

Dear all,

Please find information below on:-

- **Exciting mental health services scoping project in Sedgemoor**
- **Free Dementia Training**
- **Fair Frome – Access For All Event    Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**Useful website links:**

- [www.carersvoicesomerset.co.uk](http://www.carersvoicesomerset.co.uk)
- <https://www.nhscitizen.org.uk/>
- <http://www.cqc.org.uk/content/get-our-newsletter>
- [www.cqc.org.uk](http://www.cqc.org.uk)
- [www.somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk](http://www.somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk)
- <http://healthwatchesomerset.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](mailto:susan.lilley@somersetccg.nhs.uk) if you have any information you would like added to future PPG bulletins.

Kind regards

Sue Lilley

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

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**Subject:    Exciting mental health services scoping project in Sedgemoor**

Here at Mind in Taunton & West Somerset we believe that everyone has a right to positive mental well-being and access to services within their communities. We feel so strongly about this that we are funding a unique mental health scoping project across Sedgemoor with a report and recommendations planned for 1st April 2017. With the unfortunate demise of Mind in Sedgemoor, the future need for services as identified in a number of key County strategies and the health profile of Sedgemoor it is vital that we swiftly map services available to people with poor mental health, and to establish where gaps and innovative approaches may lie.

Every community is made up of a range of stakeholders and I am currently consulting a range of advisors, service providers, voluntary and community groups, healthcare professionals, service users/beneficiaries and commissioners. It is our intention to consult with as many key stakeholders as possible within the time we

have available. I have been overwhelmed by the interest of everyone who learns about the project who are equally keen to ensure that in the future people living with mental health and their families have access to a range of services within their communities. It is clear from research so far that there are a number of gaps in services:

1. 1:1 support of all kinds, befriending the lonely, counselling, out of hours provision etc
2. Advocacy and advice
3. Peer support groups
4. Services for children and young people
5. Support for parents, carers of children and young people and other carers

Equally services need to be placed within local communities both urban and rural. This is possible. There are services and facilities that could be expanded in order to provide further services. The final report is yet to be written but expanding current services and offering new services and obtaining funds to make this happen needs to be done using a collaborative approach.

If you would like further information on the project and are willing to share your experience, contacts, knowledge and views this would be welcome.

Doreen Smith  
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**Subject: Free Dementia Training**

Health Education England dementia training – free of charge - <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/person-centred-care/dementia> . Provides slides/ worksheets/ session plan and could be delivered fairly easily by a range of organisations to their staff (using someone used to presenting and with basic knowledge of dementia).

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**Subject: Fair Frome – Access For All Event Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

Fair Frome would like to invite you to our upcoming event, 'Access for All', which aims to open up the discussion around challenges faced by Frome residents relating to the accessibility and appropriateness of local facilities for all those who need consideration with regard to a physical, visual or hearing impairment, as well as those who may need extra emotional support to fully access all aspects of the rich variety of social opportunities that Frome offers.

This will be an opportunity to discuss personal experiences and highlight issues for both residents and business owners when it comes to providing access and the appropriate facilities to shops, restaurants, cafes and other local venues, as well as considering the lack of accessible toilet and changing facilities in the town. We will also be thinking about how these challenges can be overcome and what possible solutions are available.

Historically Frome is a difficult town to negotiate, with its steep hills and cobbled streets. This forum will be a chance to come together to look at what is possible and how improvements can be implemented.

The event will be chaired by Karen Stewart, a local resident and wheelchair user, and will include a range of speakers sharing their personal experiences of the difficulties they have faced. It will be very informal and an opportunity to listen and contribute. Please come along and share your views.

The event will be held at the Football Club **on Tuesday 7th March and will begin with refreshments at 12.30 and run until 3.30 pm.** Feel free to bring a packed lunch with you. Even if you are only able to attend part of the forum, your views would be very welcome.

If you are a member of an organisation that has done some work around access in the past, we'd love to hear from you, so that we can collate all research, reports etc, to date. To book a place, please contact Wendy Miller-Williams by email: [info@fairfrome.org](mailto:info@fairfrome.org) or telephone 07714587129 by Tuesday 28 February.

**Wendy Miller-Williams**

**Coordinator, Fair Frome**

**Fair Frome: Real People, Real Projects, Real Difference**

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