**NOTES OF THE**

**BURY & FOREST HEATH VOLUNTARY AND STATUTORY PARTNERSHIP**

Held at:

**Recovery College Building, Hospital Road, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3NR**

**September 11, 2018**

Present: Jacquie Fairley (NSFT); Lesley Drew (NSFT); Dan Brimble (NSFT); Richard Cox (DWP); Dan Pennock (HWS); Audrey Woodley (Suffolk Libraries); Andrew Good (NSFT Govenor); Sarah Politt (NSFT); Declan Burke (NSFT); Karl Gregory (NSFT-Student); Emma Hayely (Abbeycroft Leisure);

**Apologies**: Julie Williams (NSFT); Nigel Moyse(NSFT); Stephanie Hartick (NSFT); Sarah Bradbury (CAB); Simon King (HWS); Wendy Shepard (SUF);

Chair:Will Wright (Suffolk County Council). Notes: Michael Mather (Julian Support)

1. **Welcome / Apologies & Brief Introductions/ what do Attendees Hope to get from VASP**

Round room discussion, with several new attendees, all interested in how the VASP network can help to link all agencies/services together and get best outcomes.

All reminded that if any detailed updates on services, please e-mail MM or WW, so can be cut and pasted into minutes.

**Matters Arising**

* Some discussion about the idea of a Portal on the VASP Website, to replace the e-mail distribution list. Again, there are mixed views about this, but MM explained that it is not even clear as to whether it would be possible anyway. If were to happen, weekly e-mail would come round to prompt people to check the site.
* West Suffolk Locality Hub Review (SCIP) – LD explained that looking at ways to engage SU’s and also how to make more of a link with VASP.

**Action:** MM will attend Planning/Relaunch meeting on 13/11/18 at Recovery College.

1. **Speaker: Andrew Goode, NSFT Governor.**

AG explained the Governor role, which some were unaware of the process for being voted in etc. Difficult to attend all VASP Meetings in Suffolk, as a range of other forums, meetings etc to attend. Governors hold the Board of Directors to account, as Board hold Managers in NSFT to account. So many tiers of management within NSFT, that it is understandable how things are the way they are at present. NSFT may have inadvertently become inward focussed, due to the length of time spent under special measures. Accountability needs to be shared. Appoint non-executive Directors. NSFT needs to be opened up for Governors to be listened too, as currently difficult to fulfil roles. ‘Buddy Trust’ from East London have much to share and NSFT need to learn why they went into special measures with CQC. Partnership working is key to successful outcomes. Stop ‘silo’ working.

Some present explained that staff on the ‘ground’ have impossible workloads, which can be demoralising.

There is a lot of ‘internal energy’, but lack of input from higher up. However, it was highlighted that there are a lot of positives, such as Recovery College and joint working with Open Space. Discussion around NSFT should not become a ‘moaning exercise’, and we need outcomes. Feeling that NSFT not in touch with general public. Some great work going on, but needs unpicking, as not joined up. County VASP can escalate concerns.

**Action:** VASP to continue as way to look for solutions**.**

1. **What is WS VASP/ Anything that Supports / Alleviates Pressures on MH Services.**

* Discussed how VASP can be used to useful to help tackle poor physical health as well as mental health (interconnectedness).
* Dementia Action Lives – **Action:** WW to give details.
* AW – “Warm Handover”. Gives organisations access to each others services. If signed up, can refer to relevant organisations.
* EH – AbbeyCroft Leisure ‘Keep Active’ Programme.

WW explained the Locality Officer Role in Suffolk County Council. There are 8 officers in West Suffolk . All able to access information happening in the community. See Link-   
<https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/community/upload/17-12-07-Locality-Map.pdf>   
Contact for keep active development manager [Ian.Evans@acleisure.com](mailto:Ian.Evans@acleisure.com)

**Action:** WW to get Dementia Action Alliance Details

* AG mentioned ‘Social prescribing Event’ Ipswich, on 2/11/18.
* MM **–** mentioned the 500 Messages of Hope event in Stowmarket 29/10/18
* LD – WS Locality HUB meeting/(SCIP) Relaunch – Meeting on 13/09 to measure effectiveness. How HUB can link with VASP. Work together.

**Action:** Update next meeting/MM will feedback main differences between SCIP & VASP.

1. Time to Change & VASP Coordinators Update.

The TTC Suffolk HUB came to it’s planned end on 31/08/18. Therfore, no longer relevant to have this as an agenda item. It has been suggested that this agenda item be something like: 'Updates from Time to Change local Champions.' Any TTC Champions are encouraged to attend VASP Meetings to share the good work they may be doing.

1. **West Suffolk Locality Concerns (VASP Priorities)**

* Disconnect between NSFT & own staff/Other agencies

**Action:** BringCase Studies to look at how positive outcomes can be sought.

1. **Mental Health Focus Group/Transformation Work**

* Discussion around the meetings and general function. It was asked how to find out about the various meetings. Advice to become a member of HWS.
* Some of the Transformation work completed.
* New Chief Executive looking for Young People to be involved.
* **Action:** LD was asked for details of Youth Participation Lead in NSFT-Ginnie.beacham-hulvej@nsft.nhs.uk

**AOB:**

* Agreed that so many services out there that difficult to know how to access. Agreed that this is a consequence of short term funding, contracts etc.
* Venue: there has been an offer from Suffolk Family Carers of their Boardroom in BSE as a venue, should attendees want to alternate in 2019.

**Meeting Closed at 12 noon**

**Dates & Venues of future meetings**

Tuesday 13th November, 2018

**All scheduled to be held in large room of Recovery College**

**Recovery College Building, Hospital Road, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3NR**

**Please note that if enquiring at the Reception of G Block, they are unlikely to be aware that there is a VASP meeting. If you do, ask to be directed to the above building, which is at the rear of F Block.**