

# POWYS MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

*Your update of all things partnership*

## WELCOME

Welcome to the second edition of the Mental Health Planning and Development Partnership Board (MHPDPB) update. Here you'll find all the latest news and information relating to the partnership work currently taking place in Powys.

If you have any queries about this update or would like to be featured in the next issue please contact: [Freda.Lacey@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Freda.Lacey@wales.nhs.uk)

## In this month's issue...



Partnership Recruitment



Mental Health Volunteers



COVID-19 Survey



Housing First



Your Voice Project Launch

## ...and much more!

### RECOVERY PLANNING

The Partnership is intending to hold an engagement event (planning for October/November 2020), format to be determined, to look at the content of the new Together For Mental Health Delivery Plan which was released in February. Welsh Government (WG) have been working on the recovery planning and we're waiting for this to be released. Estimated timescales for this are the 1st week October, revised Delivery Plan will be published by WG. WG will expect an update report in January 2020.

In the meantime, the Partnership Team are working on draft formats for sharing and also reporting.

## UPDATE FROM THE COVID-19 SERVICE USERS AND CARER SURVEY

Engage to Change ran an anonymous online survey between May and July to capture a sense of the mental health patient experience during COVID-19. Feedback received varied from commending practitioner empathy and the introduction of telephone and video consultations, to highlighting the importance of time keeping and face to face contact. Engage to Change are currently in the process of developing an action plan to share all the good practice identified across the county and encourage a review where challenges were highlighted.

## SUICIDE AND SELF-HARM COORDINATION RESOURCE

New National Suicide Coordinators are now in place, covering North, Mid/West and South Wales. Powys has also now appointed our own specific Suicide and Self-Harm Coordinator in August, funded by Welsh Government, and we're waiting for them to pick up their role as soon as is feasible. They will be liaising with the Mid/West Wales new Coordinator, Debra Morgan, so we are aligned in supporting wider regional coordination. Powys' new coordinator is Jan Roberts who is currently leading the Crisis Resolution Home Treatment Team for South Powys. We're delighted Jan has been successful in achieving success and we look forward to her coming on board.

We applied for some funding from a national pot for Suicide/Self-Harm to progress a project we've been developing in relation to pathways of support for bereaved people relating to Suicide in Powys. Unfortunately, we have been unsuccessful so we're looking at other opportunities for developing this further.

## HARM REDUCTION COORDINATOR

Great news about our new Harm Reduction post, interviews were held in August. Andrew Mason, who is a former Police Officer, is well versed within Drug/Alcohol, community safety and other related multi-agency partnership working and will be starting in the role on 21st September.

## HOUSING FIRST FOR PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE MISUSE ISSUES AND/OR WHO AT RISK OF BECOMING HOMELESS

Powys has been successful in receiving £750,000 to add to a capital build pot of funding (housing) and an additional £310,000 towards revenue (support costs) from recent funding by Welsh Government. The funding bid from Powys, driven by the Housing Department in Powys County Council, is underpinned by multi-agency partnership working across Mental Health, Substance Misuse, Housing and Third Sector.



New Triage centres in different localities are looking to be developed with multi-agency support such as mental health, substance misuse, welfare benefit and debt advice, personal budgeting, domestic violence support. Some funding in this pot is open to Third Sector organisations who can support people in the areas listed above. PAVO's Head of Health and Wellbeing, Clair Swales, is coordinating with the Third Sector in Powys.

## ARTS IN HEALTH COORDINATOR

We had over 21 applications for this post and were successful in appointing to the role in August. The new Coordinator is Lucy Bevan, who currently works with the Council as the Arts and Culture Commissioning Manager. We are unique in having Lucy straddle both areas which will help our joint approach to arts and culture development across Powys. Lucy starts in her role with the PTHB on 14th September.

## CRISIS CARE COORDINATION POWYS COVID-19 CRISIS CARE GROUP

Our weekly focus on crisis care for key individuals during Covid-19 has been happening with a joined-up approach to supporting people across agencies, police, Crisis Team(s), Powys County Council, Adult Social Care, Welsh Ambulance and Housing where needed.

Information and trends from these meetings has been very useful to help inform our reports on wider Crisis Care and additionally feeds into the Powys Crisis Care Forum which meets quarterly, 10th September. We are working much more closely across services with the inclusion of housing officers supporting this work. We link into the National Crisis Care Concordat Meeting and our reports are well received. We are unique in having our Integrated Risk Intervention and Support process.

## OTHER RECRUITMENT AIMS/MULTI-AGENCY SUPPORT:

Dual Diagnosis (Substance Misuse/Mental Health) Coordinators are now in Job Matching within the health board (part of equal recruitment process) and the four complex needs roles (Mental Health, Housing and Substance Misuse) are being handled through a multi-agency team, with Housing (PCC) leading on the recruitment. Interviews for these roles are happening on 30th September, so watch this space for updates!



## MENTAL HEALTH VOLUNTEERS – IN POWYS TEACHING HEALTH BOARD

We now have four “Anchor Buddy” volunteers working with local Community Mental Health Team’s (CMHT) across Powys with a further volunteer wishing to come on-board.

Recent feedback from the volunteers has been very positive stating they are really enjoying the role. Our “Tech Buddy” roles are also very enthusiastic about supporting people to access on-line support through our “Attend Anywhere” and have been now trained on the system. We’re delighted with the success of our new mental health volunteers and ongoing recruitment with PAVO’s support.

## THIRD SECTOR HIGHLIGHTS

Our Mental Health Service Providers continue to all work creatively to support people with mental health distress. All providers are actively looking at opening their buildings for face to face meetings, with keen regard to risk assessing whilst adhering to social distancing requirements. PAVO continues to facilitate networking forums relating to Mental Health, particularly the mental health service providers network, Powys Agri Network and others. The Mental Health Partnership Team attends these networks to ensure consistency of support and communication about national and local T4MH related priorities.

For further information on the Third Sector and Minutes from the Mental Health Partnership Board, please visit PAVO’s Mental Health website on: <http://www.powysmentalhealth.org.uk/info/legal-matters-strategies/hearts-and-minds-powys-mental-health-strategic-plan/powys-mental-health-planning-and-development-partnership.html>

## ENGAGE TO CHANGE

Engage to Change met in early September and received a number of exciting updates from members.

Our Individual Representatives have been very active throughout the lockdown representing Powys at the virtual Mental Health Forum meetings and Subgroups. Our Representatives have also been continuing the Patients' Council on Felindre Ward and supporting us on interview panels for patient-facing practitioner positions. Planning is also underway for Self Injury Awareness Day in early 2021.

## THE YOUR VOICE PROJECT

August saw the launch of PTHB's internal participation network the Your Voice Project. The project is designed to collect the contact details of service users and carers who would like to be involved in contributing to service development and create a mailing list where co-production opportunities can be routinely advertised.

