

Minute of the Comms and Engagement Meeting

Video Conference Meeting – 10th December

Attendees: Karen Martin, Amanda McLaren

Secretariat: Nicola Paterson, Sophie Ryder, Kirsty McGrath

Apologies: John Scott, Dean Robertson, Shaben Begum, Rebecca Lawrence, Irene Oldfather

1. Approval of previous minute

The minute of the previous meeting was agreed.

2. Finalising the survey and agreeing best method for distribution

- It was agreed that the survey was in a position to distribute to the stakeholders identified
- This will be done in the new year to ensure the best response possible
- The distribution list was discussed and stakeholders added. This will be uploaded to the hub.
- It was agreed that the survey will be sent to stakeholders directly and we will not use social media as a platform for distribution.

3. Stakeholder engagement for phase 3 of the Review

- Kirsty explained the plan for stakeholder engagement for phase 3 of the review.
- This will involve working with online groups and networks, of both practitioners and people with lived experience, using existing meetings as a platform to contribute to a rolling programme of engagement with the Review.. The aim of these meetings will be to explore and challenge emerging proposals from the working groups and provide early feedback on suggested changes before ideas are fixed.
- In addition to this, we will also set up 2 reference groups, one for practitioners and one for persons with lived experience. These groups will take some of the more formed ideas, after they have been considered by stakeholders, unpick them in detail and refine them.
- These groups will also be held online and will be set up in the new year. An invitation will be sent out to stakeholders prior to the xmas break.
- A spreadsheet of proposed stakeholders was presented to the group and suggestions of additional stakeholders were input.

4. Campaign

The group discussed the prospect of a campaign and initial suggestions consisted of the following;

Audience -

Anybody subject to Mental Health Law

What's the Aim? -

Inform and Empower

Equipping people with the knowledge to understand their rights and responsibilities when being cared for or treated under the Mental Health Act.

What are the Objectives? –

Help people understand;

- What is the ECHR
- What is the UNCRPD
- What is a Human Rights Approach
- What does a Human Rights based service look like?
- What does early intervention look like?
- How do these rights translate to my care and treatment under the Mental Health Act

This would look to tackle the following issues which were raised in the consultation and as such have formed part of the comms and engagement plan:

- Carers not receiving appropriate information and advice.
- Lack of awareness of advance statements due to poor communication.
- The role of advocacy not being communicated effectively.
- People are not aware of their rights and how these rights translate to their care and treatment.
- Lack of accessible information available to help individuals make informed choices about their care and treatment.
- Lack of understanding about the services that different professions provide and the role of these professions in their care and treatment
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- It was agreed that this was something to work on in the new year.

5. Supporting other Advisory Groups with shared objectives

- The cross overs between the work of the comms and engagement group and the other advisory groups was acknowledged and the group discussed how the groups might work together.
- It was suggested that a representative from the comms and engagement might attend another advisory groups meeting to contribute on a particular issue.