

## About the development of Fareham, Gosport & South East Hampshire Mental Health Forum

The Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) of Fareham & Gosport and SE Hampshire are keen to facilitate the development of a Mental Health Forum. This will also be the route to input feedback on health services for the learning disabilities and autism.

There is a statutory requirement for the Health and Care services to undertake engagement with their patients and users. However the additional impetus for this initiative is that we are at the beginning of a massive change in the commissioning and delivery of health services in Hampshire. Part of the reason for this change is to balance the NHS budget but also to improve outcomes for local people.

Elements of the change are being led by the “Sustainability and Transformation Partnership” (STP) that’s across Hampshire and IOW. It is envisaged that the future health service provider organisation will also be new – the Multi-Speciality Community Provider (MCP) – that will be commissioned and could be in operation in 2019-20. The MCP will see primary care, community and other services working together. It could have a budget as big as £1b. It will cover a huge range of services between the GP and the Hospital. It will include Mental Health Services. It will probably have a very long time frame of between 10 and 15 years.

The need for mental health services is great and increasing. The services are often criticised for their restrictions, access, waiting times and mistakes. The Locality Patient Group in Fareham initiated the idea of a forum and it is greatly supported by the two CCGs and Dr Emma Nash, who is the clinical lead for mental health for the STP.

It is envisaged that there will be a core Forum supported by a network, or something else (the form of it has not been defined) would gather the perspectives of patients, carers and families. The initial focus would be on the specification for the future Mental Health services which is currently being developed. The forum would also be able to act as a conduit for service feedback and co-production with the CCG, service providers and local people working together to design and develop services and then monitoring their performance.

The current status is that an early draft of the MCP contract specification for mental health will be written in July. This is very soon; we wonder if we can gather some initial comment from existing groups or forums. There are for example the voluntary sector Mind and Richmond Fellowship organisations that specialise in MH. However many support groups for other long term health conditions would be able to ask members about their own or family experiences. There are some employers that have workplace MH forums or support groups; their input would be valuable.

It would be a tremendous help if local groups or workplaces could provide a summary of the members views on mental health services and what we need to take into consideration for the specification. The following questions could help when discussing people’s views:

1. What do I need from Mental Health services?
2. What is good and/or not good with the services I have received?
3. What do/did I like and/or not like about the services I received?
4. What would make it better?

**WARNING; the data must be anonymised** – the name of the group and the contact for the writer / sender would be helpful – but it must not be able to identify an individual to their health condition.

Further information is available if required using the contact details below.

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