

Joint Commissioning News

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 1999

Health Partnerships -Jane Sterck, Voluntary Sector Rep on the Health Implementation Group

You probably know by now that the government has **removed** the requirement for Joint Consultative Committees (JCCs). In this area both the JCC and the Joint Commissioning Executive (JCE) are being **stood down** (the end of an era!). In their place will be a **Health Implementation Group (HIG)**, the **Health Partnership**, and some locally and yet to be determined means of **co-ordinating planning** at the primary care group level.

The **Health Partnership** has around **35-40 organisations** involved and includes local authority councillors, primary care groups or networks, as well as **eight voluntary sector infrastructure bodies** such as Afro-Caribbean Asian Forum, CVSs, the Community Reference Group, Self Help Nottingham, and Carers Federation. This body will meet **3 times per year to:**

- ⇒ **generate priorities and plans** for the Health Improvement Programme (HIMP),
- ⇒ **to agree and "sign off"** the document
- ⇒ **and monitor and review** progress.

The idea is that this **forum style approach** will enable key plans and decisions to be made on the day.

Meanwhile, the **HIG** is a much smaller, **chief executive level body**, with **one place for the voluntary sector** (currently me), one on behalf of all the Trusts, one for all the district councils etc., which will have the responsibility of **making sure the HIMP and Health Action Zone programme is actually delivered.**

It is very **early days** yet and everyone is still working out **how to make the new system work.** Part of this includes working out the **right mechanisms** for voluntary and community groups' **involvement** at all stages of the process and **how to link that up with consultation and involvement processes going on elsewhere**, eg in JCGs and the Health Action Zone.

**"..working out how to make the new system work."
"...the right mechanisms for voluntary and community groups involvement..."**

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**Mental
Health
Chair
Lynne Winstanley**

Jean Rust & Elsie James, Carers on the JCG provided us with the following news for the Mental Health JCG.

We have been on the JCG since last year's Stakeholders Conference, which we attended as carers.

This year we attended as **members of the JCG and carers**. Were pleased to see more **ethnic minority people** present this year and also **other new faces**. This year's event was **better organised** and the venue more suitable. Groups were set up to continue on from last year.

We find the Stakeholders Conference a good place to "**Make Your Voice Heard**" for **professionals, voluntary Sector, Users and Carers**.

Good is coming out of the conference:

- * The **A & E facilities** are to be improved.
- * The **24-hour Crisis Line** is to happen, also the **Support House** that was requested last year.
- * The Carers' Council had their launch day October 16th.
- * The GPPD are looking into early **intervention**
- * We hope to see the **wards at QMC redesigned**, Welcome Nurses on the wards, **information for carers** and listening to carers.

The Stakeholders Conference is a big step forward to a better Mental Health Service.

On a final note the **JCG is to be the local implementation team for the National Service Framework.**

Carry on listening!

**STOP
PRESS !**

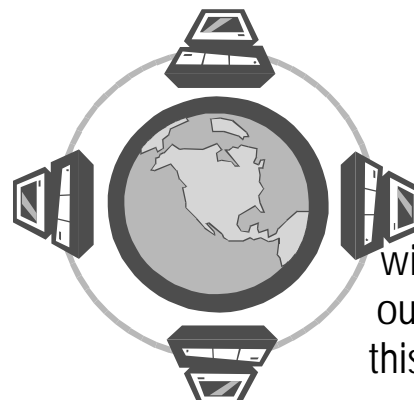
The **Joint Investment Plan (JIP) for Mental Health** is almost finished.

The first draft will have been revised by the time that you receive this newsletter.

The second draft will be **out on January 4th** to be sent to Trent NHSE and for **wider consultation with users, carers, voluntary organisations.**

Comments on this draft must be back by the 28th January 2000.

To obtain your copy contact the Partnership Development Team and **make your voice heard.**



Future issues of **Joint Commissioning News** will be available at our Web-site, watch this space for further information.

Community Reference Group (CRG) Chair – Andrew Fry

By now all of us have become both aware and involved in the **changes** that are taking place in the Health Services at all levels. Government agendas, local initiatives, Primary Care Groups, HImP, HAZ and in all of this, **new structures in commissioning and partnership** between the voluntary sector, Health & Social Services. So **where does this leave the Community Reference Group**, which was set up under the previous Joint Commissioning Structure?

One aspect that could be enlarged upon would be the work of the CRG and the Partnership Development Team in **supporting the JCGs**. If this became the prime focus then should its membership change to contain more service provider organisations and service users? Should the CRG align its purposes with those of the Patient Partnership

Strategy?

The CRG is **currently reviewing its role** and its purpose and examining **how best the interest of the voluntary sector might be served** in the immediate future.

In all of this it is important to seek **YOUR views as organisations and as individuals**.

If YOU have **comments, suggestions or ideas** on the future shape and remit of the Community Reference Group **please send them to me Andrew Fry, Chair, Community Reference Group, c/o the Partnership Development Team, British Red Cross, Great Freeman Street, Nottingham, NG3 1FR or email to pdteamrx@proweb.co.uk**

“If YOU have comments, suggestions or ideas on the future shape and remit of the Community Reference Group”

HIV & AIDS
Chair
Ruth Cutler

At the October meeting of the HIV & AIDS JCG Dr Richard Slack, Consultant in Communicable Diseases presented the **AIDS Control Act Report for 1998/99**. This useful report highlights the trends in transmission and gives a resume of services provided. It is noted with concern that **heterosexual transmission is an increasing trend** and that there was one transmission from mother to baby.

The **Directory of HIV & AIDS services** is hot off the printer's press and will be distributed during December 99. Copies will be distributed to key organisations and GP practices. **Individual copies are available for users and carers**. Please contact **Anne Marie Gear** at Nottingham Health Authority, tel 0115 912 3344 ext. 49271

“The Directory of HIV & AIDS services is hot off the printer's press.....”



Substance Misuse Chair Lynne Winstanley

The 3rd Provider Forum was held on December 10th, with 12 Provider agencies attending together

with members of the JCG.

The day's event focused on three main areas;

- .. Models of engaging service users
- .. Use of information and measuring effectiveness of services
- .. Provider update and interagency working

The Provider Forum is an excellent way of enabling project workers, service providers and commissioners to 'brain-storm' on relevant topics and have dedicated time together to ensure that services are well co-ordinated.

The Forum discussed recent allocations of new resources in the areas of

- .. Young peoples services
 - .. Supporting primary care
 - .. Hepatitis B immunisation
 - .. Supervised consumption of methadone
- The Provider Forum is also considering a National Conference for late autumn 2000 to publicise the Nott'm Substance Misuse model of working.

"...dedicated time together to ensure that services are well co-ordinated."

The JCG will now take these issues forward at its time out on February 3rd, when it has dedicated time as a local planning team.

The JCG is also starting to work much closer with North Notts JCG/DAT and acknowledges the importance of consistency in approach across the full county.

Children & Families Chair – Vicky Bailey

A first draft of the needs assessment for Children and Families has been completed. It is hoped that the joint investment plan will be developed in conjunction with North Notts to ensure consistency across the county.

The responses to the audit on respite care services for children with disabilities are being collated; parents are also being consulted and their views will be incorporated into the final recommendations.

"... the Joint Investment Plan will be developed in conjunction with North Notts to ensure consistency"

A successful joint meeting with the Joint Commissioning Group for Learning Disabilities was held on 24th November, to explore issues common to both groups, including respite services and the needs of children leaving care. As a result of this meeting a smaller group agreed to meet in the New Year to discuss transition issues in more detail, including education and respite care.



If YOU have any ideas, issues or concerns about Joint Commissioning please don't hesitate to either contact the Chairs direct (see page 7 for complete listing of contact details) or use the Partnership Development Team,
British Red Cross – Notts,
Great Freeman St,
Nott'm NG3 1FR
Telephone
0115 988 1710
Direct Fax
0115 912 3441
E-mail
pdteamrx@proweb.co.uk



Physical & Sensory Impairment

Chair – Theresa Shaw

The JCG for Physical and Sensory Impairment is focusing on developing a Joint Investment Plan to co-ordinate the planning of services for people with Physical and Sensory Impairment. A

comprehensive analysis of needs, combined with a mapping of current services is being undertaken. This will help to guide the development of future services that are responsive to the needs of users and carers. This work has involved a stock take of User, Carer, and Voluntary Sector Groups in order that Users and Carers can play an integral role in identifying needs.

The Group has also commissioned a review of Equipment Services in Nottingham. The objective of this review is to rationalise the service in order to improve the service to users. A Steering Group comprised of representatives of user groups, Social Services and Health will evaluate the outcome of the review prior to a final presentation to the JCG in July 2000.

"...commissioned a review of Equipment Services in Nott'm."

CRG (Community Reference Group) Grants Fund

The new CRG Grants Fund seeks to "further the aims of the Community Reference Group and support the work of the Partnership Development Team by funding activities which are likely to enhance the ability of service users, carers and voluntary groups to articulate their needs and influence service provision through the Joint Commissioning System"

Awards will not normally exceed £500 and grants are available for work covering all or part of the Nott'm Health District.

It is intended to cover activity which cannot readily be funded from existing budgets or funds:- normally but not exclusively involving voluntary, user or carer groups as key participants.

What kind of activities?

- * One-off or new
- * Supporting or developing current activities
- * Publicity and information/ awareness raising
- * Surveys, research and/or other methods of collecting people's views
- For example
- * Training

- * Databases
- * Volunteer opportunities
- * Debate, consultation and information sharing events
- * Promotion of partnerships
- * Launch or short-term support for a service

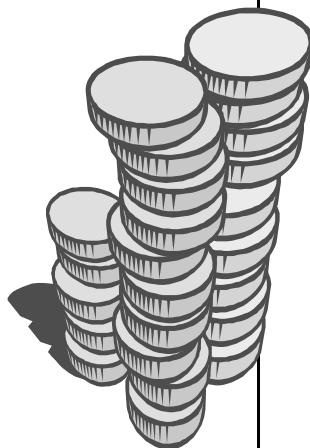
The fund is managed by a sub-group of the CRG consisting of Jon North (NAVO), Carola Jones (Notts Rural Community Council) and Maggy Topley (Partnership Development Team).

"to enhance the ability of service users, carers, and voluntary groups to articulate their needs and influence service provision"

This is meant to be a simple grants process, but we need to know how the money had been used to make a difference. When you accept

your grant, you agree to send us a short account of how it was used. Any outcome which means that service users, carers, local voluntary groups are better involved in services is relevant. Grants are intended to encourage change and improvement rather than fund 'more of the same'

For further details and application form contact Jon North at NAVO, 2 Wood St Mansfield, Notts NG18 1QA. Telephone 01623 651170 or email NAVOL@aol.com



Health In Your Environment
Voluntary Sector Forum (HIYE) &
Nott'm Health Action Group
(NHAG) – Helen Thompson

HIYE have completed their work on developing a workplan for the year 2000 and are currently working on implementing their ideas. Thanks to all of you who have contributed. The plan includes developing HIYEs thinking about the relationship between health and the environment and how to improve health. HIYE will continue to contribute to strategic Health and Local Agenda

21 policies and plans. We are also actively engaged in looking at how we can assist other national and local policy makers in developing policies and practices to take account of environmental and health factors.

Specifically HIYE will be building on our successful work around Food, Energy Efficiency, Transport and LA21 issues as they affect health.

HIYE has had a successful year and intends building on this work into 2000. We are currently reviewing our membership. If you are interested in contributing to the work, please inform HIYE c/o Helen Thompson at Public Health, Nott'm Health Authority, 1 Standard Court, Park Row, Nott'm, NG1 6GN or telephone 0115 912 3344 Ext 49419.

Richard Eddleston replaces Helen Thompson as Chair of HIYE, in order that a voluntary sector steer of the forum is maintained, now that Helen is an employee of Public Health. Helen will continue to support the forum in developing its work.

"... continue to contribute to strategic Health and Local Agenda 21 policies and plans"

Older People
Chair
Caroline Jordan

Multidisciplinary assessment of older people in Nott'm is currently being reviewed by the JCG, and hopefully some potential developments will be identified. The information from the recent questionnaire completed by older people who have experienced the process is still being analysed, but will undoubtedly inform the review.

Many thanks for the hard work and patience of the volunteers for working their way through the complex questions, and to the people who participated.

Work is also underway to review rehabilitation and recuperation services, and again we are asking for the experiences and views of people who have needed services to inform the review.

The JCG are looking at ways of utilising some of the new opportunities for joint working offered under the Health Act 1999 (Partnerships in Action) which could lead to provision of more integrated services for older people.

We are currently in the process of updating the Joint Investment Plan for Older People (first draft to the Regional Office by the end of December 1999). The plan will identify priority areas for investment, which will be around improving multidisciplinary assessment, rehabilitation services, and specialist services for the elderly mentally ill and their carers.

"... to review rehabilitation and recuperation services, ... asking for the experiences and views of people who have needed services...."

Learning Disabilities
Chair – Maggie Harty

On 22 October 1999 the new 5 year Action Plan for Learning Disability Services, "Positive Futures" , was finally launched at the Royal Concert Hall. Speeches of support were made by Dr Julie Woodin, Chief Executive, Nott'm Health Authority, Cllr Betty Higgins Chair of Nott'm City Social Services Committee and Cllr Dick Anthony, Chair of Notts Social Services Committee.

This was followed by the performance of three songs with dance from the Evergreen Drama Group which were very well received. The JCG is now setting up working groups around each of the themes identified in "Positive Futures". These are important to drive the Plan towards its targets over the next 5 years.



If you require any further information or wish to volunteer to join one of the working groups, please contact Janet Willins at Nott'm Health Authority on 912 3368 .

" "Positive Futures" , was finally launched
....."
"now setting up working groups around each of the themes identified"

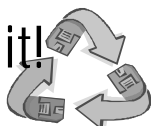
Contact details for Joint Commissioning Groups

Joint Commissioning Group	Contact name	Address/Phone
Children & Families	Vicky Bailey	Nott'm Health Authority 1 Standard Court Park Row Nott'm, NG1 6GN Telephone 0115 912 3344
Substance Misuse	Lynne Winstanley	
HIV & AIDS	Ruth Cutler	
Physical & Sensory Impairment	Theresa Shaw	
Older People	Caroline Jordan	
Mental Health	Lynne Winstanley	
Learning Disability	Maggie Harty	Nott'm City Social Services Denewood Centre, Denewood Crescent Bilborough Nott'm, NG8 3DH Telephone 0115 915 5500
Black & Ethnic Minorities Advisory Group	Brandon Scott-Omenka	Nott'm City Social Services 14 Houndsgate Nott'm, NG1 7BE Telephone 0115 915 7046

	Date	Meeting	Start Time
	January		
	Tuesday 7th	Substance Misuse JCG	2.00 pm
	Wednesday 19th	HIV & AIDS JCG	2.00 pm
	Friday 21st	Older Persons JCG	1.00 pm
		Mental Health JCG	2.00 pm
	Wednesday 26th	Learning Disabilities	1.30 pm
	February		
	Tuesday 1st	Community Reference Group	2.00 pm
	Tuesday 22nd	Health In Your Environment Vol. Sector Forum	2.00 pm
	Wednesday 23rd	Learning Disabilities JCG	1.30 pm
	March		
	Tuesday 7th	Community Reference Group	2.00 pm
	Thursday 9th	Substance Misuse JCG	2.00 pm
	Friday 17th	Older Persons JCG	1.00 pm
	Wednesday 22nd	Learning Disabilities JCG	1.30 pm
	April		
	Tuesday 4th	Community Reference Group	2.00 pm
	Wednesday 19th	Learning Disabilities JCG	1.30 pm
		HIV & AIDS JCG	2.00 pm

On the reverse of this diary there is a list of contacts for Joint Commissioning Groups. However if you cannot find the number you want please contact the Partnership Development Team 0115 988 1710.

Recycle – it!



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