

Title of Report: Draft Mental Health Strategy 2021-2031 Consultation Document	Officer Presenting: Director of Health and Community Author: Head of Health and Community Wellbeing
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1 Purpose of Report/Recommendations

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members' views on the Department of Health's Draft Mental Health Strategy 2021-2031 Consultation Document (Appendix 1).

2 Background

- 2.1 The Department of Health is consulting on a draft 10 year Mental Health Strategy designed to improve mental health outcomes for people in Northern Ireland. The draft Strategy sets out a new vision for mental health in Northern Ireland, as well as 29 high-level actions to take forward significant strategic change over the next decade.
- 2.2 The co-produced Mental Health Action Plan published on 19 May 2020 by the Health Minister, Robin Swann MLA, set out a number of short term service improvements, but also laid the foundations for longer term strategic change. The first action set out in the Action Plan is to 'co-produce a sustainable mental health strategy based on the needs of people, created through cross Departmental, cross sectoral and multidisciplinary co-production'.
- 2.3 The draft Strategy has been co-produced together with a broad range of stakeholders, including people with lived experience, carers, the interim Mental Health Champion, health and social care professionals, academics, the voluntary and community sector, other government departments and professional bodies.

3 Key Issues

- 3.1 The publication of a 10 year Mental Health Strategy is identified as an immediate priority of the Northern Ireland Executive in New Decade, New Approach (NDNA).
- 3.2 The draft Strategy sets out a new draft vision for mental health in Northern Ireland, as well as 29 high-level actions to take forward significant strategic change over the next decade.

3.3 The Department of Health welcomes views on the draft Strategy to improve mental health outcomes in Northern Ireland.

4 Financial, Equality, Legal, HR, Improvement, Rural Needs and other Implications

4.1 There are no financial or other implications.

5 Recommendations

5.1 Members consider the Draft Mental Health Strategy 2021-2031 Consultation Document and provide views/comments.

5.2 A draft response incorporating Members' views be prepared by Council officers for consideration at a future Health and Community Committee meeting prior to submission to the Department of Health by 26th March 2021.

Background Papers

Appendix 1 [Mental Health Strategy 2021-2031 Consultation Document](#)

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/mentalhealthstrategy>