



**Croydon User Council
Meeting at: Fairfield Club
1.30 – 4 pm 2nd September 2008**

ITEM	ACTION	WHO
1.	<p>WELCOME INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES & HOUSE RULES:</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone who turned up. Apologies were received from the D.A.N.D.A. and Lantern Hall reps, and attendees introduced themselves.</p> <p>Minutes of previous meeting - An amendment was made to Section 5 on who to invite to future open meetings: - It was suggested that SUTO reps should be invited to the Mental Health conference to liaise with other services and staff. An existing conference is mainly attended by staff, so there is the possibility of a Hear Us (HU) conference going ahead and being more focussed more on service-user participation.</p>	
2.	<p>HEAR US CHARITY UPDATE</p> <p>The Charity Application is currently being made. All trustees and Staff have to be CRB checked Maroof Adeoye (CVA) is <i>still</i> Examining last years accounts which seems to be taking forever. Indemnity Insurance is being sourced to cover Trustees Also application to companies house to make Hear Us a Limited company HU need some new trustees, so anyone who is interested should contact the Hear Us Coordinator for further details.</p>	
3.	<p>DAYCARE REVIEW</p> <p>Chair gave out the timetable given out for daycare review (which was distributed at the previous CUC meeting). HUC stated that the review of needs is being done with respect to the social inclusion model, and will look at all aspects of life, and areas where help is needed. More information will be made available in the next Hear Us Newsletter. Assessors are going to be independent of Croydon services; 4 assessors are going to be taken on, and will be interviewed by HU on their suitability for the job. HU have been asked to provide 10 service users by the beginning of October (originally September) 2008, to become involved in the process of interviewing assessors, and organisations. Advertisements have been placed in the national press asking for organisations who wish to tender for the running of the new and current daycare services.</p>	



HEAR US



The BME Rep stated that these service users are not being taken from the involvement register. However, HU have a large membership and have 15 Linkworkers as well, who could be able to fulfil the role and many that have come forward are from the register.

4. Active Minds

This is a new Service based out of Orchard House, to help Service Users access Social Inclusive activities within community, encouraging more participation in the community rather than only accessing Mental Health service. This is linked to a national 'Time to change' project.

Anyone over 18 can be referred, and self-referral is permitted. There are both groups and individual support for people to discover what they would like to do and become involved. There is no financial help for individuals but they can be helped to find out about cost reductions for various activities.

The groups are an allotment group, a gym group, and a Boxercise group.

One attendee also stated that Thornton Heath leisure centre has football training available on Mondays.

The BME rep is interested in access to complementary therapies. These have been available at some of Mental Health Forum meetings.

5. WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR CENTRE

Kingfishers: The Kingfishers rep has now stepped down due to beginning full-time employment. A new rep from Kingfishers has been named and it is hoped he will join us at our next meeting.

Voices : Voices is a schizophrenia support group which meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at Croydon town hall, from 7pm - 9pm Flyers have been provided for the Fairfield Club electronically, but none have been put on display.

Parchmore and Thornton Heath group. Chair has found that these are two distinct groups. They use the same premises but meet at different times.

BME group: An art exhibition has been organised at West Norwood library

Southwark MIND - have organised focus groups on the PET, Patient Experience Tracker (this is an electronic survey which will be used to find patients opinions on the service they receive at various centres).



HEAR US



Southwark Mink are like Hear Us will be involved in setting the questions asked. PET system is to be introduced in Croydon.

Sound Minds is a Battersea-based social enterprise using the arts to improve the lives of people under the care of community mental health teams. Hear Us are to visit them as it is hoped that a similar group could be set up in Croydon based at a recording studio. More news will be available at the next meeting.

Fairfield Club, do not have a CUC rep at present but Jacquie Dyce has been approached so she can discuss at the next members' community meeting.

4. LINKWORKING

Linkworking is currently takes place fortnightly on Alex Ground Floor, Gresham 1 & 2 at the Bethlem Hospital. The project has also extended into community settings; Tamworth Road (North, West and Central CMHT and CIPTS) and Westways Rehab and a focused questionnaire regarding Westways Reception has occurred. It is hoped that this will be extended to all CMHT's (South and East CMHT) and other services in the future; but more Linkworkers and Volunteers will be required.

Issues brought up on wards are sent to senior staff in SLaM and also to the Complaints Monitoring Meetings.

The Linkworker Coordinator for Gresham 2 stated that the ward has improved since Linkworking began. Staff are now thinking about introducing a new cooking club on the ward! Plenty of fruit is now available.

The Linkworker Coordinator for Alex Ground Floor stated that working on the ward has been becoming more difficult. The ward is to be contacted before each meeting to ensure that staff have put aside a proper room and refreshments are available Meeting times are to change, as they have been clashing with ward handover meetings.

CMHT's Linkworking

HUC is working on a report on the Tamworth Road Linkworking.

A Linkworking team is now in place at Westways, which attends the ward for a monthly, evening meeting.

At Westways, patients are now going to be involved in cooking more of their own food. Protected therapeutic time is also being introduced for in-patients.

5. OPEN MEETING – WHO TO INVITE & AOB



HEAR US



One attendee spoke about an idea of setting up a new drop-in centre in Croydon.

HUC stated that Kingfishers will continue to run; Purley user group is to be move to newly refurbished accommodation at its existing site.

Parchmore Road will also continue. In addition there is to be a centre for older adults, one for BME users, and 1 other.

D.A.N.D.A. brought up a very good centre called Horizon House in Bromley. This is going to be discussed more at the next meeting.
