

Report on	Department of Health - Draft Mental Health Strategy 2021 - 2031 - Consultation Response
Date of Meeting	9 th March 2021
Reporting Officer	Mark Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform Members of the Department of Health Consultation on the Draft Mental Health Strategy 2021-2031 and to seek Members' approval for the Mid Ulster District Council's Draft Response.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Department of Health is currently consulting on the 10 year Draft Mental Health Strategy 2021 – 2031. The consultation closes on 26 th March 2021.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	A draft Consultation Response has been prepared by the Council's Community Planning team for Members' consideration. A consultation session was held for Members and representatives from Community and Voluntary led mental health and counselling groups on 18 February 2021. Groups that were unable to attend on the night were able to submit their views via email.
3.2	<p>The draft Strategy contains a Vision statement, seven Principles, three Themes and 29 Actions. The three themes are :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting Wellbeing and Resilience; - Providing the right support at the right time through Prevention and Early Intervention; and - New Ways of Working.
3.3	The Council's response includes the main issues identified by Members and views provided by the community/voluntary sector consultees.
3.4	<p>The draft response covers the following in more detail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A regionally consistent approach to the delivery of mental health services including a clear pathway model to help people navigate through the mental health care system regardless of where they live, the level of care they require and the level of service they need.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term funding to deliver the actions contained in the draft Strategy rather than on a year-on-year basis and proper levels of funding to support the community and voluntary sector to provide early intervention therapies before people reach crisis point. • Central Government funding for schools, including pre-schools, to take forward an agenda of promotion, early intervention and prevention. • The connection between poor mental health and vulnerability including poverty, deprivation and addiction and the correlation between physical and mental health, both influenced and dependent on the other. • GPs greater role in the delivery of mental health services, with a welcome inclusion of training and support for mental health professionals. • The value of partnership working, continued through the co-production and co-design process, particularly in the promotion of good mental health and wellbeing. • The opportunity to deliver the right services in the right way for the next 10 years.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/a
	Human: N/a
	Risk Management: N/a
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/a
	Rural Needs Implications: N/a
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That members note and if agreeable approve the draft Mid Ulster District Council Response to the Department of Health Draft Mental Health Strategy 2021-2031.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Draft Mid Ulster District Council Response
6.2	Appendix 2 – DOH Draft Mental Health Strategy – 2021 – 2031 https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/mentalhealthstrategy