

Chairs Report March 2024 Part 1

Salford City Council

Very pleased to have received confirmation of the contract after the standstill period. Our Commissioner has now reverted back to Lauren, who attended the Business Planning Day, and who has held a Quarterly Monitoring meeting with Sam and I. Big thanks to Natalie for her cover in this role during the meanwhile including the contracting process.

Healthwatch in GM

At the most recent meeting we heard from the GM Resilience Hub (and thank you to Sam for arranging this), which relates to our own engagement project. It was clear that health and care staff feel pressured. There was a willingness to extend their work to HW volunteer officers who in turn can use this to support volunteers. My own view is that COVID and its aftermath has put a premium on management and leadership, and highlights the importance of staff resilience.

The Right Care Right Person initiative is not going to plan, with delays and issues.

HW Trafford have set a good example for their leading of the Children and Young Person project and HW Rochdale are due to lead on the forthcoming Menopause project. For both projects there is modest funding linked to tasks to help deliver the project.

Greater Manchester Mental Health Foundation

We received a briefing on the Shanley report on 25th January and copies of the report when published. The report highlights the importance of patient voice. This will continue to be a key part of our planned work going forward and we will also look for further opportunities to promote patient, family and carer voice within the Trust. Sam and I are attending a GMMH Healthwatch meeting the morning before the Board meeting, which will include issues arising from the Shanley report, and we will report back that afternoon.

NCA Partnership Board

These meetings have stopped due to illness within the NCA. I'll pick this up again at the end of March.

Meetings

- 13th December Future Sustainability of Healthwatch
- 14th December Volunteers lunch
- 23rd January Catch up with Sam
- 25th January Shanley Report briefing
- 29th January Link meeting with Ali
- 6th February Business Planning Day
- 14th February Quarterly Monitoring meeting

23rd February HW in GM

23rd February Catch up with Sam

I was on holiday 6th – 16th January and I'm grateful to Rimpy for being available if needed during that time. I had a clash with a Guinness Board and Committee meetings in London on 7th February and gave my apologies to the Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Panel on the same day.

Future meetings

5th March GM Mental Health Foundation Trust Partnership Board

6th March and 3rd April and 1st May Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Panel

19th March HW in GM Chairs meeting

22nd March and 26th April HW in GM Development meeting

There's also a NW Regional HW meeting down for the same day as the HW in GM March meeting but I think this will change. I also suspect the 1st May meeting above may change.

Anniversary

In passing I have now served 8 years as Healthwatch Salford Chair. A big thanks to all those who have been, and are continuing to be part of this journey!

Phil Morgan