

Scottish Mental Health Law Review

Minute of the Communication and Engagement Advisory Group

Location: Virtual Meeting via MS Teams

Date: 22 December 2021

Time: 09:30am – 10:00am

Present: Karen Martin (Co chair), Alison Rankin, John Scott, Rhona Wilder

Secretariat: Morag Peberdy (minutes)

Apologies: Eleanor Brewster, Irene Oldfather, Sophie Ryder (secretariat)

The purpose of this meeting plus the meeting in January is to discuss the consultation in 2022. These were circulated round the group prior to the meeting. The group agreed that the bulk of will carry forward to January's meeting.

Planning survey

- **Anticipated outcomes of consultation**

Agreed that this will depend on the foundation recommendations from the Executive Team. Group to help refine and put forward recommendations as a final draft.

- **Proposed stakeholders, who have we missed out?**

Secretariat have a list of proposed stakeholders.

This can be shared with advocacy, stakeholders and 3rd sector organisations. Independent advocacy have specific groups who deal with BAME and LGBTI communities.

Consider sharing on THRIVE website, Patient Council website, Edinburgh Carer's Council, CAMHS networks, Law Society (for journal), Judicial Institute, MHTS, OPG, SCTS, CAPS Advocacy (Oor Mad History).

Agreed need to make sure people with lived experience are included.

Review the stakeholder list and see where the gaps are.

- **Using online format versus face to face or postal surveys. How do we reach those not using online facilities?**

Possible online survey / support groups? Face to face interviews probably not a good idea as it is important that we collect data from the

specific questions being asked. Interviewing, it was felt, could skew results. Agreed a survey provides a consistent approach.

- What information needs to go with the survey? Do we need to send out basic information about the pieces of legislation covered in the review? Do we provide a simple explanation of some of the terms used within the review and why we are using certain terms, such as mental disabilities?

Agreed it needs to go in easy read and plain English. Provide some background as to what the review is about and its intention. Possible information booklet to accompany the survey. Information for booklet should already be available from work the various advisory groups have already produced. Not all questions need to be answered. Participant can just respond to questions appropriate to them.

Lead in time for easy read is 4 weeks. The survey will need to be ready by end of January 2022 to allow for enough conversion time. Group felt that small scenarios would be helpful to use within the survey, four sentences at most.

Survey Questions

- Should we highlight the rights which might be affected by use of legislation?

Agreed that linking into legislation is necessary. Carry forward to next meeting for further consideration.

Accessibility – points to consider

- How do we make this survey accessible for people with little or poor literacy skills?
- How do we make it accessible for children and young people
- How do we make it accessible for people where English is not their first language?
- How do we make it accessible for people with sensory impairments, dementia, cognitive issues and learning disabilities

Group agreed that consultation needs to be accessible for all. Discussed the various support groups and partners available to help those unable to access IT. Also needs to be available on social media; facebook and twitter.

Communication

- What is the best way to tell people about the consultation about to happen
- How do we ensure people who we want to complete the report complete it?

The communication about the consultation needs to be accessible as well as the consultation itself. Agreed that there should be a communication package for users as to what they should put on their

websites, including social media (facebook / twitter). Also include what wording they should use in the email/social media for ease.

Date of next meeting: 26th January 2022.

**Secretariat
22/12/21**