

## **TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD**

**DATE: 6 DECEMBER 2017**

**REPORT TITLE: TOXIC TRIO PRIORITY WORKSTREAM UPDATE**

**REPORT OF: DIRECTOR, CHILDREN AND ADULT SERVICES**

**LEAD CABINET MEMBER – CLLR P R WATLING**

### **PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT**

#### **1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS**

- 1.1. The “toxic trio” is defined as domestic abuse, substance misuse (alcohol and/or drugs) and poor mental health. These three factors are viewed as indicators of increased risk of harm to children and young people.
- 1.2. There is already strong collaborative work underway amongst HWB partners on individual strategies plans for these three factors. The specific aim of this priority work stream is to strengthen our partnership approach to addressing the toxic trio in a more integrated to reduce the risk and improve outcomes for those families who are most vulnerable.
- 1.3. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the work that has been undertaken in the last 6 months and outline the next step in this work.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Board notes the:

- a) Work of the Toxic Trio priority work stream outlined in Section B) 1.5; and
- b) Highlights any further areas of partnership working to be considered.

#### **3. IMPACT OF ACTION**

Aligning individual strategies to address the three factors that make up the toxic trio will enable a strengthened approach to reducing the risk of the Borough’s most vulnerable families.

The joining up process will ensure that actions and interventions are systematic, and comprehensive, across the partnership and organisations in the Borough.

#### **4. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

<b>COMMUNITY IMPACT</b>	Do these proposals contribute to a specific HWB Priority	
	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging Healthier Lifestyles</li> <li>• Improve Mental Wellbeing and Mental Health</li> <li>• Strengthen our communities and community-based support</li> </ul>
	Do these proposals contribute to specific Co-Operative Council priority objective(s)?	
	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• put our children and young people first</li> <li>• improve local people's prospects through education and skills training</li> <li>• protect and support our vulnerable children and adults</li> <li>• improve the health and wellbeing of our communities and address health inequalities</li> </ul>
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
Yes	The toxic trio work stream will impact on the most vulnerable children and adults in the borough.	
<b>TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further update on progress to HWB in June 2018.</li> </ul>	
<b>FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT</b>	Yes	<p>The Council holds a specific budget in support of Substance Misuse services which is funded from Public Health Grant. In 2017/18 this budget is £2.437m.</p> <p>The Public Health grant allocation to the Council has been reduced by around 10% over the last 3 years (to 2017/18) with a reduction of £0.33m advised for 2018/19. Further reductions and changes in this grant and other Council funding is expected in future years. The Council will need to find a further £20m of savings by the end of 2019/20 and this may impact on the funding for this work stream.</p> <p>It is anticipated any work associated with the recommendations in this report will be met from within existing resources but this will be kept under review as part of the programmed monitoring process.</p> <p>The focus for this work stream will be the</p>

		<p>connections between actions in the various plans to ensure systematic and comprehensive collaborative action and this approach should promote a more effective and efficient use of the resources available in order to deliver the desired outcomes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>TS 22.11.2017</i></p>
<p><b>LEGAL ISSUES</b></p>	<p>Yes/No</p>	<p>Under Section 195 Health and Social Care Act 2012 the Health and Wellbeing Board must, for the purpose of advancing the health and wellbeing of the people in its area, encourage persons who arrange for the provision of any health or social care services in that area to work in an integrated manner.</p> <p>Section 2B of the National Health Service Act 2006 requires each local authority to take such steps as it considers appropriate for improving the health of the people in its area.</p> <p>The Public Health Outcomes Framework Indicators were last updated on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2017. Domestic abuse, substance abuse and mental health are included in a range of the listed indicators.</p> <p>In respect of the governance arrangements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Care Act 2014 Section 43 requires each local authority to establish a Safeguarding Adults Board (“SAB”) for its area. The objective is to help and protect adults in its area in cases as described in Section 42.</li> <li>• The SAB must seek to achieve its objective by coordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of its member’s activities and may do anything which appears to it to be necessary, or desirable, for the purpose of achieving its objective.</li> </ul> <p>The Children Act 2004 at Sections 13-16 sets out the statutory responsibilities of local authorities to establish Local Safeguarding Children Boards, the required membership</p>

		<p>and funding arrangements. The objective is to co-ordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area of the authority by which it is established; and to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.</p> <p>The outcomes of the workstream are likely to inform the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment in due course.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>KF 23.11.2017</i></p>
<b>EQUALITY &amp; DIVERSITY</b>	No	N/A
<b>IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS</b>	No	However, the prevalence and impact of the complex trio of substance misuse problems, mental health issues and domestic abuse are greater in our most disadvantaged communities.
<b>PATIENTS &amp; PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT</b>	Yes	<p>There is extensive public, patient and service user engagement work undertaken on an on-going basis for both the drug and alcohol and mental health strategies for Telford &amp; Wrekin</p> <p>Further specific engagement work will be carried out to support the work stream development.</p>
<b>OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS &amp; OPPORTUNITIES</b>	Yes	This links to work across the Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards as well as the Safer Telford & Wrekin Partnership.

## **PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **1. INFORMATION**

- 1.1. The “toxic trio” is defined as domestic abuse, substance misuse (alcohol and/or drugs) and poor mental health. These three factors are viewed as indicators of increased risk of harm to children and young people.
- 1.2. The main focus of this work-stream is domestic abuse as the other two factors are part of separate work-streams. The HWB received an update on the implementation of the Mental Health Strategy in June 2017 and will receive an update on Substance Misuse in March 2018.

## **Work Stream progress**

- 1.3. Task and finish groups commenced the work in May 2017, following the agreement of the HWB in March, and the subsequent agreements by the Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards, and Safer Telford & Wrekin Partnership.
- 1.4. The domestic abuse work programme includes the following elements:
  - Understanding the level of domestic abuse in the Borough,
  - Reviewing the current domestic abuse safeguarding pathways to ensure that they are fit for purpose, evidence based and meet needs;
  - Reviewing the current targeted support services for domestic abuse and ensuring they are sustainable and meet the needs as outlined in 1.5.2;
  - Raising awareness, training and education of professionals; and
  - Evaluation and monitoring of progress.
- 1.5. Since the work commenced the following areas have been progressed.

1.5.1. **Understanding the level of domestic abuse in the Borough.** A review of the data available has been undertaken. The data provided a population level context for domestic abuse which has informed the Safer Telford & Wrekin Strategy as well as the development of the strategic plan for Safeguarding Boards. The following extract from the Safer Telford & Wrekin Strategy 2017-2019 provides the information that has been used to inform these strategies:

- In 2016/17, there were 2,320 crimes<sup>i</sup> recorded that were marked as domestic abuse incidents. This correlates to a rate of 134.1 per 10,000 population. The rate of crimes recorded as domestic abuse in Telford and Wrekin is the highest in West Mercia and compares with an average across the force area of 83.5 per 10,000 population.
- There were 2,439 recorded offences<sup>ii</sup> of domestic abuse in Telford and Wrekin in 2016/17. 29% of these offences resulted in an arrest.

During the work it was established that in order to provide a more comprehensive view of domestic abuse to inform future service provision further data analysis by a Senior Research and Intelligence Officer (Telford & Wrekin Council) was required. This will be undertaken in the next few months and progressed through the Domestic Abuse Thematic Sub-group.

1.5.2. **Domestic Abuse Safeguarding Pathways.** The safeguarding pathways for adults and children have been reviewed. The review highlighted some good practice across the partnership, as well as some areas for development, including the need for a voluntary perpetrator programme. The results are being presented to the sub-group in December for a decision around next steps.

1.5.3. **Domestic Abuse Support available.** During the safeguarding pathway review the support currently available was mapped and includes a variety of support programmes across the partnership, ranging from one to one support from Early Help and Support Practitioners, to the Freedom Programme, and the Independent Domestic Violence Advocates provided by West Mercia Women's Aid. The Sub-group's next stage is to identify areas where further support is needed for victims, their families and perpetrators. This work will also be linked in with the work being

undertaken to deliver the Mental Health Strategy around Emotional Trauma Support.

1.5.4. **Raising awareness of Domestic Abuse.** The content of the Family Connect website has been updated and refreshed. This now includes a [specific page for domestic abuse](#) which provides information about what domestic abuse is, what support is available for victims, and how to access it. Family Connect continues to be widely promoted across the partnership as a point of contact and information for safeguarding concerns, including domestic abuse.

1.5.5. Telford continues to be a White Ribbon Town which means that the Council and its partners support people who campaign to step up and positively make a stand towards ending domestic abuse. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year of being a White Ribbon Town and every year a White Ribbon Event is held asking people to pledge their support towards ending domestic abuse. The event this year was on 24<sup>th</sup> November at the Park Lane Centre and was specifically raising awareness of the support available to victims of domestic abuse in the Borough. The evaluation of the event will be presented to the Sub-group to establish the event's reach and impact.

1.6. At the first meeting of the sub-group the actions for the next 12 months will be identified, including an update of the Domestic Abuse Strategy.

### ***Oversight and governance***

1.7. The Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards are leading this work through a newly formed Domestic Abuse Thematic Sub-group. The first meeting of this sub-group is in December and is made up of strategic leads for domestic abuse, substance misuse and mental health across the partnership and third sector.

1.8. The ongoing monitoring of the progress will be through the already existing governance structures of the Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards. However, the overall progress of this work stream will be reported regularly to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

## **2. IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Nothing further to add at this time.

## **3. PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- Health & Wellbeing Board 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016: Proposed Priority Work Streams report
- Health & Wellbeing Board 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017: Priority Work-stream Toxic Trio Scope report
- Health & Wellbeing Board 14<sup>th</sup> June 2017: Mental Health Update report

## **4. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

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<sup>i</sup> A crime is defined by the Home Office Counting Rules (HOCR). The HOCR require:

*“An incident will be recorded as a crime (notifiable offence)*

1. *For offences against an identified victim if, on the balance of probability:*
  - a. *The circumstances as reported amount to a crime defined by law (the police will determine this, based on their knowledge of the law and counting rules), and*
  - b. *There is no credible evidence to the contrary.*
2. *For offences against the state the points to prove to evidence the offence must clearly be made out, before a crime is recorded.”*

<sup>ii</sup> The HOCR state that *“Once the police have decided to record a crime, they then need to determine how many crimes to record and what offences have been committed. Consider, for example, a burglary where the car keys are taken from a house and the car has been stolen:*

- *This may involve two offences: a burglary; and theft of a motor vehicle.*
- *If there is only one victim and only one offender for all these offences then only one crime would be recorded, although the offender may be charged and convicted of all the offences.*
- *If there are two or more victims in the same incident, a crime should be recorded for each victim.”*