



Developing the Future Plan

Introduction

In addition to the four specific areas of work set out by the Minister in its Terms of Reference, the Higher Education Mental Health Implementation Taskforce has been tasked with identifying further areas of work which may be taken forward from December 2023 onwards. This reflects the broad range of stakeholders which have roles to play in addressing the challenges and opportunities facing HEPs and other agencies in relation to the mental health in students. This paper sets out a process for generating and managing these additional areas.

Taskforce objective

To generate up to five additional areas of focus that satisfy the following criteria:

- Are in scope of the Taskforce remit
- Possess clarity about the problem being addressed and the desired outcome
- Require coordinated national interventions in policy and/or practice
- Generate broad support around impact and importance across HEMHIT members
- Actions are deliverable and progress can be measured within specified timeframe

Proposed programme

- Consultation (July-September)
 - Develop a stakeholder map
 - 15-20 minute semi-structured individual or small group interviews with each HEMHIT member and other relevant stakeholders
 - Open call for evidence-based ideas via networks, including written submissions and Round Table events
- Prioritisation (October)
 - Generate long-list of eligible ideas, with initial prioritisation using agreed criteria above
 - HEMHIT to discuss which areas of focus to take forward
- Finalisation (December)

- HEMHIT to sign-off the formulation of the five areas that will be included in the report to the Minister in December 2023

As and when agreed with the Minister, HEMHIT will oversee the creation of plan to take forward each area selected. This plan will be published in the final report in May 2024, as set out by the Minister. Some steps within this plan may be taken ahead of publication. This report may contain a summary of other areas that HEMHIT considered but which were not prioritised.

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