

# Dartford, Gravesham & Swanley Mental Health Action Group

Funded by



Meeting on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018, 2pm - 3.30pm  
Dartford Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, DA1 1DR

Name	Organisation and Role
Emma Jarnell - Chair	North Kent Mind
Sue Sargeant - Minutes	West Kent Mind, MHAG Co-ordinator
Kashmir Powar	Dartford Borough Council
Alex Young	Porchlight LWK, Community Link Project Manager
Raj Jhamat	Rethink Mental Illness, Support Worker
Nicola Conroy	Sanctuary Supported Living, Support Worker
Hayley Colwell	Sanctuary Supported Living, Support Worker

Apologies	Organisation
Alan Heyes	County MHAG Chair, Mental Health Matters
Caroline Potter-Edwards	DGS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Commissioning Manager
Kevin Halpin	DGS Community Mental Health Team (CMHT)
Natalie Kennard	Insight Healthcare
Debbie Bottle	Megan CIC
Teresa Snowden	Porchlight Live Well Kent (LWK)

## 1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies

The Chair welcomed the group and apologies were noted.

## 2. Vote in co-chairs

Many thanks to Emma Jarnell and Alan Heyes who were voted in as co-chairs.

## 3. Kent Floating Support, Sanctuary Supported Living, Nicola Conroy and Hayley Colwell

The full presentation can be found at: [www.westkentmind.org.uk/mhag-dartford-gravesham-and-swanley](http://www.westkentmind.org.uk/mhag-dartford-gravesham-and-swanley)

The service offers housing related support to vulnerable people as quickly and fairly as possible across Kent. A package of support is offered for a year, according to need, including supported accommodation and help with managing own tenancies, helping them to complete home choice applications, approach private landlords etc. Assessments can be carried out at home or face to face outside of home then work with them in home. A case can be re-opened if help is still needed.

Support workers have their own clients and there are drop ins in east and west Kent areas offering benefits help, advice and signposting. There is also a monthly newsletter for service users.

Their waiting list is longer in east Kent than west Kent and they operate a 3 tier priority system for people about to be evicted or at risk to the public.

Private landlords have a fear of benefits not being a long term income and also around tenants looking after property. Kent Floating Support has the advantage of working with their clients to

address issues as they arrive. A client's Universal Credit account has a lot of information about their benefits, so it is good to encourage people to look at their accounts.

**Question:** Is there anything that people referring clients, ie providers, can do to help out at beginning of service.

**Response:** It would be really helpful to have some information about what has already been done with a client and what the referrer thinks is needed so that work is not duplicated. There is space for this in the information section.

Hayley always emails the referrer to ask for more information/risk.

Nicola is in the Hub on Fridays from 10am-4pm and works closely with rent, homelessness prevention and housing allocations for anyone on their books who needs extra help. They can take someone on as a joint client ie with Mike for budgeting, and can review every Friday to put a plan together to provide a quicker solution for clients and also to ensure a client doesn't bounce one organisation against another. Nicola is also with Citizen's Advice on Wednesdays, Mental Health on Friday mornings, Early Help and Social Services on Thursdays and conducts home joint visits as needed, ie with maintenance team for a hoarder.

#### 4. Minutes from last meeting – approved without amendment

#### 5. Action Points

##### a) From local MHAG:

**Nov.17-8** *Teresa to co-ordinate a Task & Finish Group meeting, mid January 2018 in Gravesend to determine gaps in social care provision, highlight levels of support needed and suggest a funding stream. See Task & Finish Group below.*

**May.18-2** *Forward commissioning structure question to the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP).*

*Response received from the System Transformation Team, Kent & Medway STP:*

*Thank you for your question about the Kent and Medway Strategic Commissioner. We would just like to clarify that the decision by the eight Clinical Commissioning Groups in Kent and Medway to create a strategic commissioning function is not part of a wider restructure of health and social care.*

*The strategic commissioning function is about the eight CCGs working together on some areas of commissioning; where it makes sense to do it once across the whole of Kent and Medway. It is about sharing scarce commissioning skills and resources, reducing variation and helping to spread best practice across Kent and Medway. Whilst it is not about a wider restructure, it will improve services for patients by reducing variation in quality and access to care and will drive up standards across all providers. In due course this may include looking at how providers operate in order to deliver these improvements.*

*We have not made any decisions yet on what elements of the CCGs' commissioning responsibilities will remain locally led by individual CCGs and which will be done by the strategic commissioner. This design work is underway and ongoing through the summer/autumn in discussions within the CCGs and with their stakeholders. So, at this point, it's not possible to say if individual provider organisations such as Rethink Sahayak would be affected. If you would like to be kept updated as the work progresses, please sign up to our monthly e-bulletin for the sustainability and transformation partnership; there is an online sign up form at [www.kentandmedway.nhs.uk/subscribe](http://www.kentandmedway.nhs.uk/subscribe)*

**May.18-7** *Share dates of the LWK Steering Groups.*

*Theresa responded that: The Steering groups are attended by our delivery partners and service users of Live Well Kent. We do invite other organisations to come along and discuss*

their service, but it is specifically focused on Live Well Kent services, updates and development.

**May.18-8** *Invite Phoenix Place committee chair to an MHAG. Awaiting response.*

**July.18-1** *Ask for an update from the STP's MH Workstream.*

The key change is that social care staff within the Community Mental Health Teams [CMHTs] will be managed by KCC from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018, and the Approved Mental Health Practitioner [AMHP] service will be managed by KCC from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019.

CMHTs will continue to work in a multi-disciplinary way, remaining co-located to support a joined up response to people and GPs and other people who refer to the service through CMHTs.

The full KCC and KMPT Transformation Update can be found here under supporting documents: [www.westkentmind.org.uk/mhag-county](http://www.westkentmind.org.uk/mhag-county)

**July.18-2** *Ask KCC if they have plans for 'Men in Sheds in Swanley.*

Mark Connorton at Volunteer Centre, Shepway responded that there is already a Shed in Swanley "The Merry Men" which mainly makes models as they are tight for space.

If someone is interested in setting up another shed more geared towards those you are trying to help please let Ivan Rudd and Mark know so they can support your efforts.

**ACTION 1: Circulate information about Swanley Men's Shed and pass on any interest about starting a new one.**

**July.18-3** *David Garrick to share data from KCC about housing and send to other MHAGs. Carry forward.*

**July.18-4** *Ask Kashmir if the Dartford Borough Council (DBC) are planning to start letting agencies in the area.*

Mike Williams, Housing inclusion officer, said that DBC have looked at this but it is not currently viable for them.

**July.18-5** *Ask Ashford Council about their lettings agency model.*

No response from Ashford Council but Canterbury City Council gave the following update at the recent Canterbury MHAG:

"In the last year our own social letting agency has signed up 13 properties for families and individuals. We are able to act as an intermediary between landlords and tenants, with different offerings available, ie guarantee rent at local housing allowance, finding tenants and managing tenancy. We also offer tenancy training such as budgeting and linking in with other services.

These properties are not advertised through the choice based lettings and are for homeless only. We want to continue to develop these sustainable tenancies."

**July.18-6** *Put on agenda for next MHAG in Gravesend. How to overcome barriers for the Defrazzled Café. Completed.*

**b) County MHAG response to local question:**

*Can the County MHAG help to implement County-wide Task & Finish groups, which join up local MHAGs e.g. using teleconferencing, to improve issues related to housing/homelessness?*

Further discussion is needed about this.

## 6. Service User & Carer Questions

- a) Questions raised at today's pre-meeting: None
- b) Questions going forward to County MHAG: None

## 7. Information Sharing:

1. **County Update:** Please refer to the County draft minutes for full details of discussion, located at [www.westkentmind.org.uk/mhag-county](http://www.westkentmind.org.uk/mhag-county)

2. **Commissioners Reports:** All reports have been circulated and are located at [www.westkentmind.org.uk/mhag-dartford-gravesham-and-swanley](http://www.westkentmind.org.uk/mhag-dartford-gravesham-and-swanley)

a) **Live Well Kent (LWK) Porchlight:**

Alex added that the quarterly report is due out and shows a dip in referrals this quarter.

b) **Swale & DGS CCG: Caroline Potter Edwards asked for the following to be read out:**

- Commissioners are in the process of refreshing the Kent Local Transformation Plan for Children and Young people, due to be published in October
- North Kent CCGs are bidding to become a trailblazer site to pilot the new Green Paper Mental Health Teams in Schools – submissions are due on Monday
- Two North Kent CCGs won the Silver Award for the Employer Recognition Scheme for the Armed Forces and collected our award last Wednesday at HMS Victory

c) **Engaging Kent** provided this update of the service user forum/MHAG review:

*"The co-production discussions are now refining all the feedback to identify the core principles people feel should underpin the future ways in which Mental Health Service User, and Mental Health Carers' Voice is supported to effect change in Kent.*

*A rough model for the future is emerging and in early October we would like to share this with people and together develop the detail. We will therefore be arranging meetings/phone calls with MHAG Chairs, User Forums and Peer Support Groups, as well as engaging wider MHAG attendees.*

*We hope to be in a position to attend the round of next MHAGS and make a presentation on the agreed ways forward."*

3. **Provider Service Update/New Members:**

**Dartford Borough Council, Kashmir:** World Mental Health Day event is being held on 10<sup>th</sup> October at the Dartford Healthy Living Centre.

We offer a range of subsidised exercise classes and health walks. The 12 week Why Weight adult weight management programme started last week.

**Rethink Mental Illness, Raj:** We are raising awareness for suicide and self-harm week in Gravesend.

**North Kent Mind, Emma:** We are holding a mindful walk on Monday in Dartford Park for National Mind's Mindful Monday. Anybody is welcome.

**Porchlight LWK, Alex:** LWK offers an 8 week short term service with help such as with benefit applications and getting back into the community through one of their delivery partners and is a stepping stone to other agencies. The community inclusion service under Porchlight works with someone for 6 months in the community with different activities.

## 8. Task & Finish Group Update

**Task:** To collect and review data to determine gaps in social care provision, highlight levels of support needed, ie peer support groups, and suggest a funding stream.

LWK has identified some gaps in provision and have based their innovation grant around this to address it in some way. In general this is a big piece of work and Teresa suggested, in terms of high levels of need, breaking it down into specific areas first and discussing at the November MHAG.

## 9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018** at Riverside Centre, Dickens Road, Gravesend DA12 2JY.

Meeting finished at 3.24pm

## Action Table

No.	Action Point	Responsibility	Status
May.18-8	Invite Phoenix Place committee chair to an MHAG	Vivien/David	Awaiting response
June.18-3	Share data from KCC about housing and send to other MHAGs.	David	Carry forward
Sep.18-1	Circulate information about Swanley Men's Shed and pass on any interest about starting a new one.	David	

### Administration :

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Minutes and supporting documents are posted on:

<https://westkentmind.org.uk/mental-health-action-groups>