

Focus on ■■

Summer 2018  
Issue 18



Forum of Carers and people  
who Use our Services

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**What is FoCUS?** A voice for carers and people who use mental health, learning disability, older people, and drug and alcohol services in Surrey and North East Hampshire, provided by Surrey & Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. Public meetings where NHS Managers learn from people who have experienced these services, what works well and what could be improved. FoCUS members are Carers and people who use services, or have used services in the last five years.

*All FoCUS members who are carers can also attend the Carers Action Group.*

### Involvement Workshop

FoCUS members from all four area groups attended this workshop as part of the Trust's ambition to place people who use services, families and carers views, experiences and expert knowledge at the heart of the Trust's work. FoCUS members heard Paul Binfield, Head of People Participation at East London Foundation Trust, talk about the work of his team which included patient placements, People Participation Awards, service users or carers on every interview panel and in all training courses. A service user who worked with Paul talked about his work interviewing patients on hospital wards as part of a research project which had been co-designed with service users from the beginning. FoCUS members also heard about the inspiring work of the CAMHS Youth Advisors who are keen to be more involved with FoCUS. Following these talks all attendees were asked for their views on what our Trust could do to improve people's participation, these ideas will be presented to the FoCUS Committee in August. FoCUS Reps will feed back to FoCUS members the latest ideas at the FoCUS Area Groups in September.



***Need help to attend meetings? We can pay your travel costs or arrange transport for you. Please contact your FoCUS Involvement Facilitator Jane Ahmed who can be contacted by Telephone 01483 456558, Mobile/SMS Text 07426 022279 or email [Jane.Ahmed@surreycoalition.org.uk](mailto:Jane.Ahmed@surreycoalition.org.uk)***

**I do not want to, or can not go to meetings can I still be involved?**

Yes, we can send you regular updates by post or email and you can give us your views, You can also contact us on Twitter [@FoCUS\\_SaBP](https://twitter.com/FoCUS_SaBP) or via [www.facebook.com/FoCUS.SABP](http://www.facebook.com/FoCUS.SABP)

**HAVE YOU MOVED OR CHANGED CONTACT DETAILS? PLEASE LET US KNOW**

## **Changing the way adults with mental ill health access Trust services**

The pathways into Trust services for adults experiencing mental ill health are changing. FoCUS members and FoCUS Reps have attend a multi-agency workshop to co-design the new pathways with the Trust's staff. This included a session to consider if the new Single Point of Access (SPA) will handle routine referrals to the Trust's services as well as urgent. FoCUS Reps will hear more about these developments at the August FoCUS Committee.

### **Advanced Statements & Advanced Decisions**

FoCUS members raised issues about Advanced Statements and Decisions at Area Group Meetings in March and April. At the following Reps Meeting FoCUS Representatives chose to discuss this issue at the May FoCUS Committee. Discussions at the Committee showed this is an area the Trust are only beginning to look at and they have lots to learn from people's experiences. We will be talking about this topic at the September Area Group Meetings and welcome your input.

### **All Eleven FoCUS Reps Attend May FoCUS Committee**

For the first time in a while we had a full house of FoCUS Reps at a FoCUS Committee meeting which was great, especially because so many had recent lived experience about the agenda items which was valuable for the Trust to hear. FoCUS Reps also represented the views expressed by FoCUS members at the Area Meetings to the Committee which included the Acting Chief Executive and Trust Directors. If you are interested in becoming a FoCUS Rep please contact Jane Ahmed — details below.

### **Our next FoCUS meetings are in September, all from 1pm - 3pm on:**

East & Mid Surrey <b>Monday 3rd September</b>	Holy Trinity Church, Carlton Road, <b>Redhill</b> , RH1 2BX
South West Surrey <b>Wednesday 5th September</b>	Guildford Baptist Church, Millmead, <b>Guildford</b> , GU2 4BE
North West Surrey <b>Monday 10th September</b>	The Chertsey Hall, Heriot Road, <b>Chertsey</b> , KT16 9DR
West Surrey & North East Hampshire <b>Thursday 13th September</b>	4th Floor Room PCT09, Aldershot Centre for Health, <b>Aldershot</b> , GU11 1AY

If you need help to travel to meetings we can pay your travel costs or arrange transport for you — Please ask Jane Ahmed for more information, details are below.

### **For more information about FoCUS please contact**

FoCUS Involvement Facilitator, Jane Ahmed who works for Surrey Coalition of Disabled People. Jane can be contacted by **Email** ✉ [Jane.Ahmed@surreycoalition.org.uk](mailto:Jane.Ahmed@surreycoalition.org.uk)  
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