

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE
Mike Thomas
Manager of Mental Health Services

- The first meeting of the **Section 31 Health Act Joint Consultative Committee** took place on September 30th. Primary focus at this meeting was financial pressures and details of Integrated Commissioning. Next meeting in December has a presentation by Mike Thomas and Paul Ryan on Commissioning Management issues.
- **Primary Care Trust Annual General Meeting** held on September 26th
- **District Audit** has visited mental health services. Primary focus on in-patient areas looking at information input and output systems
- Discussions in process with **Medical Secretaries and IT staff** related to improving outpatient arrangements for service users and improved recording for monitoring of services
- Mike Thomas attended the Rural Mental Health Service Group annual conference in Bristol. A good deal of information provided about rural services and what was particularly pleasing was the discovery that we are more advanced in our integration of services than most other rural services
- **CAR PARKING AT THE STONEBOW UNIT** Misuse of parking facilities (not by mental health service staff!) has led to action being taken to develop a monitoring (with *clamping*) service. If visiting the Stonebow Unit, please ensure that you have a pass or are logged in with Reception.

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ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE
Simon Thompson
Adult Operational Manager

- Interviews for Community Psychiatric Nurse (CPN) for Assertive Outreach Service (AOS) take place on October 18th.
- Christine Duthoit (CPN) providing one day per week cover in AOS until new person in post.
- Congratulations to Sarah Frazer, social worker in Hereford City Community Mental Health Team 2 for successfully completing her Approved Social Work (ASW) training. Sarah will be accredited as an ASW within the next couple of months.
- CPA (Care Programme Approach electronic system) Mk II should be ready in December. "it will work more smoothly and be more reliable as well as incorporating changes requested to CPA Mk I"

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MENTAL HEALTH DEVELOPMENTS
Sue Bennison
Mental Health Development Manager

- The opportunity has arisen to use Performance Fund finance to develop a "pilot" out of hours sitting service across Herefordshire for older adults with mental health problems. Service provision will be through Kemble Care, an independent domiciliary care provider and will be evaluated by Herefordshire Carers Support. The pilot will hopefully start in November and run to the end of March 2003.
- A "new" Herefordshire Carers Strategy is being developed. A draft document for consultation will be available in early November
- The Department of Health has produced a consultation document : **National Women's Mental Health**

Strategy – Women’s Mental Health : Into the Mainstream.

Copies will be sent to all areas of the Mental Health Service and can be downloaded from the DoH website www.doh.gov.uk under “Consultations”

There will be a consultation event at **Centennial House in Birmingham on December 16th** **More information from Keren Corbett on 01527 587625**

- Joint Review- Autumn 2002:”A thorough and comprehensive review of a Local Authority’s delivery of its social services and responsibilities. A joint team made up of the Social Services Inspectorate and the Audit Commission carries out the review. Joint Reviews provide an independent assessment of how well the public is being served by social services locally. The reviews identify what authorities do well, and highlight those areas that could be improved.”
The Joint Review Team will be meeting with a variety of staff within the Mental Health Service, service users and carers, agencies and organisations within the statutory, voluntary and independent sector.

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HEREFORDSHIRE USER GROUP
ADVOCACY SERVICE
Philip Pankhurst
Manager

- More than 40 applications received for the second salaried advocate post, many from candidates with suitable qualities and experience. Second interviews have now taken place, and an announcement will be made shortly.
- The Hereford Lions Club has generously donated a large exhibition trailer to HUG, which will be used to take our message and our service around the county. In perfect order,

the vehicle went straight into action in High Town on World Mental Health Day, 10th October. Expect to see us at shows and galas in 2003

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DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
FOR OLDER PEOPLE
Rita Harrison
DMHOP Team Manager

- Jenny Haste, Social Worker previously working in Bristol, started with DMHOP on October 14th. Jenny is working 18.5 hours per week and job sharing with Jo Goddard, Social Worker in DMHOP North Team
- Appreciation of the efforts of Carole Bufton, Community Psychiatric Nurse seconded from DMHOP Nursing team to support social care colleagues for the past three months.
- Appreciation also to Carole’s CPN colleagues who enabled her to take on this role. It is hoped that this secondment will have some positive “spin-offs” for the integration agenda
- Following Dr Broughton’s departure Dr Richard Eggar, Consultant Psychiatrist, started work in DMHOP on October 21st. Initially appointed in a locum capacity, Richard’s post will be made substantive in the near future.
- Agreement has been reached for Mr R Ferin, Senior Nurse with the Gloucestershire Partnership NHS Trust to undertake a brief review of nursing services in DMHOP

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INFORMATICS
Simon Hamilton
Mental Health Project Manager

- Geoff Watkins, IT Technician (Mental Health) now working with Simon to roll out and support the establishment of IT systems throughout the mental health service,

- Contact through Simon or IT Helpdesk 01432 262056
- Requests for any further infrastructure needs to be sent to Simon with a “rudimentary” business case or justification
- Work is continuing on the development of an **EPR (Electronic Patient Record)** in conjunction with Herefordshire Council. Demo version on laptop available soon.

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MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION
 Roger Hanson
 Mental Health Promotion Co-ordinator

➤ **Mental health promotion education and training programme**

This is a practical aid for developing and implementing mental health promotion across a variety of settings in Herefordshire. The programme is being offered to colleagues within the newly formed Mental Health Promotion settings network with supporting statutory and voluntary agencies. The first set of this three-day programme will be run as a pilot at the end of November and during January, 2003. The programme will comprise of :

One Day Mental Health Promotion Workshop : ‘Basic Awareness’

Friday 29th November, 2002 – Hereford

This workshop will provide opportunities to explore:

- Ideas and confusion which surrounds mental health promotion
- The rationale for doing mental health promotion
- Support available and broad ‘ways of doing’ mental health promotion

Upon completion of this workshop the introductory workshop is followed by the:

Two Day Mental Health Promotion Foundation Course: ‘Developing Practice’

Friday 10th and Friday 24th January, 2003 – Hereford

This course will provide opportunities to explore:

- Ideas and issues (in more depth) which arise at the one day workshop
- Ways of integrating mental health promotion in your practice
- Beginning to visualise mental health promotion activity across a number of settings.

If you would like further details of this new training and to apply for a place either for the one day ‘Basic Awareness’ workshop only or for both the ‘Basic Awareness’ *and* ‘Developing Practice’ workshops (3 day total sessions), please contact Rachel Naya on 01432 262852/ rnaya@herefordshire.gov.uk. Places will be limited for the first set of training, so please register your interest as soon as possible and be in at the beginning!

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INPATIENT SERVICES
 Margaret Reilly
 Senior Sister
 19 – and counting

- Two members of the **Mental Health Act Commission** (MHAC) will be visiting the Stonebow Unit on January 15th 2003. The primary purpose of the visit is to meet with detained patients but the MHAC team will also be looking at issues related to the operation of the **Mental Health Act 1983** with particular reference to:

- **Section 5(2): Doctor’s holding power**
- **Section 5(4): Nurse’s holding power**
- **Control and Restraint**

➤ New appointments: Staff Nurse Sheryl Jackson has been appointed to Night Duty. Sheryl will be working on Mortimer for three weeks as part of her induction. We hope she will join us in mid-November.

Two Nursing Assistants have also been appointed. Phil Taylor is now working on Mortimer Ward and Nina Lister will take up her post on Cantilupe Ward on 11th November.

MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEMS, STRUCTURES AND LINKS



