

The Mental Health Challenge for Local Authorities

As we look to the recovery phase of the COVID-19 crisis, it is essential that the Council puts the Mental Wellbeing of residents, staff and elected members at the forefront of our agenda. Therefore, we ask the Council to sign the Mental Health Challenge for Local Authorities, set out below:

This Council believes:

- As a local authority, we have a crucial role to play in improving the mental wellbeing for everyone in our community.
- Mental wellbeing should be a priority across all the Authority's areas of responsibility, including, housing, community safety, engagement, planning and leisure.
- All elected members in our community and in casework roles, can play a positive role in championing mental wellbeing on an individual and strategic basis.

This Council resolves:

- To sign up to the Mental Health Challenge for Local Authorities.
- To appoint an elected member as the Council's 'Mental Health Champion'.
- To identify a member of staff within the Council to act as 'Lead Officer' for mental health and wellbeing.
- To form a working party made up of cross-party members and officers to meet every 8 weeks, all members and officers, which will take a lead role and ownership of activity.

The Council will also:

- Support positive mental wellbeing in our community, including neighbourhoods and workplaces.
- Support positive mental wellbeing within our own workforce and elected members.
- Consider mental wellbeing in decision making and policy.
- Work with local partners including Lincolnshire County Council and the Voluntary Sector.
- Engage with Lincolnshire County Council strategy and activity and the Joint Health & Wellbeing Board for Lincolnshire.

This Council notes:

- The Joint Health and Wellbeing Board for Lincolnshire plays an active role in the health and wellbeing of our District and it is vital as we move forward that any activities, projects or interventions we promote locally are mindful of the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and are complementary to the work of our county partners.
- Mental Health issues for Adults and Children are within the remit of Health partners
- This Authority's role within this challenge will specifically focus on mental wellbeing and wellness.