

PHA QUALITY STANDARDS NEWS

January 2020

PHA quality standards for services promoting mental and emotional wellbeing and suicide prevention

Improving mental health and wellbeing and reducing levels of suicide in the population of Northern Ireland is a key priority for the Public Health Agency (PHA). Quality improvement is a common goal and is central to the development of health and social care services. Improving quality is focused on three main areas integral to the modernisation and reform agenda:

1. Setting minimum standards to strengthen services, practice and improve outcomes for service users.
2. Improving governance arrangements and improving the way in which service providers across all sectors manage their business.
3. Improving the way in which the service providers are held to account for the services they provide.

(Source: PHA Quality Standards for Services Promoting Mental and Emotional Wellbeing and Suicide Prevention, January 2020, p. 4)

Updated standards – January 2020

The standards have been reviewed and updated to ensure they contain appropriate links to guidance and/or supporting documentation. The following links have recently been added or updated:

- ⇒ Data Sharing Code of Practice – Guide to general data protection regulation (C3.4)
- ⇒ Guide to speaking publicly about personal experiences of self-harm / suicide / mental health issues (C6.12)
- ⇒ HSC protocol for the management of Serious Adverse Incident 2016 (C3.7)
- ◆ Additional guidance on the level of diploma in counselling has been added to the counselling standard (C8.3)
- ◆ Additional guidance, to include NCS Accredited Professional Registrant, has been added to the counselling personnel professional accreditation bodies list (C8.4)

**Download
the
Standards
from PHA
website**

<http://bit.ly/MHstandards>

Want to find out more?

The PHA would like to acknowledge the work of the CLEAR Project in the development of the quality standards framework.

If you want to attend a workshop on the quality standards or find out more information, please contact the CLEAR Project on 02871383386 or email brenda@dhcni.com

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