

Focus on ■■

Winter 2020
Issue 24



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What is FoCUS? A forum and 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.

If you are unable to attend meetings you can still be involved

We can send regular updates by post or email and you can also give us your views. If you would like us to raise an issue for you at a FoCUS meeting please contact Jane Ahmed—details at the bottom of the page. We often have members contact the FoCUS Support Team asking us to raise issues on their behalf at Area Group Meetings. Examples of this include:

- Questions about something they have read in the minutes
- Feedback about the health care they have received from the Trust
- Questions for Service Managers about staff vacancies or which therapy groups are running.
- Feedback about participation opportunities at the Trust.

All FoCUS members who are carers can also attend the Carers Action Group. Please contact the Trust's Participation and People's Experience Team for more information PPETeam@sabp.nhs.uk

Children's and Young People's Service Participation Experience

At the November FoCUS Committee FoCUS Reps heard about the Trust's Children's and Young People's Service long history with participation. They have a group of children who use services called CYA (CAMHS Youth Advisors) who are supported by the Youth Rights and Participation service run by Surrey County Council. CYA are involved in staff training, consultation groups, co-producing leaflets, exit interviews, art work for decorating clinics and informative talks for young people at schools. They also run groups for young people to get together and meet others with similar difficulties. They already have a participation strategy for young people which includes the Recruit Crew who are trained to take part in interviews and sit on panels; their scoring is given equal weight to others on the panel allowing the young person's voice to be heard. FoCUS Members heard details of this discussion at December Area Group Meetings.

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

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

Welcome Back to FoCUS Rep

We are delighted that Stephanie is back as a FoCUS Rep for Mid and East FoCUS. The Reps from the other areas were so pleased to see her at the recent Rep Meeting because she has so much knowledge to share with them. At the meeting Stephanie represented the views of Mid and East members well and she also checked previous minutes to make sure that nothing had been missed. She is an asset to FoCUS.

Co-designing the Trust's People Participation and Experience Strategy

FoCUS members and FoCUS Reps attended the Trust's People Participation and Experience Strategy Day. Members who could not attend had the opportunity to complete feedback questionnaires at the January FoCUS Area Group Meetings and by email or post. We look forward to seeing the final strategy.

Trust's Members Events

The Trust's Members Days are an opportunity for you to meet face to face with FoCUS Reps, FoCUS members and Jane Ahmed your FoCUS Involvement Facilitator, to chat about how FoCUS could benefit you. Many thanks to FoCUS Reps Pam and Rachel for helping with the FoCUS Stand at recent events. The next Trust Members Day is on Thursday 19th March, 10am to 1pm at St Mary's Hall in Stoke D'Abernon near Cobham, KT11 3PX and presentations will be about the Community Mental Health Service for Older Adults. The January Members Event was about Community Partnership Working in Adult Mental Health Services and presentations from the event have been circulated to FoCUS members, as requested by Janice a FoCUS Rep.

Our next FoCUS Area Group Meetings are in March all from 1pm - 3pm on:

East & Mid Surrey Monday 2nd March	Holy Trinity Church, Carlton Rd, Redhill RH1 2BX
South West Surrey Wednesday 4th March	Godalming Baptist Church , Queen Street, Godalming , GU7 1BA
North West Surrey Monday 9th March	Hythe Centre, Thorpe Road, Staines , TW18 3HD
West Surrey & North East Hants Thursday 12th March	PCT06 , Aldershot Centre for Health, Hospital Hill, Aldershot , GU11 1AY

If you need help to travel to meetings we can pay your travel costs or arrange transport for you — Please ask Jane Ahmed for more information, details are below.

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, **Website** 🌐 www.surreycoalition.org.uk/special-interest-groups/focus/

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