

Board Meeting Wed 4th Nov 2020, 1900 to 2100 via Zoom

- Present:** Lydia Blundell, Freda Davis, Jen Fagan, Kate Hallitt, Carla Harrison, Paul Hunt (Chair), Jonathan Morrish, Gem Edkins and Naomi Sutcliffe
- In attendance:** Jonny Richardson Glenn, Dianne Darby and Wendy Anderson (notes)
- Apologies:** Jonathan Stephen, Peter Boyle

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TUE 15TH SEP 2020:

The minutes were approved.

Jonny noted that the new leave system should make calculation of impact of allowing additional carry over of annual leave, proposed earlier in the year, easier to calculate.

Jonny informed the Board that staff had particularly appreciated the decision on pay uplift.

STAFF PRESENTATION:

Cath's presentation re volunteering was postponed to the next daytime meeting of Board.

OPERATIONAL AND PERFORMANCE REPORT:

Jonny went through main points, and informed the Board:

- Proposal for renewed funding for Money in Mind and Roshani with Calderdale Council's Cabinet, with decision anticipated in December 2020.
- Peer Support – the mobilisation of service is going very well, particularly in view of lockdown (new staff inducted, extension to crisis service, service launch).
- Proceeding with recruitment to the Marketing and Communications role, following pause in recruitment process agreed in May 2020.
- [Additional item to circulated agenda.] The Board approved the update to the Reserves Policy proposed by Jonny on behalf of the Finance Committee – paper included in the Dec Board Pack for reference. Further query by External Examiner to Reserves Policy. We are asked to address the potential for holding unduly high level of reserves. The Finance Sub t

ACTION: Jonny to speak with Kate and Jen re marketing & communications role.

DECISION: Todmorden and Hebden. The Board agreed in principle that if other funding cannot be secured then free reserves will be used to maintain service delivery to end March 2021.

ACTION: Todmorden and Hebden. Jonny to bring options and recommendation for service continuity from April 2021.

DECISION: Confirmation of renewal of lease on same basis as current, with 18-month break clause

DECISION: Update to Reserves Policy,

ACTION: Finance Sub to consider risk of high reserve levels.

SAFEGUARDING

DECISION: DBS checks for trustees were deemed not necessary.

DECISION: Jen's annual safeguarding report was accepted by the Board.

ACTION: 2021 report to include identification of new risks.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION:

NHS England is channelling £2.3 billion into frontline mental health services over the next 3 years. This comes with a directive that voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCS) organisations must be considered within local systems to meet objectives in the Long Term Plan for Mental Health.

The regional proposal to draw down funding is in development, with local (CCG area) plans forming part of that. They must demonstrate that the VCS is included with a view to creating seamless VCS / statutory provision, "deeply-anchored in the local". Claire Murdoch, National Director for Mental Health, described this in the Rethink seminar as, "A moment in history we cannot waste."

We have already seen some move towards this: Safespace and Peer Support in Crisis have recently been commissioned under this model, which puts us in good stead. The initial 3-year investment is conditional on CCGs maintaining provision thereafter for services that prove effective: we need to be ready to step up to the mark.

That this new funding is conditional on investment in VCS is of high significance for us – we are a prominent and valued local VCS organisation. Not all of the £2.3 billion will be spent on funding VCS organisations – but some of it will. There is an expectation that investment will be transformational and innovative – which plays to our strengths. This is a medium/long term plan – not just a response to COVID. The VCS sector has to learn and develop in order to rise to the challenge and opportunity. Whilst HM must not be complacent, we do have strengths to bring to the opportunity, and will work hard over the coming years to deliver high quality and improving services, with sustainable funding.

Jonny is the regional VCS member of the West Yorks & Harrogate Mental Health Programme Board. This is the regional, NHS-led panel determining priorities and future commissioning arrangements. HM Board endorsed Jonny's commitment to his involvement in this Board, as being in the short, medium and long term interest of delivering health and wellbeing services for Calderdale people.

All of this does not signal a change to HM's culture and unique offer but, rather, an important opportunity for sustaining our culture and unique offer, for years ahead.

ACTION: Jonny to continue to engage strongly with Programme Board as core part of leading HM.

ACTION: Any trustees whose assessment is outstanding to return theirs at start of following week.

ACTION: Jonny to bring back analysis of that to future Board meeting.

ACTION: Paul to focus on strategic update in note to staff, following the Board meeting.

INCLUSION PROGRAMME UPDATE:

Workshops are being planned around diversity and membership. An evening around this on 25th Nov and a further one to be planned.

ACTION: Jonny to do this. Invitees will be our distribution lists: Trustees, staff etc. Online workshops will discuss membership model.

TRUSTEE INDUCTION REVIEW:

Gem provided a verbal update.

ACTION: Gem to review the induction pack and bring back comments to a future meeting of the Board.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Development Sub: Carla provided a verbal note.

Post-meeting note: Carla's written report unintentionally omitted from the Board pack – for inclusion with following Board meeting's papers.

ACTION: Committee to do a review of all risks for next meeting.

Finance Sub: Jonathan M spoke to his report.

DECISION: Format for routine organisational finance report to board agreed. Chair of Finance Sub-Committee to include significant issues and assurance against key risks in cover sheet to finance report.

ACTION: Paul to update register of interests (scheduled in Forward Plan) (paper).

CHAIR'S BUSINESS:

ACTION: Paul to add Todmorden and Hebden funding to Risk Register.

ACTION: Lydia to make proposal regarding staffing oversight arrangements in lieu of Staffing Sub-committee.

ACTION: All Trustees to look at Action Log and update Paul on actions, including proposal for closure due to completion, or no longer a priority.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: There was none.

Paul thanked everyone and gave meeting reminders:

- Wed 8th Dec: AGM 2019 – 2020.
- Tue 15th Dec 1030 to 1230: Board meeting.

Meeting closed 2043.