**Recovery Colleges Business Plan - Update to Stakeholders**

**26 September 2018**

This is a brief update to keep you informed about the Recovery Colleges Business Plan.

As you may be aware, South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust (SWYPFT) has been looking at the future of the 5 Recovery Colleges in Wakefield, Barnsley, Kirklees, Calderdale and the forensic unit.

Over the last few months we have worked closely with stakeholders, learners/students, volunteers, partners, commissioners and managers in the Trust to produce a business plan. This has now been completed and provides a clear direction for the recovery colleges over the next 3 years.

The business plan was presented to the Trust’s directors in September and we are pleased to say that they approved it.

Whilst recognising that the Trust’s finances remain very challenging, the presentation outlined the resource requirements over the next 3 years in order to develop the recovery colleges and achieve an increased number of performance measures. Based on this the Trust will be working with commissioners to look at how the recovery colleges could potentially be supported through commissioning arrangements. In addition, the Trust will be considering the current use of resources in their annual planning process in each area.

In order to support this work the recovery colleges will need to continue to provide evidence of their effectiveness. They will also need to work in partnership with key stakeholders in their future development and the delivery of services.

**The next stages of implementing the business plan:**

* Work with the Trust’s managers and directors to secure resources and funding
* Gather further evidence of the impact recovery colleges can make
* Set up an internal governance group that will oversee the implementation of the plan and report back to managers and directors. The governance group will involve learner and volunteer representatives
* Implement the plan from the second half of 2018/19

**The business plan aims and objectives**

The following have been identified through the business planning process:

Aims of the recovery colleges

* + To empower people to live a life thatissatisfying, meaningful and valued by providing a learning environment that promotes wellbeing
  + To be an integral part of the strategic vision of SWYPT, commissioners and providers of social care, well-being and health services, including the 3rd sector
  + To promote wellness and well-being by developing and delivering courses and activities through co-production using and asset-based approach

Objectives of the recovery colleges

* + Align with the values, aims and objectives of SWYPT
  + Make the five recovery colleges sustainable and provide an equal offer across the colleges in each area
  + Work more closely with other SWYPFT services and increase support for volunteers
  + Increase partnership working with organisations in the local community
  + Explore opportunities for local funding and delivering courses commercially
  + Improve how we do evaluation across all the colleges
  + Develop each recovery college to have a hub and deliver more courses in different locations

**Thank you** to everyone who has contributed and shared ideas and opinions about the future of the recovery colleges. Thanks to your input we have a strong plan and clear direction to go forward with over the next 3 years.

If you would like any further details or have any comments please get in touch with your local recovery college.