

## Staff Recovery & Wellbeing: Transforming HSC for the Future



The Regional Workforce Wellbeing Network is delighted to close MH Awareness week on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 11.30-1pm** by launching the Covid-19 Staff Recovery Toolkit. We are delighted that Minister Swann will launch the toolkit and very grateful to **Professor Michael West** (Kings Fund) for joining us for a webinar on “Staff Recovery & Wellbeing – Transforming HSC for the Future.”

The webinar will be hosted by Project ECHO NI on the link <https://echo.zoom.us/j/97264868571> and all staff across health & social care organisations and independent providers are welcome and encouraged to join us. Further information on joining the ECHO are at the end of the document.

The importance of staff wellbeing has long been noted – it is implicated in issues of recruitment, retention, absenteeism and presenteeism. Most importantly, both staff safety and staff wellbeing have clear implications for patient care and patient experience.

The last year and the Covid-19 pandemic has placed unprecedented stress on Health & Social Care staff across all organisations, as they faced the huge challenges within the work environment and within the community. These work challenges include, working in PPE, working in new environments due to redeployment, workload pressures affecting their care of patients, the lack of family support for patients and concern for patients not able to access their normal care. In addition, they have faced major concerns for their personal safety and that of their families.

Whilst the threat of Covid-19 has not disappeared, the need to reopen and increase provision of normal services, whilst still working in Covid-protection conditions, continues to place additional burdens on staff. Rebuilding and restarting services is important for our population’s wellbeing, but alongside this task there is an imperative to ensure that staff are given opportunities, time and resources to recover from the challenges of the year that is past. Rebuilding and ongoing provision of services is only possible if staff are supported and looked after, both physically and psychologically.

The Regional Workforce Wellbeing Network was set up by Minister Swann in April 2020, and over the past year they have worked together to identify, produce and deliver psychological and wellbeing supports for staff in varying organisations, working together to share expertise and resources. This group have been responsible for overseeing the development and delivery of psychological support services for staff across the organisations, and HSC Trusts have made access to staff helplines and resources available to colleagues in independent sector and primary care and first response organisations. The group will continue with a mandate to progress and support the development and delivery of staff psychological supports and wellbeing initiatives and services post covid-19.

A Recovery Toolkit for staff has recently been developed, in partnership with HSCQI, to ensure this is prioritised within organisations and also to help teams to have conversations about their needs moving forward.

We look forward to welcoming staff at all levels within organisations to the event and we hope the toolkit will help in supporting staff as we continue to work in times of great challenge.

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ECHO DETAILS:

Topic: Covid - 19 Staff Recovery Toolkit Ministerial Launch

Time: May 14, 2021 11:30 AM London

Join Zoom from PC, Mac, iOS or Android:

<https://echo.zoom.us/j/97264868571>

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