

Healthwatch Representatives Feedback Form

Representative name	Martin Haddon
Meeting	Wandsworth BME (Black, Minority and Ethnic) Mental Health Forum
Date & Time	17 May 2018 3.00 -5.00p.m
Who attended	Over 25 people, including service users, carers and representatives of statutory services as well as community and voluntary sector provider organisations. Convened by Wandsworth Community Empowerment Network and chaired by Malik Gul.
Key issues	<p>The Forum spent some time reviewing the success of the well-attended <u>BME Young People's Mental Health Conference</u> held in April. Particular themes were the value of engaging the energy and involvement of young people themselves and the importance of creative approaches such as drama and movement in overcoming barriers to conversation about mental health.</p> <p>Discussions were continuing with Children's Services about follow-up and it was hoped to set up a summer programme to retain and widen young people's involvement. The need to extend the conversation to families was emphasised. More needs to be done in collaboration with the services to promote and support recruitment of local young people to jobs in mental health.</p>

Leon Gooding, manager of the Wandsworth mental health social work teams, reported that the current restructuring of social services in Wandsworth and Richmond was likely to lead to renewed interest in co-production projects with local communities based on the delivery of clear outcomes in terms of safeguarding and prevention. Forum members welcomed any move to reduce the gap which had grown in recent decades between social services and the local community.

Gareth Jones, service manager for Talk Wandsworth (psychological therapy service) reported on their first year's work. The access target of 6.600 people entering treatment had been met, waiting times had been reduced and the recovery rate had improved over the year. The waiting time for Step 3 (more complex issues) of 16-20 weeks between assessment and treatment was too high and more staff were being recruited to bring this down.

Gareth reported that the ethnic breakdown of people seen by Talk Wandsworth was broadly in line with borough demographics: more details would be in the service's Annual Report but he undertook to provide some figures for circulation to the Forum. Some members argued that the service should be treating a bigger proportion of BME people to overcome recognised health inequalities.

Gareth mentioned Talk Wandsworth's internship programme which was giving work experience to young people from local communities but acknowledged that more effort needed to be made to increase the diversity of the clinical staff team. It was pointed out that recruiting needed to be carefully targeted to attract qualified BME applicants as it had successfully been shown in the case of

	<p>the new Primary Care Plus service.</p> <p>As time was short Malik invited Forum members to send in any questions which Talk Wandsworth should be invited to address at future Forum meetings.</p> <p>The Forum spent its last few minutes looking at the crowded agenda for the next meeting of the CCG's (Clinical Commissioning Group's) Mental health Clinical Reference Group, part of the commissioning process, on which the Forum is represented. The Forum will need to consider further how best to influence the Group's business.</p>
<p>Healthwatch Actions and What to Watch</p>	<p>We will continue to support the work of the Forum and contribute to its deliberations.</p>
<p>The Meeting in one sentence (for blog, FB, Tweeter, newsletter)</p>	<p>BME forum discusses follow-up on young people's mental health and the performance of the new psychological therapy service</p>