



Surrey & NE Hampshire INDEPENDENT MENTAL HEALTH NETWORK (IMHN)



THE VOICE OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE USERS, THEIR FAMILIES AND CARERS

MAY/JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER

Update from the Chair

by Don Illman



Welcome to our May/June edition of the IMHN newsletter. Spring has sprung and our bi-monthly

meetings continue to be well attended by our members. Further down are more details on the items discussed and service improvements recommended in our March and May meetings.

Our members have also taken part in a number of mental health related projects, including working with Surrey County Council, NHS commissioners, HealthWatch Surrey and Hampshire. These have all been opportunities to directly impact the direction of change based on real lived experiences of these services.

We also continue our ongoing attendance and feedback to the numerous mental health related meetings and conferences. A few examples further down in the newsletter.

As always, we will continue this work and thank our members that spend their time and energy getting the issues listened to, heard and acted on.

If you would like to join us, please do. The greater the numbers the louder our voice.


IMHN Meetings

16 March 2018 Meeting

Helen Collins & Paul Davis from the HSIB (Health & Safety Investigation Branch), came to discuss with the Network their latest



investigation which is on Mental Health Provision in Emergency Departments and to seek the input of those who had experience of this.

Though the HSIB acknowledge that the pathway for mental health care has lots of areas that need improvement and whilst there is lots of work going on; their decision was they would focus their investigation on the Emergency 



Department initially as they know that at any time people with mental health needs or in

crisis will go there.

Having heard details of their investigation, our members were able to comment, dig deeper into the work being done and share their experiences. Helen and Paul thanked the members and confirmed that what they heard at the meeting tallies with their findings to date and they continue their investigation and build more evidence

An interim bulletin relating to the investigation which outlines the case and the four areas that they are looking can be found at:

<https://www.hsib.org.uk/investigations-cases/provision-mental-health-services-emergency-departments/interim-bulletin/>.

The next report should be the outcome of the investigation. All reports are available on the HSIB website for download as is the ability to feedback on their investigation to date:

<https://www.hsib.org.uk>.

The meeting continued with a discussion with the NHS and Surrey County Council (SCC) commissioners on their progress on action points from the previous meeting and update on their upcoming plans.

Also confirmed at the meeting was the launch (hooray) of the new Surrey & NE Hants IMHN Website:

<https://www.useyourinfluence.website>



A special thanks to Val



for using her spare time and her hard work in helping to design and set up the new website.

18 May 2018 Meeting

A warm welcome to Safron Simmonds, NHS commissioner, who will be joining our meetings on a regular basis from now on. Safron kicked off the main agenda by feeding back on commissioner's action points from our March meeting feedback on current commissioning.



Jane Bremner SCC gave us an update on Accommodation with care and support and thanked members who had been part of the consultation process, so far.



Martyn Munro, SCC and Jane de la Rosa from Catalyst came to consult on the proposed changes to the provision of Adult Drug and Alcohol services including closure of the

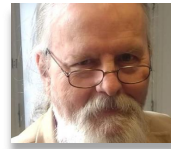
residential Detox facility in Surrey - Windmill House, and the anticipated increase in community-based services as a result. There followed a in depth debate on these proposals and the effect of the mandated budget cut to these vital services. The public consultation process ended on the 20th May, the changes to be implemented can be accessed on the Surrey County Council website.

Nanu Chumber-Stanley, SCC presented on the consultation process which has started on the development of a new Suicide Prevention Strategy and the model for suicide prevention training. Our members continue to engage in this process as it develops and are actively participating in the Suicide Prevention Boards.



'Suicide, Lets Talk' is a free 20-minute e-learning training course. It focuses on developing the awareness, skills, and confidence to help those in need. It aims to help us all play a more effective role in suicide prevention.

The link for the training is:
<https://www.zerosuicidealliance.com/>



Don Illman, our Chair has kindly accepted to carry on as interim Chair until the election take place at our next meeting in July. The election forms are to be distributed with the minutes of the May meeting so that proposals for Chair can be submitted prior to our meeting on 13th July. **Our thanks, as always, go to all the invited guests who attend our IHMN meetings**


Being heard & Listened to...

Our role as an Independent Mental Health Network is to give our members, those with lived experience of Mental Health services, a voice to be heard and to have that voice listened to in order to influence positive commissioning change. Thanks to all our members who work tirelessly, often unappreciated in their efforts, often making difficult journeys, finding cover for caring responsibilities, and often battling their own health issues to get to and share difficult and sometimes draining experiences, or even to just be there at our and numerous meetings and events.

Over the past couple of months, we've been getting out our megaphone (metaphorically speaking) in a number of ways. Here are just a few:

time to change
 let's end mental health discrimination

Your IMHN coordinator, Joanna was

part of the moderation process for the bids in respect of the 'Time to Change' contract for Surrey, put out to tender by Public Health. 

Once the chosen provider is notified the IMHN members have been asked to suggest appropriate changes to the contract specification that might assist in addressing the types of negative attitudes and stigma people with mental health may have experienced. This consultation with the network should be completed by mid June.



Our members also played a significant part in contributing to the latest HealthWatch

Surrey Report on community based and in-patient Mental Health Services, due to be finalised and presented shortly. Not only in providing lived evidence by interview or survey completion and sharing their experiences, but also in reviewing and feeding back on the early draft and recommendations of the report itself.



Showcasing our network at SABP (NHS Foundation Trust) events and conferences, not only to network with others and other groups, but also looking

for more avenues to promote our network and gain new members.

Pictured the McPhersons, Joanna, IMHN coordinator and Dr Ian McPherson, SABP Chairman, at the SABP Supporting Young People Event in April. Also great to see Surrey Police Youth Intervention team there, taking time to find out about the options available for young people experiencing mental health issues, that come across their radar.



Being Nice, members of IMHN were part of the consultation in May with NHS and Surrey County Council commissioners to produce a

joint response to the NICE consultation on the draft scope of guidance on rehabilitation services for people with severe and enduring mental illness. The response has now been submitted NICE, with our joint feedback and comments included.

South East England mental health and transformation network meet bi-annually and share what has worked (and not) in their counties/STPs (Strategic Transformation Partnerships) Attended in the



main by GPs, clinicians and commissioners, it was important to get the view of service users and carers voiced. The May meeting included approaches to NICE guidelines for compulsory physical health checks for those with severe mental illness and adult ADHD.



Jane Bremner, Surrey County Council is working on the council's review of the working arrangements (known as the Section 75

agreement) between Surrey County Council and SABP NHS Foundation Trust, for the provision of adult social care support for adults with mental ill health and their carers.

The objectives of this Review are to ensure that future adult social care working arrangements can demonstrate meeting legal requirements and can deliver effective social care to adults with mental health and/or substance misuse needs, and their carers. The Council must ensure that adults with mental health and/or substance misuse needs and their carers, have the same access to adult social care services as other adults with care and support needs, with a focus on wellbeing and prevention.

IMHN members agreed to Jane's suggestion to set up a Reference group so that people with mental health needs and their carers are able to influence the review and

the future provision of social care services and support. The reference group will go live in early June.

 **Sam Gyimah MP**



Joanna met with Sam Gyimah, East Surrey MP, in May to regarding the closure of the

beds for East Surrey patients at the Langley Green Unit in Crawley, leaving no in-patient beds in East Surrey from March 2019. Sam is committed to following up on what the definitive plans for East Surrey in patient options will be.

The confirmed merger of East Surrey with Sussex STP, rather than as had been hoped with Surrey Heartlands, was another topic for discussion along with Sam's support for our request for East Surrey service user and carer representation on the Sussex & East Surrey STP/Alliance.

Dates of future 2018 IMHN meetings

Friday 13th July

Friday 14th September

Friday 16th November

**All meetings run from 10:30 am – 1pm at
Park House, Leatherhead, KT22 0AH**



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Twitter.com/MentalHlthVoice



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