

Minutes of Ipswich VASP meeting November 7 2013

Attendees :@ Julia Carr- Vasp Coordinator (JC), Jill Coleman- Voiceabilty (JCO), Linda Brown- Julian Support (LB), Richard Squirrel (RS) , Tracy Priestly – Together – Suffolk Befriending Service (TP), Louise Marks, Suffolk Family Carers (LM), David Grimmer- Suffolk Libraries (DG), Samantha Grindrod-NSFT (SG), Paul Maguire-Anxiety Support (PM)

Apologies: Cathie Lee, Guenever Pachent –NSFT (GP)

Chair – David

Minute taker – Tracy

Previous minutes

Actions from September meeting and comments:

BT to email full structure to CL to circulate

Bim Templeman from public health still to forward Public Health new structure. dg will follow this up as recent communications received said she is off sick at present.

BT to email letter outlining this to CL for circulation

DG handed out copies of consultation letters to interested parties

DG to feedback these concerns over communication to Main Vasp, & invite Debbie back to Ipswich VASP; and GP to feedback to Board

DG passed this onto Main VASP chair to see if better to coordinate a meeting that would voice all VASP concerns over IDT communication issues.

RS said he has now been transferred to Suffolk Coastal IDT, he has had a positive .Experience on contacting and communication is better. Ipswich IDT still not giving good response, rs phoned them by mistake.

Rs reminded DG/LM of his request for statistics on the success of the weekly recovery sessions run by SAM Project? Action Point – DG to investigate

DG has emailed Bruce McGregor @ CSV media for information.

GP informed group of forthcoming events at September meeting.

Actions from September meeting continued

LB said that one of her staff members had attended one of the strategy events in Ipswich and found it useful. They brought back the strategy for fellow staff members to read.

DG said this is available online to read or download (very lengthy) RS said that a hard copy could be requested through PALS

LM to invite Community Engagement Officer for E Ipswich to VASP.

Not actioned, to be done for next meeting. JC has made contact with the Ipswich & East CCG regarding involvement with the County VASP.

DG reiterated that Lorna Small is still Lead for Personal budgets at SCC not as documented at September meeting.

DG thanked everyone for their support on his Skydive and reported he raised over £400.00.

November meeting

LM Suffolk Family Carers are working with the Woodlands unit to make a DVD for staff – re: Carers needs within the trust. CSV Media are helping with production. When this is produced, LM hopes that there will be a public launch@ Ipswich film theatre. LM assumes that others other organisations may be able to use it to training staff and also that other Family carers may benefit from seeing it too.

RS suggested that releasing it on “You tube” may make it more accessible to Family Carers who cannot make public screenings.

LM spoke about forth coming events, please see attached documents:

Family Carer events in partnership with NSFT



Bury Nov 13.pdf



Ips Feb 13.pdf



Dementia Family
Carers Forum 22nd N

Winter warmer events:



Bury Flyer.pdf



Ipswich Flyer.pdf



Lowestoft Flyer.pdf

PM

Reported on inadequate support and bad customer service at Suffolk Wellbeing service appointments for members of his anxiety/ocd self help group one member attended an appointment recently and was left waiting for 30 minutes with no apology or explanation to the delay. This member has decided not to continue with sessions after this incident, leaving them feeling unsupported. One member was told that his intrusive thoughts were “Mundane “and “Inconsequential”

DG said that it was important that this is feedback to the Trust, to help them improve customer service and to raise concerns of ocd services/support in the trust. PALS may also be another route.

JCO said that Voiceability would advocate for people on an individual basis if needed.

LM said that Health watch could be of support on a collective basis.

SG/JCO

Reported on the Recovery college workshops launched in Suffolk and they were both impressed by quality of workshops. Most workshops are held in Norfolk (with a few in Ipswich and Bury) and last from 11.00-15.00 with more planned including secondary workshops for the new year (dates to be confirmed)

It was noted that the service is only available to people receiving secondary care services. LB said that she attended on behalf of Julian Housing introductory workshop but has not received any further information.

Information on these workshops will be coming up and information will be available on the NSFT website.

RS suggested that NSFT is still very Norfolk biased, Suffolk information is needed. RS has asked for clarification on expenses payments that people receive for attending meetings and how this could affect benefits. He suggests that one off payments could be better used to enable Family carers/ support to attend.

JCO felt it was very encouraging to attend and it was open to service users, family carers and staff and should be open to all professionals.

LM advised that Lyn Skipper is attending the next VASP, so people need to be ready with questions. It is hoped that she will be able to clarify what is happening re workshops.

SG spoke about the Service user scrutiny group, updated the group on opportunities for training of service users for interviewing, to ensure Service users are on panels for future recruitment.

JCO advised that future meetings in November and December were originally cancelled, but she has a date of 22.11 that is still planned as going ahead?

Action: LM will email Pat McGovern to confirm what's happening

RS

Spoke about the Suffolk Mind "Waves" personality disorder group. Currently the group is full, but RS suggested that referrals need to be made to prove need of the group. Query whether this group is being considered as treatment when it is not meant to be.

RS has been invited to be part of a meeting to review Personality disorders services, with representatives from NSFT and Suffolk Mind.

LB spoke about the difficulty in accessing free Personality disorder training offered by NSFT as places are be given to NSFT staff first. This is impacting on other services wanting to access this training and dates are being put back. Julian Housing has accessed the paid for KUF training delivered by Suffolk Mind. All agreed that training needs to have a mix including service users and Family Carers to enhance the learning experience

RS thanked everyone involved in putting together the "Sowing the Seeds" event at Jimmy's Farm. DG thanked everyone for their support and said that another event has been asked for by Jimmy's Farm next year.

RS has asked to access his personnel medical records held by NSFT, he has been asked to attend Hellesdon Hospital to do this. His advocate is based in Lowestoft and he lives in Ipswich, causing obvious logistical issues. JCO advised RS to contact his advocate to resolve matter.

Action: DG asked RS to feedback on his progress on this matter at next months meeting.

JC

Announcement of the launch of new VASP website www.suffolkvasp.co.uk
Everyone is encouraged to start using the site and feedback any comments to JC.

JC updated on two VASP groups around the county- Sudbury has just lost its chair and is looking for a replacement. Haverhill had no attendees this month?

A discussion was had about the possible amalgamation of VASPS to improve membership. JC asked if anyone has any ideas of a suitable venue in Thetford for a meeting.

A discussion was had about the Suffolk Health and Wellbeing month events across Suffolk. DG felt that there is a real energy around the county and a lot of positive events around the county were held.

NSFT currently have a worker who is mapping services around the county, they would like to attend a future meeting to gather feedback.

DG

Updated all on the cross county launch in October of the "Reading Well-Books on Prescription Scheme" All library staff are aware of the scheme and the project is gentler this time with the books being alongside other collections. DG explained how the Book prescription can be used to join the library and helps in accessing all of the other free services and groups that libraries have to offer. RS suggested other venues for distribution of the scheme, such as work places, DG said he would look into this and thanked RS for his suggestion.

End of meeting.

Date of next meeting : December 5th @ Suffolk Family Carers 10.00-12.00