



Committee Agenda

Mental Health and Addictions Task Force February 22, 2022 – 2:30 PM

Zoom - Electronic Participation

Grey County Administration Building

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Election of Chair and Vice Chair**
3. **Declaration of Interest**
4. **Introductions**
5. **Reports**
 - a. Terms of Reference Mental Health and Addictions Task Force
That the Terms of Reference for the Mental Health and Addictions Task Force be endorsed.
 - b. SSR-MHATF-03-22 Mental Health and Addictions Proposed Work Plan
That Report SSR-MHATF-03-22 regarding the Mental Health and Addictions Task Force Workplan be received; and
That subject to the Task Force's input and direction, the workplan be updated and brought back to the next meeting for adoption.
6. **Other Business**
7. **Next Meeting Dates**
8. **Adjournment**



Terms of Reference

Mental Health and Addictions Task Force

Mission/ Purpose:

This Task Force is responsible for working with various levels of government and community stakeholders to identify opportunities for enhanced community supports for mental health and substance use disorders in Grey County.

Objectives:

1. To focus on our community members living with mental health and addictions challenges, particularly our youth and insecurely housed or unhoused and transient neighbours
2. To bring together government, non government, health and community partners to understand and enable the delivery of interdisciplinary care focused on improving health equity through an innovative approaches to meet the needs of our most vulnerable community members in a timely, meaningful and reliable way.
3. To determine appropriate advocacy to various levels of government for increased access to services and reduction of barriers to these services
4. To make recommendations for local and/or immediate action focused programs that meet people where they are at to provide person-centred health and wrap-around care to improve health outcomes and health equity of individuals who experience barriers in access to health and social services in Grey County.

Governance roles and responsibilities:

Grey County does not have a direct role in the provision of mental health or substance use treatment. However, the lack of appropriate treatment and support services has a direct impact on services that the County is responsible for, including paramedic services, social services and housing and homelessness. The Task Force will work with other levels of government to seek out greater access to mental health and substance use disorder services, funding options and solutions to assist in the development of a local strategy aimed at prioritizing short and long-term solutions for Grey County

residents. The Task Force will also work with public stakeholders to examine current and future opportunities and gaps to accessing these services.

Membership

Membership on the Task Force will remain the same for the duration of the council term, or until the end of its mandate, whichever comes first.

Members include:

- 7 County Councillors plus the Warden (amended per Resolution CW31-22)

Council Members of the Mental Health and addictions Task Force have been appointed by Council per Resolution CW_____. Any vacancies that may arise will be filled by Council appointment.

- 5 Public Stakeholders

Public stakeholders will include:

- Phil Dodd, Keystone Child, Family and Youth Services
- Clark McFarlane, Canadian Mental Health Association
- Naomi Vodden, Grey Bruce Health Services, Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Member of the Peer Advisory Network, Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy to be confirmed at a later date following discussion at the Taskforce table
- Member of the Grey Bruce Public Health Unit, ~~to be confirmed~~

Each Member will:

1. Exercise the care, diligence, and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances.
2. Become informed in the area of mental health and addiction support services.
3. Take necessary measures to ensure that the corporation complies with legislation.
4. Be committed to achieving and maintaining the vision, mission, and values of Grey County.

Chair and Vice Chair

The Task Force will elect a Chair and Vice Chair at the first meeting, and they will retain these positions for the council term, or until the task force has met its mandate, whichever comes first.

Advice to Council

The Task Force shall make recommendations to Council, for which Council retains the decision-making role.

Lead Staff

Director of Social Services with support from the Director of Community Services and Director of Paramedic Services as required.

Subject Matter Experts

- Alison Govier, Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy
- Darren Clock, Paramedic Services

Meetings

The Task Force will meet at the call of the Chair.

Quorum

A quorum is more than 50% of the membership of the Task force.

Statutory Authority

The Task Force is guided by Grey County's Procedural By-law, Council's Code of Conduct, Provincial Acts and regulations, and other Grey County Policies as applicable.

Reporting Relationship

The Task Force reports to Grey County Committee of the Whole



Committee Report

To:	Warden Hicks and Members of Grey County Council
Committee Date:	February 22, 2022
Subject / Report No:	SSR-MHATF-03-22
Title:	Workplan Report for Mental Health and Addictions Task Force
Prepared by:	Barb Fedy
Reviewed by:	Kim Wingrove
Lower Tier(s) Affected:	County-wide initiative
Status:	

Recommendation

1. **That Report SSR-MHATF-03-22 regarding the Mental Health and Addictions Task Force Workplan be received; and**
2. **That subject to the Task Force's input and direction, the workplan be updated and brought back to the next meeting for adoption.**

Executive Summary

At the February 10, 2022, Committee of the Whole, Report CCR-CW-02-22 regarding the Terms of Reference for the Mental Health and Addictions Task Force was approved. Membership of the Task Force was confirmed, with the goal of the task force to examine the current system of treatment and support for those suffering from mental health and substance use disorders. A draft workplan has been developed that proposes topics to be covered and presenters. This should be further developed with a discussion of key questions to be addressed. After considering the information presented, the task force will develop recommendations strategy that identifies immediate and longer-term priorities designed to support the development of mental health supports and harm reduction strategies for Grey County residents. The draft workplan is included in this report for consideration.

Background and Discussion

The rising prevalence of mental health challenges and substance use disorders, combined with reported lack of access to local treatment and support options is significantly impacting Grey County communities and services. As previously determined, the task force will engage with

treatment providers and others who support those suffering from mental health and substance use disorders to understand their challenges and opportunities for improvement. The taskforce will make recommendations in the form of a local response strategy that identifies immediate and longer-term priorities specifically designed to support the development of mental health supports and harm reduction strategies for Grey County residents for consideration by Grey County Council.

Building From the Hanover Owen Sound Task Force

Gaps and opportunities related to mental health and addictions were identified through the work of the Hanover Owen Sound Task Force (HOSTF) in 2021. The mental health and addictions section of the workplan coming out of the HOSTF Report identified opportunities/actions which could be considered and built upon by this group:

Mental Health and Addiction Opportunities

- a) Continue to refine the newly adopted protocol by Grey County Paramedic Services to track opioid incidents to establish a baseline and monitor trend analysis
- b) Map out existing mental health and addictions services offered throughout Grey Bruce Communities & identify service delivery gaps and collaboration opportunities
- c) Further explore urban design concepts that prioritizes creating healthy and happy communities
- d) Implement the Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan
- e) Explore funding & resource avenues to implement additional pediatric beds at Grey Bruce Health Services
- f) Identify resource sharing opportunities to support non-for-profits in program implementation and service delivery
- g) Move forward with the Calls to Action identified in [Report SSR-CW-02-22](#) by positioning Grey County programs and services within the larger provincial and federal policy context.

Proposed Workplan

The following provides an outline of the proposed workplan for the Task Force. It identifies topics and potential community partners for each meeting to assist with the development of some identifiable outcomes for the Task Force.

These recommendations provide the Addictions and Mental Health Task Force a solid starting point to launch key discussions for actions for Council to consider. Given the growing sense of urgency to address the mental health and substance use concerns that have been raised, the following meeting topics and participant schedule is being proposed:

- **February** - Roundtable discussion of the workplan, Alison Govier from Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy re peer support member
- **March** - Mental Health, Addiction Support and Harm Reduction providers including CMHA, GBHS, Keystone

- **April** – Community Social Supports, including Poverty Task Force, United Way, Salvation Army, Y Housing and Employment and Community Safety and Wellbeing Planning
- **May** – First Responders health lens including Paramedic Services, Primary Care and other Health Care Professionals. Justice Sector, including Youth and Adult Probation and Parole
- **June** – Supportive Housing including members of the Homelessness Response Table such as CMHA, Safe'n Sound, Community Living, Bruce Grey Child and Family Services, Grey Bruce Health Services, M'Wikwedong Friendship Centre and Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre

Legal and Legislated Requirements

None

Financial and Resource Implications

There will be normal mileage costs associated for members of this Task Force. In accordance with the current policy, Council members will receive per diems. All costs will be included in the annual Council operating budget. In addition, it is the intent of the Task Force to identify sources of funding for the initiatives determined to improve access to services for residents in need. These could include applications for provincial and federal funding programs, grant programs as well as contributions from the County of Grey.

Relevant Consultation

- Internal
- External

Appendices and Attachments