

Dear all,

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

In the first PPG Bulletin of the year, please find information below on:-

- Carers Rights (attachment “Looking After Someone”)
- AVoice Advocacy Service
- Healthwatch Somerset - statement on Somerset’s Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP)
- Government launch consultation on Dementia: care, support and awareness
- Mental Health Service review programme 90 day public consultation
- Applications for the Police & Crime Commissioner’s Community Action Fund will reopen
- Share your experiences of the NHS
- Mental Health First Aid Training
- Sustainability and Transformation Plan – Meeting at South Petherton
(attachment LoF STP Meeting)

Useful website links:

- www.carersvoicesomerset.co.uk
- <https://www.nhscitizen.org.uk/>
- <http://www.cqc.org.uk/content/get-our-newsletter>
- www.cqc.org.uk
- www.somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk
- <http://healthwatchsomerset.co.uk/>

Please share this with colleagues who may be interested in being added to the circulation list to receive the bulletin regularly. Please contact me on susan.lilley@somersetccg.nhs.uk if you have any information you would like added to future PPG bulletins.

Kind regards

Sue Lilley

Interim Patient, Public Experience and Engagement Coordinator

Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group | *Working together to Improve health and wellbeing*

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Email: susan.lilley@somersetccg.nhs.uk

Website: www.somersetccg.nhs.uk

Subject: Carers Rights

Please find attached for your information the most recent guide to Carers Rights – for your information.

Deborah de Mornay Penny - Carers' Voice Somerset Project Officer

Contact: 07818 523487

Base: Glastonbury (Remote)

Usual working pattern: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu



Carers' Voice Somerset

Working together to improve the lives of unpaid carers in Somerset

www.carersvoicesomerset.co.uk

Subject: AVoice Advocacy Service

Information about AVoice advocacy service for vulnerable adult victims of crime and antisocial behaviour:

- AVoice is an independent advocacy for vulnerable adults affected by crime and ASB in Bristol, BANES, South Glos and Somerset (Michael Clark is contact).
- It is a partnership between The Care Forum (lead partner), Support, Empower, Advocate, Promote (SEAP) and Stand Against Racism and Inequality (SARI).
- They advocate for anyone over 18 with mental health issues, learning difficulties, physical difficulties or problems associated with old age, social exclusion or isolation. They also advocate for those affected by issues relating to culture and identity, particularly race, gender identity, sexual orientation and religion and belief.
- With core values of independence, being free from conflict of interests and being confidential they help people to research options to support informed choices, to have their voice heard, secure their rights, represent their interests and obtain services.
- Provide practical assistance to vulnerable adult victims of crime who have additional needs
- Provide face to face and over-the-phone advocacy for the short and long term (depending on the victim's needs and the circumstances of the case)
- Offer victims information about the different options available to them and support victims' decision-making
- Signpost to relevant agencies using the Well Aware database
- Provide information about the criminal justice process to help victims navigate within it (in a way that is easy for them to understand)
- Use a multi-agency approach to assist victims with high-level needs.
- Individuals can be referred by email or telephone. The case will then be allocated to advocates and clients will be contacted within 3-5 working days.

AVoice
The Care Forum
Vassal Centre
Gill Avenue
Fishponds
Bristol BS16 2QQ

0800 254 0777

avoice@thecareforum.org.uk

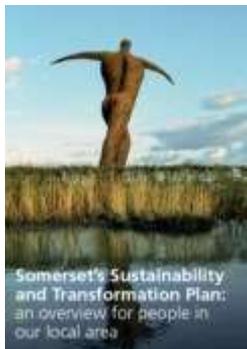
www.thecareforum.org/avoice

Subject: Healthwatch Somerset - statement on Somerset's Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP)

Somerset has launched its Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP). We believe that any change to services must include meaningful input from those affected if it is to be successful. You can read the full Healthwatch response and our advice on what to expect and how to get involved here: [duty-to-consult-stp_role-of-healthwatch](#).

You can read the overview of the STP [here](#), or the full STP [here](#)

Healthwatch is committed to championing the views of local people, and we will work closely with developments around the STP in order to ensure that your voice is heard. If you would like to talk to us, then please get in touch using the 'contact' area of our website.



Morgan Daly

Director for Communities

Healthwatch

Direct line: 0117 958 9345

Subject: Government launch consultation on Dementia: care, support and awareness

The Department of Health want to hear from people with dementia, their families and carers if we are making a difference to their day to day lives. The consultation runs until 31 January 2017. Click [here](#) to see how you may get involved.

Talking to people about the government's work on dementia The government have launched a toolkit that provides guidance about facilitating discussions with people with dementia and carers. Click [here](#) to have a look at the toolkit.

Subject: Mental Health Service review programme 90 day public consultation

As part of the Mental Health Service review programme we are today launching the [90 day public consultation](#) on the five following service specifications for Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Tier 4

1. C11/S/a Child & Adolescent Medium Secure Service Specification (draft)
2. C11/S/b Child & Adolescent Low Secure Service Specification (draft)
3. C11/S/c Child & Adolescent Forensic Outreach Service Specification (draft)
4. C11/S/d Child & Adolescent PICU Service Specification (draft)
5. C07/S/a CAMHS T4 General Adolescent Service Specification (draft)

These specifications have been developed with the support of lead clinicians and patient and public representatives. This approach has ensured that the views of stakeholders have informed the development and now NHS England is undertaking a formal 90 day public consultation. We will also be hosting a series of webinars and face to face events in the New Year and we will share the dates and times once they have been confirmed. The new specifications once finalised will play an important part in our work to reconfigure services to ensure improvements in local overall pathway integration, improvements in local access and reductions in travel times and out of area placements. The closing date for responses is **28 February 2016** Please could you help ensure that people in your locality are made aware of this important public consultation?

Cathy Edwards
Operational Delivery Director (National)
Specialised Commissioning
NHS England,
Mobile: 07887796606
cathy.edwards2@nhs.net

Message from our local commissioner at Somerset CCG regarding this item "
Somerset's Tier 4 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) are commissioned by NHS England's Regional Team. They commission a 12-bedded in-patient facility in Somerset which provides assessment, care and treatment for young people with a range of mental health needs, where the level of risk, complexity and severity cannot be safely or appropriately managed in a community setting.

Subject: Applications for the Police & Crime Commissioner's Community Action Fund will reopen

This fund was closed in September 2016 while we transitioned from our old Police and Crime plan to the new one as the priorities areas have changed. You can find out more about the new Police and Crime Plan here: <http://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Your-PCC/Police-Crime-Plan-2016.aspx>

The first deadline for applications is **Monday 1st March 2017**, for a late April decision. The usual quarterly cycle will then be resumed. Grants of up to £3k will be awarded for projects and services that align to the new Police and Crime Plan priorities. Further information can be found here: <http://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Partnerships/Commissioners-Community-Action-Fund.aspx>

Subject: Share your experiences of the NHS

Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group regularly presents patient and carer stories to our Governing Body so that learning points can be identified, areas for improvement can be discussed and clinical commissioners can gain a deeper understanding of the barriers and issues faced by real patients and carers when they use health services. In the past, patients and carers have described the impact of their long term conditions, the end of life experiences of their family members, how they have adopted healthy lifestyles, their experience of bereavement and of elective care services. Their stories have been very powerful learning tools for the CCG and we are keen to continue to capture the experiences of patients and carers in Somerset.

If you or a member of your family have recently used a health service in the county, please consider sharing it with us. You can do this in a face-to-face meeting, on the phone or by email, whichever is most convenient for you. Once we have written up your story, we will ask you to check it for accuracy and you will have the right to amend / correct / add to it before anyone else sees it. We will not share your story until we have your consent to do so. If you prefer, we will not share your name when we write up your story, so you can choose to remain anonymous. We are of course interested in hearing both negative and positive stories as we can learn from both types of experiences.

If you would be willing to tell us more, please email Susan.Lilley@somersetccg.nhs.uk or call on 01935 385020.

Subject: Mental Health First Aid Training

1 day course

Saturday 21st January 2017

£132 incl. VAT

Chard Young People's Centre, Chard, Somerset

This course includes a buffet lunch and refreshments throughout the day, a Mental Health First Aid manual that you can take away with you and an attendance certificate from MHFA England.

Mental ill health can affect every single one of us. There is widespread ignorance of mental ill health in the general population and there is the associated stigma too. For some the stigma can lead to delays in people seeking help and support. There is also a lack of confidence in what to do if someone is distressed or in a crisis situation.

By learning to recognise the signs that someone may be unwell, you may be able to provide initial help, to guide a person towards appropriate professional help, and in its most powerful form, save a life by learning basic suicide intervention skills.

For further information and to book a place email: info@theprojectyp.org.uk or call: 01404 549045

Subject: Sustainability and Transformation Plan – Meeting at South Petherton (see attached)

Please find attached a poster about a meeting the League has organised in South Petherton on Wednesday 11 January 2017.

As the STP will affect the whole county, this meeting will be relevant to all the Leagues of Friends, community hospitals and other health and social care facilities in Somerset. I would therefore appreciate your help in circulating this message to all who may find it of interest.

Helen Chaloner (Chair, League of Friends of South Petherton Hospital)
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