

Committee	Dated:
Community & Children's Services Committee – For decision	7 th March 2018
Subject: Mental Health Centre	Public
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Decision
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Summary

This report proposes the piloting of a mental health centre in the Square Mile to provide range of clinical treatments to tackle mental ill health. The centre's provision will include low cost interventions for workers and residents on low incomes. This will be enabled by provision of a rent free shop unit from which to operate. To ensure the rent loss does not impact on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), the department will seek funding through the Priorities Pot funding process.

Recommendations

Members of Community and Children's Services are asked to:

- support the piloting of the proposed mental health centre for a three year period.

Main Report

Background

1. Mental health, particularly mental ill health, is a high-profile issue and supporting good mental health among our resident and worker populations is a key strategic priority. The City Corporation's 2017 Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy commits to improving services, tackling the issue and increasing opportunities for intervention. This is consistent with the department's Business Plan and the draft Corporate Strategy.

Current Position

2. The City and Hackney Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) City Supplement (2014) identifies that 21 per cent of City workers report suffering from depression, anxiety, or other mental health conditions. Among residents, the JSNA estimates that 1,300 of 19 to 64-year-olds have at least one common mental health disorder, of whom half have depression and/ or anxiety.

3. The availability and access to NHS services for City residents experiencing poor mental health is limited both in terms of the range of interventions available and the timeliness in which they can be accessed. Some interventions – such as psychotherapy - are rarely available on the NHS.
4. For those working in the Square Mile, local NHS mental health services are generally not available other than for crisis intervention. For some this is mitigated by access to private or subsidised healthcare by their employer, but this accounts for only half the working population. Those without such cover tend to be lower paid and find it difficult to access either NHS or private healthcare, including mental health treatments.

Options

5. The department is proposing to deliver a mental health centre in the City to provide additional clinical interventions to those working and living in the Square Mile, including lower-paid workers. This would improve access to treatment, and extend the type of treatments available.
6. The centre would deliver a range of clinical therapeutic approaches to tackle mental ill health. Although a paid for service, the centre's offer would include low-cost treatments for low income workers and residents, based on cross subsidy from clients paying full price and reinvestment of any surplus.
7. To achieve this outcome it is proposed to offer a shop unit (from those held within the HRA) to the chosen provider at zero rent for three years during the pilot period.
8. The department will seek funding to compensate the HRA for rent loss through the Priorities Pot funding process. To further support the delivery and viability of the centre, the department is also seeking funding to refurbish a shop unit for this purpose as part of a bid to that process.
9. Shop units at the Middlesex Street Estate attract rents ranging from £25,000 - £35,000 per annum. The department proposes the use of a single unit. However, it has been suggested that the proposed centre would be more viable at scale, and therefore should occupy two shop units. Such an approach would increase the cost of reimbursing the rent loss to the HRA.
10. If Members support the proposal, including the reimbursement of rent to the HRA, the department's commissioning team would seek a provider through competitive and transparent process. It is intended that a three year period of operation would be offered to allow the reach and impact of the centre to be properly tested and a sustainability model developed.
11. The commissioning process would set out our ambitions for the scheme. It would place an emphasis on attracting providers who are either charities, social enterprises, SMEs or consortia of practitioners, and the evaluation of

submissions would be based on clinical excellence, potential outcomes and social value.

12. The department would favour proposals that offer a range of short, medium and longer term therapeutic interventions to maximise the breadth of the centre's impact. Providers would also be assessed on their proposal to tackle barriers to participation, including the range and quantum of services to those on lower incomes.
13. If Members support the delivery of this proposal, and funding from the Priorities Pot is secured, it is suggested that DCCS convene a steering group, including Member representation, to take it forward.

Proposals

14. Members are asked to support the proposed health centre as set out above.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

15. The above relates to the Department of Community and Children's Services' Business Plan (2017-22), which lists a priority objective as health and wellbeing, specifically that "people of all ages enjoy good health and wellbeing".
16. It also relates to the draft Corporate Plan (2018-23), where a corporate outcome within the strategic objective of "contributing to a flourishing society" is that "people enjoy good health and wellbeing".

Implications

17. The operational, human resource and clinical risk of this provision would rest with the provider and be subject to monitoring by the commissioning team within DCCS.

Conclusion

18. The Department of Community and Children's Services, within the City Corporation, has committed to supporting the mental wellbeing of the different populations within the Square Mile and is able to effect real change in this area by addressing gaps. The proposed centre provides a tangible opportunity to demonstrate the City's commitment, and provide treatments to those who currently are unable to access them.

Appendices

- None

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