

# FEEDBACK

Aug/Sep 2009

Written and edited by **Carer and Service User representative members** to the **Lancashire Mental Health and Social Care Partnership Board (LPB)**

Issue No. 11

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The LPB was established in 2005 to lead and support a programme of change within mental health services across Lancashire

## Direct Payments for Mental Health



LPB Service User and Carer Representatives recently undertook a piece of work to find out how many mental health service users and carers living in Lancashire claimed for and used Direct Payments.

It became apparent that Direct Payments are more widely used by people with physical or learning disabilities, with very few mental health service users and carers applying for, or are aware that they may be able to apply for Direct Payments, subject to a social services assessment.

Whilst Direct Payments may not suit everyone, for some people it can prove to be beneficial. Allowing people to control their own arrangements to meet their needs, assist independent living, aid recovery and to improve their quality of life, as an alternative to having support arranged for them.

As a result, LPB representatives have produced an information leaflet to be circulated to individuals, groups and organisations across Lancashire (a copy is enclosed with this newsletter). Copies will also be sent to community mental health teams, doctors surgeries, advocacy and other voluntary services, for information and to raise awareness.

If you have any queries or would like to request further copies of the Partnership Board's Direct Payments leaflet, please contact the LPB Team 01254 282229

### rethink

Rethink Carers Lancashire and  
Linder-Myers Solicitors, Manchester  
are pleased to announce a



#### Workshop

On the key legal issues for carers of

People with mental health problems: -

- Implications for carers of recent changes in mental health and mental capacity law
- Section 117 Aftercare provision
- Legalities of individualised budgets (direct payments)
- Wills, trusts and inheritance issues
- Power of attorney
- Deprivation of liberty laws

There is no charge for this workshop and lunch will be provided, but places are limited so early booking is essential

**Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> September, 10am - 2.45pm**  
The Gujarat Centre in Preston

For more details or to book a place, get in touch with

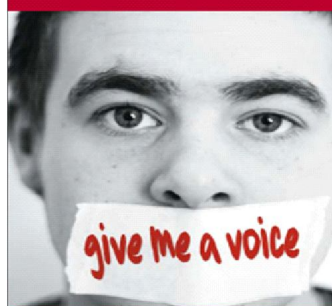
**Rethink Carers Lancashire**

**07968 990614** [rethinklancs@yahoo.com](mailto:rethinklancs@yahoo.com)

Unit 12, the Shakespeare Centre, 45/51 Shakespeare Street, Southport PR8 5AB

Working together to help everyone affected by severe mental illness recover a better quality of life  
Rethink 0845 4560455 [www.rethink.org](http://www.rethink.org) Registered Charity Number 271028 Registered Office 89 Albert Embankment London SE1 8TP

## ADVOCACY WEST LANC MENTAL HEALTH



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**With someone on your side**

**Supporting you to have your say**

Call us on  
**01695 598485**

And we will arrange to come and talk to you

Registered Charity Number 1100287



### Lancashire Mental Health and Social Care Partnership Board

Made up of representation from Local Authorities, NHTrusts, the Third Sector and Service Users and Carers



Working together to improve mental health

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Blackburn with Darwen

Blackpool

Central Lancashire

East Lancashire

North Lancashire

## Strategic Commissioning Board - Mental Health Wellbeing

The Lancashire Mental Health and Social Care Partnership Board (LPB) identified **'improved commissioning'** as one of its priorities for the vision of mental health and social care services in Lancashire.

As a result, the Strategic Commissioning Board for Mental Health and Wellbeing (SCB) met for the first time in May 2009. The SCB has been established to provide strategic direction and a governance framework for Lancashire wide initiatives in mental health and wellbeing commissioning. It is the forum where the commissioning organisations - the five Lancashire NHS primary care trusts (PCTs) and three local authorities, come together at a senior level to agree joint work.

The Strategic Commissioning Board is chaired by Judith Griffin at NHS Blackburn with Darwen, the lead Chief Executive for Mental Health as agreed by Lancashire PCTs, and co-chaired by Stephen Gross of Lancashire County Council. Two Partnership Board service user and carer representatives will be invited to join the Strategic Commissioning Board from September.

It is anticipated that there will be significant interplay of agenda items and reporting back between the two boards and we hope to bring you regular news and updates on strategic developments.

## Preston Mental Health Carers Group



Preston Carers Centre at 28 Church Street is an extremely helpful, welcoming and supportive place to turn to for all carers. Support Officers help and support carers in many ways; individually, providing 1-2-1 support, information in newsletters, leaflets and on the internet, carers days and breaks; group meetings and forums, supporting the Lancashire Carers Forum and the Lancashire Asian Carers Forum. To find out more information please contact the Preston Mental Health Carers Group on 01772 200173 or visit their website at [www.prestoncarers.org.uk](http://www.prestoncarers.org.uk).

### New LPB Team Contact Details

The Partnership Team have recently moved offices to NHS Blackburn with Darwen to work with Rebecca Davis, Network Director - Mental Health Commissioning. The team's new contact details are as follows:-

#### Guide Business Centre

School Lane, Blackburn BB1 2QH

Tel: **01254 282229**

Fax: 01254 282233

Email: [lancashirementalhealth@bwdpct.nhs.uk](mailto:lancashirementalhealth@bwdpct.nhs.uk)

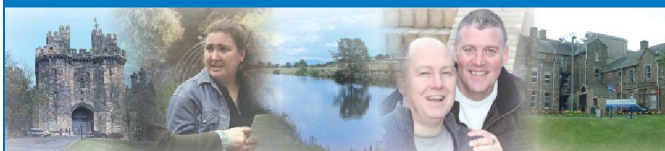
Website: [www.lancashirementalhealth.co.uk](http://www.lancashirementalhealth.co.uk)



### The future delivery of functional inpatient mental health services in the Lancaster and Morecambe district of North Lancashire

### Your chance to have a say

29 June 2009 - 21 September 2009



### Public Consultation

Issued by: NHS North Lancashire and Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust

Mental health matters

If you would like to put forward your views and obtain a copy of the public consultation document please contact: Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, Sceptre Point, Sceptre Way, Walton Summit, Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 6AW. Tel: 01772 695384 Email: [feedback@lancashirecare.nhs.uk](mailto:feedback@lancashirecare.nhs.uk).



## Service Transformation Programme

### Annual Report - April 2009

To receive the Service Transformation Programme annual report or information about the new mental health inpatient hospital sites, or to become a trust member, please contact:-

#### Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust:

Service Transformation Department

Sceptre Point, Sceptre Way, Walton Summit, Preston, PR5 6AW

Tel: 01772 645713

Email: [mentalhealthmatters@lancashirecare.nhs.uk](mailto:mentalhealthmatters@lancashirecare.nhs.uk)

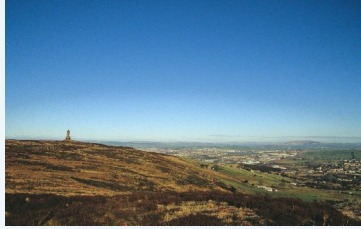


## Blackburn with Darwen Primary Care Mental Health Service User & Carer Forum

The Primary Care Mental Health service became operational in January 2009. The service is a partnership between Blackburn with Darwen PCT as the lead organisation with Blackburn with Darwen borough council and Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust. The service user and carer forum was established as an integral part of the new service and is made up of people with experience of primary care in the last 12 months. Many of the people attending represent mental health groups within the borough and are able to bring views and opinions and then feedback to colleagues and friends.

As part of the development of the group members of the Primary care team have informed the group of their roles and functions and a range of organisations have been invited and explained their work and develop the links into Primary care.

The group meets monthly and members are attending a range of events throughout the borough on behalf of the group and the service. One recent example of the work has been the development of a leaflet from a service user and carer perspective which will be given to people by the GP explaining the services offered by the primary care service.



The plan is for the group to become self managed and to continue to work closely with the service. If you would like any further information please contact Martin Howe on 07968 873485.

## North Lancashire Carer Engagement and Involvement workers

These are 2 new posts which have been commissioned by North Lancashire Primary Care Trust. The workers will cover Fylde & Wyre and the Lancaster and Morecambe area.

The objectives of these posts are to identify the issues carers have when caring for somebody experiencing mental distress. The workers will work with carers to identify the issues and encourage and support carers to have their say and become more involved in the development and improvement of services.

If you are interested in getting involved then please call the worker covering your area:

**Tracey Kennedy** – together working for wellbeing working in **Lancaster & Morecambe**  
- Tel: 01524-841899

**Lynne Wagstaff** – Making Space working in the **Fylde & Wyre** - Tel: 01253 354126

## 'Feedback' Newsletter - Questionnaire Results

In April and May 2009, we carried out a brief survey to find out what our readers think of the 'Feedback' newsletter to help us make improvements and offer better representation in the future. **Thank you** to the sixty nine people who responded, here is a summary of your views:-

- 82% of respondents said that the information given in 'Feedback' was new or relatively new to them
- 75% said the information provided was useful or somewhat useful/relevant in respect of mental health issues
- 78% said issues or some of the issues reported in 'Feedback' have a direct influence on them or their family
- 87% said information provided in 'Feedback' was easy or fairly easy to read and understand
- 73% said the 'Feedback' newsletter was well presented in layout and design, and
- 88% said that 'Feedback' was valuable or somewhat valuable and enjoyable to read.

**Issues which people would like to see included;** crisis services, day centre/drop-in's, support for carers, 'real life' experiences of recovery, information on specific conditions, back up services in local areas, new hospital site plans and timescales, stigma and discrimination, access to services, research, employment, medication, service user led initiatives, self-help group venues, education in schools, opportunities to volunteer, psychological services, drug and alcohol abuse, alzheimer's, dementia and older people's services, pen-pal service, family events, holistic therapies, improvements and co-ordination in specialist services, educating the workforce, advocacy, service changes, eating disorders, child and adolescent mental health services, bereavement, signposting to services/agencies and to ensure service users and carers are fairly represented.

**How 'Feedback' could be improved;** more pages to read giving more information, include artwork/photographs by service users and carers, recognition for partners in the voluntary sector, user/carers perspectives on models of service, more in-depth detail, less 'bitty' in presentation, give 'concrete' examples, clarity on the Partnership Board, more questionnaires, bring groups together, common ideas/activities, positive feedback, 'softer' font, coping mechanisms/tips and to be more localised.

**Ideas for wider distribution;** GP surgeries/hospital notice boards, libraries, town halls, workshops/ seminars, psychiatrists, community psychiatric nurses (CPN's), community mental health teams, third sector/voluntary organisations, support groups/forums, free newspaper distribution, online and through local commissioners.

*Representatives will now be looking at how some of these ideas and views can be taken forward to improve wider representation and the information provided in future issues of this newsletter.*