



HEAR US



Croydon User Council

Meeting at: Fairfield Club
1.00 – 4 pm 3rd March 2009

ITEM	ACTION	WHO
1.	MINUTES, WELCOMES, INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES & HOUSE RULES:	
	MINUTES: 6 th January Held over until next meeting	
2.	JOHN CLARKE – HOME TREATMENT TEAM AND PSYCHIATRIC LIAISON SERVICE	
	<p>John Clarke was welcomed by all. The Home Treatment team have been the “Gate Keepers” to the acute wards at the Bethlem since the team was set up in 2002 John explained that they were not there to commit service users into the Bethlem, but to assess if the person could possibly be treated within the community/their home in the 1st instance – As an alternative and support for the key worker or CPN to meet the needs of the service user and looking at the ‘risks’ of the individual living in the community Q. My CPN is good but doesn’t believe they are aware of my situation A. Make a list of what you want to say before they arrive. Q. I don’t believe that staff are aware of this service as I am always taken into hospital A. All staff would be aware of service Q. Do you help people in hospital A. Yes as we are involved with the early discharge from hospital Q. How quick is your response A. Usually within 2 hours We can visit the person in need twice per day but this is negotiated with the service user – because their CMHT have not got the resources for this kind of support. Q. Are you able to help a person that lives within a hostel? A. Yes Q. I don’t believe that all staff are aware of this service A. I will return to my staff and get them to promote this service across the services Q. I felt very low over the Christmas period but was refused hospitalization but I felt I needed help and I was becoming more isolated. A. You must ask your care coordinator to help you write a letter of complaint if you feel that you are being ignored or blocked from treatment or support. And if possible have someone represent you like an advocate. And you must ask to see the team leader. Q. I think a simple road map of services should be available of the services – giving details of contacts and services with phone numbers</p>	



A. I would expect this to already happen.
 Q. We use to have the Crisis Line but now we are told if we call the info line outside of hours we are told to attend the A&E at the Mayday Hospital but I want continuous care and your service should be located within A&E
 A. We are called the Home treatment and Psychiatric Liaison Service and the latter are based at the A&E
 The Team are made up of about 20 staff with 4 always being on duty and are made up of a team of social workers, CPNs, Occupational Therapists and managers.
 During each handover the history of each case is discussed and we look at the needs of the person in the near future.
 One person at the meeting mentioned that they had used the service a couple of years ago and claimed that the service was very good.

3. CHRISTINA THEODORIDOU FROM THE INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY (IOP) REGARDING THE CHILD HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT STUDY

Christina Theodoridou introduced herself and gave a brief explanation for her visit to the group. The IOP are hoping to recruit children so they can study their brains and how they work; between the ages of 9 to 12 who have a relative with a diagnosis of Schizophrenia or Schizoaffective Disorder. Each child and their parent/caregiver will be invited to come along to the testing centre in South East London for two sessions. Families will receive £50 to thank them for their participation. Children will receive a picture of their brain. And families will be reimbursed for all travel expenses.
 The CUC and those that attended the session felt very uncomfortable with this study – one said this is another example of us being treated like ‘Guinea Pigs’ for the IOP benefit.
 The group totally disliked the concept stating that this is unethical because you cannot get the consent of a 9 year old to this type of research and that “the children would be offered a picture of their own brain” as a way of enticing children was also ethically wrong. Christina claimed that this had been passed through ethics.

4. HEAR US CHARITY UPDATE

The Memorandum and Articles of Association didn’t need to be sent to the Charity commission as first thought before we apply to Companies House.
 Our solicitor will apply to Companies House to give Hear Us Limited Company by Guarantee.
 We will be sending letters to all our current members informing them of the change of status and requesting them to update their membership.

5. LINKWORKING



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CROYDON USER COUNCIL

BETHLEM: 8 New Linkworkers have gone through Training in January and February – which could enable the Linkworking at the Bethlem to increase from fortnightly to weekly. We will shortly be starting the Project at **Foxley Lane** once the two identified Linkworkers complete the process of training and signing up to the Involvement Register.

Both Andy and Carmen gave a brief update about their work on Alex Ground Floor and Gresham 2.

CMHT: The group will shortly be replicating the Tamworth Road Questionnaire at Purley and The Crescent CMHT.

Non SLaM Services

The Priory: We have built 2 online questionnaires for the Priory’s Computerised Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (**CCBT**) called Beating The Blues & Fear Fighter. Both starting in April – We will also be visiting (April 1st) one of their group sessions to do a pilot Linkworking session that will then be rolled out across their other groups.

6. OPEN MEETING – WHO TO INVITE & AOB

Tuesday 5th May Open Meeting - Welfare Benefits here to discuss the New Benefit; Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) & Permitted Work.

Following meetings - Team Manager From Croydon Integrated Psychological Therapy Services (CIPTs).

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The future Open Meetings will all start at 1.30 and finish at 4.30 to enable those that are attending the Fairfield Club to finish their lunch and join our sessions.

Minutes Signed off by Chair.

Name:	Signature:	Date:



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MEETING TYPE	DATE	TIME	VENUE	Guest
Closed	Tuesday 6 th January	1 – 4 pm	Hear Us Office	None
Closed	Tuesday 3 rd February	1 – 4 pm	Hear Us Office	CANCELLED
Open To All	Tuesday 3 rd March	1 – 4 pm	Fairfield Club*	John Clarke, from the Home Treatment Team & Psychiatric Liaison Service
Closed	Tuesday 7 th April	1 – 4 pm	Hear Us Office	None
Open To All	Tuesday 5 th May	1 – 4 pm	Fairfield Club*	Welfare Benefits here to discuss the New Benefit; Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) & Permitted Work & A researcher from the IOP (Institute of Psychiatry)
Closed	Tuesday 2 nd June	1 – 4 pm	Hear Us Office	None
Open To All	Tuesday 7 th July	1 – 4 pm	Fairfield Club*	TBC
Closed	Tuesday 4 th August	1 – 4 pm	Hear Us Office	None
Open: AGM*	Tuesday 1 st September	1 – 4 pm	Fairfield Club*	TBC
Closed	Tuesday 6 th October	1 – 4 pm	Hear Us Office	None
Open To All	Tuesday 3 rd November	1 – 4 pm	Fairfield Club*	TBC
Closed	Tuesday 1 st Decem	1 – 4 pm	Hear Us Office	None

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