

MENTAL HEALTH, DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY NETWORK

BULLETIN 13 – 17 November 08

Get involved

Consultation on new ways to deliver mental health services

The British Psychological Society has launched a public consultation on its proposals for access to mental health services.

The proposals have been drawn up as part of the Society's response to discussions with the Department of Health (DoH) on future plans for mental health care. Psychologists are calling for

- a greater emphasis on psychological well-being across the NHS.
- services to take into account a person's wider social needs as well as their medical diagnosis and
- support the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines for providing psychological therapies and proposes a **new national network of centres for psychological health and well-being**.

These centres would incorporate mental health services already provided by the NHS. In addition they would incorporate similar services that are currently provided separately by other agencies – including educational welfare, Job Centre Plus, and offender management services.

The [consultation documents](#) are available on the BPS website. ADASS MH, D&A would like to submit a response on behalf of its members. Please send your comments to Elizabeth.murray@hants.gov.uk by **Wednesday 3rd December** 2008. A copy of the response will be disseminated to members following the close date.

Special Policy Network session on Safeguarding – London, 2nd December

Peter Hay will be running a session on Safeguarding at LGA House, London, 2-5pm – please email Elizabeth.murray@hants.gov.uk if you haven't already and wish to attend.

Other news and information

ADASS responds to the DoH Consultation over extending Direct Payments to those who lack mental capacity

Many thanks to ADASS MH, D&A members who contributed to the [response](#) and to other networks for their review and involvement. The paper sparked a series of interesting and timely debates over our position as an organisation over the safeguarding mechanisms and the impact on carers.

Policy Network Meeting Minutes

[Minutes](#) from regular business meeting held in Birmingham, 31st October 2008 (to be uploaded to ADASS website in due course)

Key agenda items:

- Future Vision Coalition
- National Mental Health Contract
- PBR and Personalisation
- Initiatives in Mental Health Policy

- Workstream lead Directors & team roles
- Effective commissioning
- ADASS Survey
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS) update
- National Conference Policy Session
- Mental Health and Children's Services
- S13 Mental Health Act

Mental Health Alliance – all member meeting minutes

Members may be interested to read [minutes](#) from a recent meeting.

Mental Health New Horizons - update

Organised by CSIP and Chaired by Ian McPherson of MIHME, this research day was attended by Kathryn Tyson, Director, Mental Health Programme, Department of Health. Click [here](#) to read the report.

Regards

Jenny Goodall, Richard Webb & Lucy Butler