external candidates. With the ongoing challenges within NHS Forth Valley none of the Nursing Services are in a position to release staff to secondment opportunities. The funding from Action 15 is recurrent and therefore offsets the financial risk to the partnership.
- 4.8. As this is a Forth Valley proposal, there will be approval sought through the respective arrangements in Clackmannanshire and Stirling IJB.
- 4.9. The Board is asked to approve the proposal for two Band 6 Community Mental Health Nurses working 30 hours each week.
- 4.10. As a result of the above, a Forth Valley balance of £94,940 is now available for use in 2019/2020. Assuming that none of the existing projects are withdrawn the Forth Valley budget is subsequently:
- 2020/21 – £305,831 unallocated funding
 - 2021/22 - £739,378 unallocated funding
- 4.11. The Board is asked to delegate decision making for future funding proposals to the HSCP Leadership Group for the remaining balance of funding. It is anticipated that this will be allocated in line with the pressure areas across mental health where innovation is most needed. Specifically this would relate to development of posts within the scope of the Primary Care Improvement Plan and within Prison healthcare. Proposals will also be considered in line with the Mental Health Strategic commissioning work, with the services provided via Action 15 factored into the planning for future services.

- 4.12. Future funding decisions will be reported to the IJB in the Partnership Funding report.

5. CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1. The proposal set before the IJB is to endorse the use of part of the Action 15 fund on the recruitment of Community Mental Health Nurses to work with the Justice Services.

Resource Implications

It is estimated that in the current financial year these posts will cost a total of £40,706. There will be a recurring cost, met by Action 15, which in 2020/2021 is forecast to total £82,493.

Impact on IJB Outcomes and Priorities

These posts will support the provision of inclusive and accessible mental health services within the local community.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no pertinent legal implications for this paper. The risks are present in the form of financial risk when creating new posts and the ongoing affordability of these posts, however this is offset by the recurring nature of the Action 15 funding source.

Consultation

Action 15 Planning and Monitoring Group is comprised of staff from across all areas where Action 15 is applicable.

Equalities Assessment

There are no implications on equality and diversity.

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Date: 28 August 2019

List of Background Papers:

5 October 2018 IJB report: Mental Health Strategy Action 15