

<b>Subject:</b>	Health & Wellbeing Update	<b>Status:</b>	For Publication
<b>Report to:</b>	Cabinet	<b>Date:</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> October 2020
<b>Report of:</b>	Director of Communities	<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Health & Leisure
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>General Exception</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Special Urgency</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Equality Impact Assessment:</b>	Required:	No	Attached: No
<b>Biodiversity Impact Assessment</b>	Required:	No	Attached: No
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Adam Allen	<b>Telephone:</b>	01706
<b>Email:</b>	adamallen@rossendalebc.gov.uk		

## 1. RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 Cabinet consider the latest development in health partnerships and governance structures and support the development of a health and wellbeing strategy for Rossendale.

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of the report is to bring Cabinet members up to date with the latest developments around health and wellbeing in Rossendale and seek agreement on the proposed way forward including the development of a Rossendale Community health and wellbeing strategy.

## 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Since the last Cabinet report on health in November 2019 a number of changes in senior management and portfolio holders, together with the community response to Covid 19, have highlighted further the need for a place based approach to health in Rossendale. This proposal will establish the right partnership structure and work programme in order to develop this place based approach and a Community Health and Wellbeing strategy for Rossendale with a focus on mental health.

- 3.2 Rossendale Council's corporate priority 3 is to ensure we are creating and maintaining a healthy and vibrant place for people to live and visit. Objectives contributing to this for 20/21 include:

- Working with partners in the health and voluntary sector to develop a Health and Wellbeing strategy for the borough
- To review partnerships and identify which partnerships the council should focus on including providing new training for members and officers on their role in these priority partnerships

Expectations by central government of the role of district councils in health are increasing as demonstrated during the pandemic. It will be the aim of the strategy to understand the council's contribution to health and to maximize its impact.

In its community leadership role, the council is well placed to bring together key partners at a local level and sub-regional level so objectives and activity is better coordinated to ensure maximum benefit for Rossendale. The strategy will also put in place structures and partnerships to achieve this.

Many factors have led the council to consider its community leadership role in health at this

time - as a direct deliverer, enabler and partnership member.

### 3.3 These factors are:

- Rossendale Primary Care Network (PCN) was officially launched one year ago. Strong relationships have been formed between medical professionals and other agencies, in particular, the council and the Leisure Trust. We have worked together well during the pandemic. We have worked with the PCN to develop a Place and Person based approach to health within which the council will have a central role.
- The Covid 19 pandemic has put a spotlight on health and our community and partner response which has been excellent. It brought individuals and organisations together with a common purpose and it is important that we learn lessons and make the most of those new relationships.
- Rossendale Connected (RC) is the name of the community vehicle which brought together neighbourhood based community organisations with G.P.s, pharmacists, the council, Leisure Trust, the Police, Citizens Advice, Stubblee greenhouses and many more. There are plans to develop RC as an umbrella for existing partnerships, organisations and individuals to improve health and wellbeing in Rossendale using a Place and Person based approach. Rossendale Connected is not purely about health, it covers all community activity. The majority of groups and organisations do however have a positive impact on Health and Wellbeing.
- Although there is considerable activity by a wide range of health organisations (including the CCG and voluntary organisations) this is complex and to some extent fragmented. The council can play a key role, working with the PCN, to take a more joined up approach to health at the local level.

3.4 The approach outlined in this report follows a review of RBC's membership of health partnerships at a regional and local level in order to determine the most appropriate way to contribute and ensure we secure resources for Rossendale, our voice is heard and we make a better collective impact on health outcomes.

### 3.5 **Local emphasis**

Rossendale already has a number of well-established partnerships around health and we need to ensure that these are supported and enabled to contribute to priority setting, providing insight and examples of good practice. These are:

**Rossendale Health and Wellbeing partnership** – in its current iteration, this partnership has been established for 4 years, chaired for most of that time by Cllr. Barbara Ashworth. The partnership is supported by the council's Communities team. The partnership has current priorities which are:

- Smoking cessation
- Physical activity
- Mental health – including loneliness and isolation

The Partnership held a workshop on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020 to begin to identify how it can work more closely with the PCN – Community. Feedback from the meeting indicated full support for the partnership to continue, set priorities using robust data and feed community intelligence

back to the PCN and through the PCN to sub regional partners where appropriate.

**Rossendale PCN community** – established formally in July 2019 as part of NHS strategy nationally. Rossendale has two PCNs, East and West but they meet as one. Every other month the second hour of the meeting is the PCN Community chaired by Ken Masser and including membership from the Council, Lancs Fire and Rescue, Children and Families Wellbeing Service and CVS. It is supported by Andy Lavery from ELCCG. The PCN has overseen the successful Together an Active future bid and is the responsible body for this initiative. It has also discussed excess winter deaths and suicide as particular issues for Rossendale.

**Rossendale Connected** – this is the name given to the Covid 19 hub and all of the individuals and organisations that contributed to it. There have been weekly zoom meetings to discuss immediate needs, priorities and issues surrounding the pandemic. Many of the attendees are also members of the Health and Wellbeing partnership and/or the PCN Community. New micro neighbourhood organisations have evolved in response to the crisis.

A number of clear areas of work have emerged from Rossendale Connected including food availability, volunteer retention and opportunities and readily accessible information on available activities. Lead organisations for these areas of work have been identified:

- Food - the Rossendale Community Support network
- Volunteer activity – CVS
- Haslingden Community Link for access to information through the resurrection of, and ongoing support to the REAL directory

Going forward Rossendale Connected is being seen as a principle or set of principles around how everyone involved in the place of Rossendale connects together for the good of the Borough.

The Rossendale Connected meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> July secured agreement from participants on a way forward which includes monthly meetings whilst Covid 19 remains an issue, engagement sessions throughout July to find out what people got from the meetings and what, if any, support they require in the future.

In addition, work to develop the REAL directory was agreed and a Rossendale Connected Conference on 12 November.

It is not considered that we need any new local structures or partnerships at this time, rather that we look at any gaps and look to strengthen the links between existing partnerships.

We do however feel that there is a need for more structured engagement with sub-regional partners such as Mental Health, Children's, Adults and Public Health to understand their objectives for the sub-region in order for Rossendale to support where appropriate and maximize the opportunities for the Borough. This structured engagement will also allow the voice of the Rossendale community to be heard in order to inform sub-regional strategic planning.

### 3.6 How to bring it all together?

<b>Next steps/actions</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>1. Sub regional engagement event involving LCC, NHS, RBC</b>	<b>October 2020</b>
<b>2. Rossendale Connected conference</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> November 2020</b>
<b>3. RBC staff engagement workshop to explore services' contribution to health</b>	<b>December 2020</b>
<b>4. Health and Wellbeing Strategy</b>	<b>First draft by end January 2021</b>

### **3.7 Sub Regional Partners**

The council will add value by concentrating on work at a sub-regional level, bringing together representatives from statutory partners to understand their health priorities and activity in Rossendale. Community feedback information will also flow from the HWB partnership to the PCN and then to the sub-regional level for consideration in sub regional strategies. A structured sub-regional engagement event focusing on Rossendale as a place will take place annually and this will feed into the PCN and HWB partnership.

It is proposed that the first sub-regional engagement event will take place in October 2020 to start the process of sharing insight and intelligence and to begin to strengthen the relationships. It is anticipated that this meeting becomes an annual needs assessment for Rossendale. The outcomes of the first meeting will feed into the planned Rossendale Connected conference on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

This structure will ensure that we take a place based approach to health and that it is evidence based, whilst also listening to the voice of the community.

### **3.8 Rossendale Connected conference**

Rossendale Connected is the name given to the Covid 19 community response hub and is now a brand being developed to connect together everyone with an interest in Rossendale. A day conference is planned for November to bring organisations together from across all sectors to consider insight and intelligence for the borough and plan how to work better together to improve the health and wellbeing of local people.

### **3.9 PCN Community/Health and Wellbeing Partnership**

It is proposed that the existing PCN Community group be strengthened and any gaps in membership be addressed. This will be the strategic place based group for Rossendale. The Health and Wellbeing Partnership undertook a recent workshop to examine areas that are perceived as strengths and possible improvement areas. It was recognised that connecting better with other health partners and understanding the wider health landscape were key areas of possible improvement. It is proposed that the PCN Community Group link closely with the HWB partnership to provide strategic leadership and support. The partnership will be the key vehicle for community engagement and delivery.

### **3.10 Council services**

In addition to better aligning the Rossendale partnerships and improving connections sub-regionally; a second strand of work will commence. This work will establish the council's contribution to health and examine ways that we can maximize our impact on the Health and Wellbeing of Rossendale. This will look at low cost changes to service delivery that increase our impact on health and also increase awareness amongst front line staff of the health landscape and the options available to support people and refer to partner agencies.

Within the above structure, the council will not directly deliver any additional health related early intervention or prevention activities. We have worked with the PCN and VCS to establish a team of approximately ten officers that will be co-located at a Ski Rossendale office to deliver a place based approach to early intervention and prevention. These staff will include Social Prescribers, Community Connectors and experts such as dieticians and possibly Occupational Therapists. The work of this team will support people who need help and also connect people with community resources and appropriate agencies.

Strong progress has been made at a local level to understand the current landscape and establish consensus and support for better alignment. The early intervention resource is also taking shape. Connecting these two elements at a sub-regional level is considered to be the main challenge in implementing the new model.

Following on from the sub-regional engagement event and the Rossendale Connected conference, work will start on a Community Health and Wellbeing strategy for Rossendale which will bring together data and intelligence, local knowledge and delivery and an agreed action plan to improve health and wellbeing for residents.

#### **4. RISK**

4.1 It is essential that the correct and effective governance structures are in place to impact on health and wellbeing in Rossendale. Local engagement is considered to be strong, but further work is required at a sub-regional level to effectively engage partners in a place based approach for Rossendale and to use stronger leadership to drive change. Absence of a clear strategy and stronger leadership is likely to result in only limited and disjointed progress being made on the health agenda.

#### **5. FINANCE**

5.1 There are no financial implications at this stage. It is likely there will be financial implications arising from the suggested actions, these will be brought to Cabinet for consideration prior to implementation.

#### **6. LEGAL**

6.1 There are no legal implications arising out of this report.

#### **7. POLICY AND EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 This work will develop into a community focused Health and Wellbeing strategy for Rossendale. Health implications will then need to be considered as the council develops other future strategies.

#### **8. CONCLUSIONS**

8.1 The council is keen to develop and grow its' role in health, providing greater community leadership to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for residents. We want to work in partnership and in appropriate ways with our partners and members to improve the health and wellbeing of people in Rossendale. We want to identify shared objectives and base our priorities on need using the latest data and intelligence from our sub regional partners, our

PCN partners and our community partners. The council can play a clear role in bringing together sub-regional partners and supporting and participating in existing partnerships more effectively. The council has a role to convene, facilitate and influence. This report sets out how we might best achieve that.

<b>Background Papers</b>	
<b>Document</b>	<b>Place of Inspection</b>
Cabinet - Health and Wellbeing Update (27 November 2019)	<a href="https://www.rossendale.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/1131/cabinet">https://www.rossendale.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/1131/cabinet</a>