

Minutes

Title of Meeting: Mental Health Partnership Board

Date of Meeting: 16th October 2014

Attendees: George Hunt (BBC), Gemma Halfpenny (BBC), Joyce Tucker (Physical Disabilities Co-Chair), Lee Phanco (BBC), Richard Gillard (Service User), Debbie Buck (SEPT), Sandra Pearce (Pohwer), Mei-Li Komashie (Public Health), Randip Pangora (Public Health), David Bentley (Service User), Sandra Bentley (Carer), Steve McNay (Mind), Kirsty Sharp (CCG), Sue Wilson (Bedford Health), Anthony Frisby (APEX Care Homes) and Ayla Patton Alzheimer's Society).

Apologies: Wilf Deakin, Simon White, Andrea Thasan, Kaysie Conroy, Michelle Bradley, Judy Baxter, Mark Harris, Marek Zamborsky and Gill Mason.

No	Item	Actioned by
1.	George welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies.	
2.	The minutes of the 14 th August 2014 were discussed and agreed.	
3.	<p>ADPH Report on Mental Health and Wellbeing 2014: The report is now available on the Bedford Borough Council website at http://www.bedford.gov.uk/health_and_social_care/bedford_borough_jsna.aspx Mei-Li explained that in the report she has looked at and made recommendations for early intervention, prevention and to identify and treat conditions early and wanted to try to get the message to the whole of Bedford Borough. Everyone should try to be aware of those with mental health needs i.e. friends, colleagues and family. All comments/feedback to be sent to Mei-Li.Komashie@bedford.gov.uk</p> <p>Randip advised that the Action Plan has been separated with the CCG, there are no new resources and therapy is changing all the time.</p>	
4.	<p>Bedford Borough Council Debt Recovery: Lee Phanco advised that in Bedford Borough there are 70,000 council tax properties and 17,000 are receiving council tax support. Sometimes people fall behind with making their council tax payments and BBC try to make the process easier for them offering standing orders, direct debits etc. Once someone has fallen behind with their first payment BBC issue a reminder to them 10 – 14 days after a payment is due, lots of people decide not to pay and others genuinely are unable to afford to pay. 2,000 reminders have been issued since May 2014 and a leaflet is available from the Citizens Advice Bureau offering support.</p> <p>Richard explained to the group about the experience he has had with council tax and how it had made him unwell.</p> <p>It was agreed that the reminder letter could be worded differently for those who are vulnerable and some would find it very frightening.</p> <p>LP explained that if the situation progressed from the reminder and eventually ended up with the Magistrates Court he would then contact adult and children services first to see if the person is known to the services. Visiting officers are used before bailiffs are sent and there is a very good system in place so that extreme actions are not overused</p> <p>Actions:</p>	

	Richard to reword the reminder letter. Lee and George to discuss how to raise the flags on the system.	RG LP/GH
5.	<p>Service User News and Views: SM reported that the Wellbeing Centre open day was very successful and a decent amount of money was raised. Looking to hold another one in December 2014.</p> <p>DB thanked SM for allowing him to use a room in the Wellbeing Centre once a month for his Bipolar Group. The group is beginning to grow in numbers and there are currently 20 members. The group is for carers, relatives and friends of those with Bipolar as well as those who have Bi Polar. DB advised that Pohwer and Mind have been passing details to patients about the group but medical staff have not been. Kirsty advised that she will put up some posters in the GP surgeries that she attends and Gemma will send out to the different partnership boards. DB thanked SP and explained how helpful she has been.</p> <p>SP advised that she has been promoting the Partnership Board Meeting to service users.</p> <p>AP advised that the cognitive strategy groups are resuming and are working really well.</p>	
6.	<p>Depression Services: Kirsty handed out information on the service she provides (attached). She explained that she is aligned to a number of GP surgeries in Bedford and will see people for up to an hour at a time and make a plan with them.</p> <p>RG advised that Fluoridation in the water is an increasing issue in Bedford Borough.</p> <p>Sue Wilson explained that she runs a private clinic called Bedford Health where she offers hypnotherapy for moderate levels of depression, dementia and those with a low self-esteem, social anxiety and a sense of being out of control. Sue explained that the therapy does not work for everyone and it is a talking therapy. Sue also advised that she is a dementia champion and is working on the Dementia Strategy.</p> <p>JT advised that she has known people who suffer with mental health issues to go private as the waiting list on the NHS had been so long, 69 days at least to see a Counsellor.</p> <p>JT asked what support is available for people with sensory and/or visual impairment for getting in to employment – GH will look into this and feedback at the next meeting.</p> <p>Impact letter (attached). The original peer support group is still ongoing and everyone was very upset that the Impact branch that had led the innovation has now closed.</p>	GH
7.	<p>AOB: Supported Housing in BBC (attached) – GH has discussed with BPHA and there are suggestions for flats to be built on the land with supported living (staff on site). This is in the very early stages. There would be long term support for those who want it and staff would be on site for most of the time.</p> <p>AF advised that the Complex Care Team would not help with a client who was in need with mental health needs and he had to be taken to Bedoc. DB asked AF for the details as it sounds like a service failure. GH to send out presentation on services.</p> <p>RG asked SM to check the company policy on Wi-fi use in the Wellbeing</p>	AF GH

	Centre. GH advised that the Mental Health Action Plan is currently under review.	
8.	Date of Next Meeting: 11 th December 2014.	