

# MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

## MENTAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT TEAM INFORMATION

- **Development Monies:** This years development monies will be spent on services to meet the NSF and Healthcare Commission targets. This will include an extra Early Intervention staff member, Crisis team staff - We now have a crisis service steering group, who will make recommendations about how the team develops and how we will achieve by December 2005, in incremental stages, 24/7 county wide coverage; 2 outreach workers for Oak House, an extra Assertive Outreach worker, a CPA co-ordinator and a Carer Support Worker. Some of the positions have been advertised, and the remaining positions will be advertised over the coming months.
- **Budget:** This is a tight year financially for all parts of the Mental Health Services and we will be trying to make savings where possible without impacting on clinical services. Your assistance in reducing any unnecessary spending will be gratefully appreciated.
- **Monkmoor Court:** The building work on Monkmoor Court has began with an estimated completion date of end of September. This will allow the Older Adult Service community mental health teams to be co-located. A further bonus for them is that they will be lucky enough to share the building with the management team
- **Consultant Psychiatrists:** We have been fortunate to have two new posts created for consultant Psychiatrists. We have decided that we will put one extra post into the Older Adult Service to bring us to 3 consultants. The second position will be a newly created Rehabilitation and Recovery Consultant Psychiatrist. Job descriptions are being drafted so that we can go to advert as soon as possible.
- **The Patients Survey results for 2005** have been published. These are conducted each year by the Healthcare Commission, who survey service users in Herefordshire. The results this year are:
  - Significantly more service users than last year said they had trust and confidence in the psychiatrist or CPN they saw.
  - Significant increase in service users saying they knew who their Care Co-ordinator was (from 46% to 60%), and that they could contact them if necessary (66% to 75%)
  - Improvement on most questions about knowledge of and agreement with care plans, and care reviews
  - Improvements on questions about crisis care
- Intensive work continues around the new **PAS implementation**. The "Go Live" date is still to be confirmed, likely to be towards the year end. There will be a training program for users of the new system, and once the Go Live

is established, invites for training will be sent out.

- Steffen Cleaton ( **Mental Health Booking Project Manager**) has completed the initial scoping exercise of how we offer first appointments to new referrals. The next phase will be to pilot a standardised system that is compliant with national requirements. The target is to implement this system for all by the end of the year.
- Please complete and return the **IT skills questionnaire** as soon as possible. As many are aware, IT is playing an increasing part in the delivery of care, and this exercise can assist in planning appropriate training for staff.
- A useful workshop was held in July, looking at **Record Keeping in Mental Health**. Thank you to all who attended and contributed to a huge list of issues that we will need to address. This will begin after the August, with a working group developing a workable protocol for mental health. Prior to this the management team will produce a set of basic standards for record keeping across mental health, which will be cascaded through the August operational groups.
- **Star Ratings:** The Healthcare Commission has published its NHS performance ratings for 2004/05. Star ratings are based on achievement against a set of targets and indicators. The really good news is that the PCT's mental health services have gained a star, and now have 2 stars. Disappointingly, the PCT as a whole has lost a star, and now has 2. The mental health service performed extremely well overall, and met all the key indicators on topics such as implementing crisis resolution teams and the care programme approach, and good recording of clinical data. Mental health staff, and others in the PCT who have supported the work, have done an excellent job in achieving these, and

the extra star recognises their hard work.” **Extract from a letter from the Chief Executive**

- **NATIONWIDE CHANGES FOR PCTs:** The Department of Health has just published a paper setting out significant changes which are to happen to PCTs and Strategic Health Authorities nationwide. A special Team Brief summing up the main changes has been sent out by Paul Bates, Chief Executive. If you have not seen this document please ask for a copy from your line manager.

If you would like more information **Mark Hemming** has arranged for some open meetings at the Stonebow Unit for all staff of all grades who would like to be briefed on the current situation. These are:

- **3pm :1<sup>st</sup> August - Stonebow Resource Room**
- **4pm: 3<sup>rd</sup> August - Stonebow Conference Room**
- **2pm: 8<sup>th</sup> August - Stonebow Conference Room**

If individual teams would like Mark to come to their Team meetings please contact Pat Borthwick to arrange a time and date.

**Mark Hemming , Sally Simmonds, Rob Cunningham, Angie Kelly and Sue Bennison for more info.**

**OLDER ADULT SERVICE**  
Sue Bennison  
Operational Manager

- We are looking forward to two new **OTs** joining us during the first week in September joining the North and South Herefordshire CMHTS
- Many thanks to **Margaret Woodward** who has been working with us as an OT in the South Team for 3 months. Your work has been

much appreciated and we wish you all the best for your future.

- We will be interviewing for a **Consultant Psychologist** for the Older Adult Service on August 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Welcome to **Clare Watson** who has joined the Older Adult admin team. Initially based at Moor House, Clare will also spend time at Nan Belville Day Hospital and in the DMHOP office at Stonebow.

**Contact: Sue Bennison 01432 262891**  
[sbenniso@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sbenniso@herefordshire.gov.uk)

ACUTE SERVICES  
Sally Simmonds  
Operational Manager

- Welcome to **Ian Richards and Clare Hall**, new staff nurses on Cantilupe Ward
- A vast amount of work has been done in relation to the replacement of ceilings in the Stonebow Unit. This is part of the **Ligature Plan** which is subject to ongoing review
- The **Day Care Service Operational Plan** has now been agreed by the Acute Care Forum and the Mental Health Operational Group (MHOG). If you would like more information about the policy, please contact Dorothy Tutton, Day Care Manager at the Stonebow Unit

GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS  
CONSULTATIONS  
TRAINING  
OTHER EVENTS

- **MENTAL HEALTH NURSING CONSULTATION:** Chief Nursing Officer Chris Beasley has launched a consultation regarding the future development of mental health nursing in England.  
The consultation is part of the review of mental health nursing

launched in February 2005 and comes in the context of major government reforms such as "Choosing Health" and "Delivering Race Equality", and the development of new ways of working for a range of professions. The central question to be answered by the review is "How can mental health nursing best contribute to the care of service users in the future?" The consultation seeks views on a number of issues including:

- Core values and roles
- Providing holistic care
- Ensuring equality and meeting diverse needs.

The document can be accessed via the DoH website on

[www.dh.gov.uk/Consultations](http://www.dh.gov.uk/Consultations) and the consultation ends on October 21<sup>st</sup> 2005

- A report "Back on Track" has been published by the Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health and the Mental Health Act Commission regarding care planning for people detained in hospital under the Mental Health Act 1983. The report makes 18 recommendations to improve the care offered to people following discharge from detention in hospital. The briefing is available on [www.scmh.org.uk](http://www.scmh.org.uk)
- This report is also available on the Mental Health Act Commission website together with a CPA brief audit tool and a review of literature on CPA. Available on [www.mhac.org.uk](http://www.mhac.org.uk)

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ALZHEIMERS'S SOCIETY  
Dr Nick Wagner  
Chair

- **NICE : National Institute for Clinical Excellence:** NICE has reported on its consultation over

antidementia drugs, sticking to its view that they should not be prescribed as they do not represent “good value for money” and this after over 8,000 letters of protest. NICE’s Chief Executive, however, has stayed the execution asking the pharmaceutical companies that manufacture these drugs to look for evidence from clinical trials to support the suggestion that the drugs may be particularly effective for certain groups of patients. He hopes to report in October of this year.

- **DAYCARE:** There is currently one place available in Hereford and two at Ledbury.
- **COMPANIONSHIP CLUBS/BEFRIENDING SERVICE:** The Companionship Club at Hereford is full and nearly full at Ross-on-Wye. The Clubs from Hereford, Bromyard and Ross-on-Wye have recently enjoyed a lunch out at Oakchurch Garden Centre.

The Befriending Service now has two paid staff and a volunteer to undertake this work, plus the input from the Carer Support Worker. There is an ever increasing demand on the resources.

**Contact: 01432 371137**  
[alzheimershfd@waitrose.com](mailto:alzheimershfd@waitrose.com)

**Any comments or items for inclusion in the Newsletter please send to:**

**Sue Bennison**  
**Moor House,**  
**Widemarsh Common,**  
**Hereford HR4 9NA**  
**Tel 01432 262891**  
**[sbenniso@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sbenniso@herefordshire.gov.uk)**