Modernising Mental Health

Update on procurement timeline

We are happy to confirm that the majority of the services under the Modernising Mental Health programme have now been formally advertised. The advert went live on 5 June, and we have already received expressions of interest.

The services advertised are:
1. Bristol Community Mental Health, incorporating:
   o System leadership
   o Assessment and Recovery Service
   o Crisis Service
   o Complex Psychological Interventions Service
   o Early Intervention in Psychosis Service
2. Community Rehabilitation service
3. Specialist Dementia Wellbeing service
4. Employment service

The Assertive Engagement Service, being co-commissioned with Bristol City Council, will be advertised shortly, and the Crisis Sanctuary and Social Prescribing services are also being re-commissioned within the main programme timescales.

This is an exciting time for the programme, and has been a long time in the making. We will keep you updated on the progress of the procurement over the coming months.

For further information please contact Alex Parry, Project Support Officer, on 0117 984 1642.

New e-procurement system

The CCG is running the Modernising Mental Health tender process through the online e-procurement system Tactica. Tactica is used by CCGs across the South West for their tendering, and will make the process easier and less time-consuming for bidders and project team members.

One of the reasons for the CCG using an online system is to reduce the amount of paperwork between bidders and the CCG. An additional benefit is a robust audit trail enabling ease of evaluation and rapid feedback with bidders.

The CCG will not be accepting expressions of interest, clarification questions, or PQQ/tender documentation by any means other than through Tactica.

Organisations considering participating in the tender process are urged to register on the Tactica system at the earliest opportunity: https://tactica-live.advanced365.com/login.asp?b=southwest

For further information please contact Alex Parry, Project Support Officer, on 0117 984 1642.

Modernising Mental Health project key dates

27 June – Voluntary, Community and Social Organisations Procurement Information Event
9 July – Partnership Working Event
16 July – Pre Qualifying Questionnaire Issued
25 July – Mid Pre Qualifying Questionnaire Event
22 August – Invitation to Tender documents issued
Pre-procurement bidder information event

On Thursday 23 May, the Modernising Mental Health pre-procurement bidder event at City Hall was a great success – with over 100 people, representing some 80 organisations, keen to hear about the CCG’s plans for mental health services.

The purpose of the day was to present the planned service model in more detail and to give potential bidders information on exactly how the procurement would be undertaken.

The event was well received. Attendees thought the information was well presented, clear and enhanced their understanding of the CCG’s plans and the rationale behind them. The range of speakers also impressed attendees, with the day opened by Dr Martin Jones, Chief Clinical Officer of the CCG, and closed by two service user and carer representatives.

Copies of all the presentations and a set of Q&As are available on the CCG’s website: www.bristolccg.nhs.uk

For any other information please contact Alex Parry, Project Support Officer, on 0117 984 1642.

Supporting the third-sector

The Modernising Mental Health Team is working with The Care Forum and Voscur to support organisations from the third sector to take part in the procurement process on an equal footing.

They will be independently gathering feedback on what support organisations feel they need to help them through the process.

They will also be independently organising sessions for providers to meet to support the forming of partnerships.

Further information on the third sector involvement programme will follow in future editions of the newsletter.

For more details, contact Louise Hudson at the Care Forum, email: LouiseHudson@thecareforum.org.uk or Sue Brazendale at Voscur, email: sue@voscur.org.

Wider mental health service development

The Modernising Mental Health team is committed to working with as many groups, organisations and professionals as possible to ensure that the new services are fit-for-purpose.

In addition to the services which are part of the formal procurement process, the Bristol Modernising Mental Health programme is supporting the implementation of training and development of alternative approaches to deliver new services.

GP Training

The team is undertaking an audit of mental health skills and capability within primary care and asking what additional support and training GPs would like for themselves and their practice teams. Using this information we will design training specifically to meet the needs of practices and deliver it in way which is convenient. There will also be a GP Local Enhanced Service (LES) agreement, developed and implemented with local GPs along with shared care protocols to support closer working between mental health and primary care services.

Community Training

We are working with other organisations to understand training needs such as community organisations, police, ambulance service, housing providers. An e-learning module will be developed with service users and carers to help explain the new mental health system and how to access the support required. We will also put in place multi-agency training to help support build relationships between organisations, improve mental health awareness and provide practical support about how to work with people with mental health problems.

(continued on page 3)
Crisis Sanctuary
We will work with other organisations to develop a ‘test and learn’ pilot. A workshop will be held to gather views and then a smaller working group will be put in place to develop this work. It is expected that the crisis sanctuary service will be available at the same time, or slightly ahead of the services which are being procured so it can be developed and improved over time.

Social Prescribing
We want to do further work to understand how existing services operate, evaluate models of best practices from other areas in the country and to decide if social prescribing should fit with the wider healthcare agenda or be specifically dedicated to people with mental health problems. Once this work has been completed we will decide how best commission these services.

For more information please contact Alex Parry, Project Support Officer, on: 0117 984 1642.

(continued from page 2)

Bristol Wellbeing Service held its first open day

Lift Psychology recently held an inaugural service user event at Easton Community Centre and received some valuable feedback about the first six months of the service.

Service users spoke positively about the experience of ‘being listened to’, and encouragingly they said about how they found the foundation course “uplifting”.

Users also commented that they found they received clear information and did not feel pressured into intervention.

A common theme was the experience of finding out they “were not the only one” who experienced psychological distress. The event also provided lots of useful service improvements which we will be putting into action. Lift Psychology also received lots of suggestions about where to advertise the service.

The feedback from the session will be shared with all 16 AQP providers.

Potential suggestions for service improvement includes:
- changes to seating arrangements for courses
- the way letters are written
- text alerts about appointments.

Lift Psychology are planning to hold more events across the city. The next is at Hengrove Leisure Centre on Monday 10 June.

For more information please contact Aileen McArthur, Lift Psychology, on 0117 982 3209.

Our website
Visit our website at: www.bristolccg.nhs.uk and use the search function (search for mental health) or click the ‘Mental Health’ button in the ‘Your Health and Local Services’ section.

For technical queries regarding the website, contact Kate McCarthy at: kate.mccarthy@bristol.nhs.uk.

Let us know what you think!
This is the fourth edition of this newsletter and we would like to hear your views about it.

If you would like to send us a comment, query or suggestion for an article please do so to Alex Parry at: alex.parry@bristolccg.nhs.uk