

Mental Health News

User and carer involvement in Commissioning - an opportunity for PCTs to be world class.

The Mental Health News e-bulletin is a daily bulletin issued by the Mental Health Improvement Programme (MHIP) containing an item relating to a Mental Health issue, development or outcome in the North West.

The aim is to bring awareness to our stakeholders about service improvement and innovative projects underway in Mental Health across the North West, and to encourage you (the reader) to act as vehicle for ensuring that you or your organisation is engaged with the work where applicable.

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The Mental Health Improvement Programme (MHIP) and the National Mental Health Development Unit (NMH DU) are about to launch a project of work targeting PCTs to develop and refine methods and processes for increasing engagement and involvement of service users, carers and the public in key areas of the commissioning cycle for mental health and related services.

The project will be delivered by an independent organisation with experience in community and user engagement/participation and will work closely with the MHIP Lead for Commissioning. MHIP will seek expressions of interest to tender for delivery of this project, and information on this is available via: Simon.Rippon@northwest.nhs.uk

The project aims to support PCT Commissioning and Engagement Leads in extending the reach of involvement and participation in such areas as strategic assessment and planning, service redesign and quality improvement and performance review.

Whilst PCTs are already underway with engagement plans, this project is a positive opportunity to add stretch to existing arrangements and to seek external expertise on how to refine and further develop approaches in the task of commissioning in mental health.

In the coming weeks PCTs will be invited to collaborate in this initiative as contribution to World Class Commissioning Competency.

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