

Focus on ...

Spring 2017
Issue 13



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What is FoCUS? A voice for carers and people who use mental health, learning disability, older people, and drug and alcohol services in Surrey and North East Hampshire, provided by Surrey & Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. Public meetings where NHS Managers learn from people who have experienced these services, what works well and what could be improved. FoCUS members are Carers and people who use services, or have used services in the last five years.

All FoCUS members who are carers can also attend the Carers Action Group.

FoCUS Committee in May

FoCUS Rep David co-chaired the meeting with The Trust's Chief Executive Fiona Edwards. David invited The Trust's new Chairman Dr Ian McPherson (who has worked as a clinical psychologist) to attend the Committee to hear issues raised by carers and people who use services. The three are photographed here.



FoCUS Reps; Simon, Tracey, David, Rosemary, Claude and Janice in the photograph below were all delighted he was able to attend.

The Committee also heard **positive reports from FoCUS members** about:

- the current STEPPS courses in St Peter's and Berkley House.
- the Carers Action Group which now really helps carers.



Need help to attend meetings? We can pay your travel costs or arrange transport for you. Please contact your FoCUS Involvement Facilitator Jane Ahmed who can be contacted by Telephone 01483 456558, Mobile/SMS Text 07426 022279 or email jane.ahmed@surreycoalition.org.uk

I do not want to or can not go to meetings can I still be involved? Yes we can send you regular updates by post or email and you can give Jane Ahmed your views.

HAVE YOU MOVED OR CHANGED CONTACT DETAILS? PLEASE LET US KNOW

FoCUS Achievements—following your requests the Trust have agreed to:

Review the move of mental health inpatient hospital wards from Espom to Chertsey in August — including looking at travel issues.

Include Advanced Statements in the audit of medical records of each and every CMHRS. FoCUS was pleased to hear the audit will include letters about new referrals, social care eligibility and discharge from the service.

Andy Erskine, Director of Mental Health and Social Care, has offered to look into some FoCUS members experiences with **brokers and independent direct payment support**.

Publicise their jobs for people who are expert by experience (either as a carer or a person who has used service) to all FoCUS members.



Outgoing Lead Governor Don and Deputy Lead Governor Tracey (who are both FoCUS Members) received **Care Awards** for their 9 years service as Trust Governors.

FoCUS members welcomed the opportunity to:

- Help **recruit** The Trust's new Chief Nursing Officer.
- **Participate in a research study** which uses (TIHM) Technology Integrated Health Management to support people with dementia and their carers.
- Hear about the **Criminal Justice Liaison and Diversion Service** (at a Trust member's day) which supports vulnerable people in police cells and at court.

The Trust has agreed to offer a **range of incentives to FoCUS Reps** including awards and a training budget. Jo Lynch (Head of Nursing, Compliance and People's Experience) is taking over managing the FoCUS contract at the Trust and is meeting FoCUS Reps. We still have some Rep vacancies, if you are interested in becoming a FoCUS Rep please contact Jane Ahmed, details are below.

Our next FoCUS meetings are on:

You are welcome to attend any meeting not necessarily the one nearest you.

East & Mid Surrey Monday 5th June: 1pm to 3pm	Reigate Baptist Church , Sycamore Walk, Reigate , RH2 7LR
South West Surrey Wednesday 7th June: 1pm to 3pm	Godalming Baptist Church, Queen Street, Godalming , GU7 1BA
West Surrey & North East Hampshire Thursday 8th June: 1pm to 3pm	Farnborough Library, Pinehurst Roundabout, Farnborough , GU14 7JZ
North West Surrey Monday 12th June: 1pm to 3 pm	The Chertsey Hall, Heriot Road, Chertsey , KT16 9DR

In July, meetings will be held in Redhill, Guildford, Woking and Aldershot.

For more information about FoCUS please contact

FoCUS Involvement Facilitator, Jane Ahmed, who works for Surrey Coalition of Disabled People. Jane can be contacted by Email jane.ahmed@surreycoalition.org.uk, Telephone 01483 456558, Mobile/SMS Text 07426 022279. Post: Surrey Coalition of Disabled People, Room GF41, Astolat, Coniers Way, Burpham, Guildford, GU4 7HL.