

## MENTAL HEALTH, DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY NETWORK

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### BULLETIN 14 – 19 December 08

## Joint ADASS / NIHME post now being advertised

### Joint ADASS/NIHME post: Project Manager

WORLD CLASS COMMISSIONING IN MENTAL HEALTH

SECONDMENT OPPORTUNITY

Salary negotiable around existing level –

Local Authority Assistant Director / Senior Manager

An exciting opportunity to help shape the delivery of World Class Commissioning in the field of Mental Health Services is now available.

#### Background

The Department of Health is supporting Primary Care Trusts in their journey to become World Class Commissioners. In the field of Mental Health it is recognised that this journey is one that PCTs are making in partnership with their Local Authorities and in particular with their colleagues in Social Care, at the interface between World Class Commissioning and Putting People First.

The Department of Health along with the Strategic Health Authorities have commissioned the National Institute for Mental Health in England (NIMHE) to deliver a National Programme of support to the implementation of World Class Commissioning in Mental Health. As a part of this Programme, NIMHE and the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) seek to make a fixed term (12 month) part time (0.5WTE) secondment to the National Programme.

#### The Role

The role will be jointly accountable to a Director of Adult Social Services (nominated by ADASS) and the NIMHE National Programme Director. The role will support the delivery of a number of specific workstreams of the National Programme as well as providing generic social care advice and guidance to the Programme. This is a national role that will require a degree of travel to all parts of England and frequent meetings in London. It is anticipated that the successful applicant will continue to be employed by their existing authority and will either be based there or work from home.

#### The Individual

An individual is sought with considerable senior level experience in social care and local government settings and, ideally, the NHS. An excellent understanding of the current policy agenda in respect of commissioning is essential as is a strong understanding of the future direction of mental health policy.

#### Recruitment process

Closing date for expressions of interest 14 January 2009.

Application by letter, CV and personal statement in support of the job description and person specification, with a letter of support from the applicant's employer, confirming secondment arrangements - to be sent to [richard.webb@telford.gov.uk](mailto:richard.webb@telford.gov.uk)

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For further information please contact Richard Webb on 01952 381005 (email [richard.webb@telford.gov.uk](mailto:richard.webb@telford.gov.uk)) or Kieron Murphy ([kieron.murphy@csip.org.uk](mailto:kieron.murphy@csip.org.uk)) or Maurice Burns ([maurice.burns@csip.org.uk](mailto:maurice.burns@csip.org.uk)).

Interviews will take place 22 January 2009 in London.

## Policy network member news and updates

### Meeting minutes – Safeguarding Special

Please click [here](#) to read the minutes from this meeting. Presentations from the meeting will be sent out in the next bulletin.

### DOLS Update

Greg Slay recently produced an update on the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS) that the DoH will implement in April 2009. Click [here](#) to read Greg's report.

### National Joint Programme of Training for Commissioners and Providers

John Wallace, Buckinghamshire, attended the most recent National Joint Programme of Training for Commissioners and Providers. Here is a summary of the meeting discussion:

The Royal College of Psychiatrists recently convened a meeting because of concerns that have been raised about the quality of commissioning for mental health provision both in PCTs and Local Authorities.

Practice-based Commissioning for Mental Health was said to be virtually non-existent. These deficits are becoming more apparent when judged against the competencies of World-Class Commissioning. There was also a concern that providers do not sufficiently understand the commissioning process and are often unable to make an appropriate response.

There was strong representation from all areas of the NHS - John represented the ADASS Mental Health, Drugs and Alcohol Network. There appears to be scant data on the numbers of staff employed in the area, their qualifications, skills and experience. After considerable discussion, it was decided to explore the possibility of developing an academically accredited- training course, under the auspices of the RCP.

There was also discussion about having broader based events around learning sets for commissioners and providers together. A smaller working group was agreed to take this forward. I am a member of that group, but it was agreed that substitutes could attend to ensure full representation. Minutes will be circulated once received by John/

## Guidance and tools

### CSIP/NIHME 3 keys to a shared approach to mental health assessment

Click [here](#) to read about how a shared approach supports the personalisation agenda. Foreword by Ivan Lewis MP.

### Understanding homelessness and mental health

The DoH, in partnership with Communities and Local Government and the CSIP Housing Learning and Improvement Network recently published this report summarising the key issues and making recommendations to improve engagement with the individual. Click [here](#) to read the full report.

## Other news and information

### Boyington Report on Mental Health Services in the North West

The North West has some surprisingly high indicators including

- highest level of hospital admissions for depression and anxiety at 55 per cent and 29 per cent above the national average respectively
- The region's rate of hospital admission for schizophrenia is also the highest nationally – 39 per cent higher than the national average
- It has a hospital admission rate for self-harm 26 per cent higher than the average for England
- It has the highest rate of hospital stays for alcohol related problems

The Commission was set up to review services in the area, identify areas of concern and highlight innovative service delivery models across the region. Click [here](#) to read a full copy of the report.

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## Ministry of Justice Mental Health Bulletin

Click [here](#) for December's bulletin.

### New ways of keeping up to date with the Mental Health Act & Mental Capacity Act

DSA provide a range of resources for professionals wishing to keep up to date on the MHA & MCA including discussion forums, legal advice and courses. To subscribe to their newsletter, that has details information and upcoming events, please email [dave@davesheppard.co.uk](mailto:dave@davesheppard.co.uk). You might wish to look at a [free sample bulletin](#) from June prior to subscribing. Here is a list of some of the courses being run by DSA in the coming months:

Thursday 18th December 2008 - [The new 'MHRT' for everyone](#) - PELT, Hoylake, Merseyside

Wednesday 14th January 2009 - [Mental Health Act Administrators](#) - PELT, Hoylake, Merseyside

Monday 19th January 2009 - [The Mental Health Act 2007](#) - King's Fund, London

Tuesday 20th January 2009 - [Mental Health Act Administrators](#) - King's Fund, London

Thursday 5th February 2009 - [Supervised Community Treatment / CTOs](#) - PELT, Hoylake, Merseyside

Thursday 19th February 2009 - [Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards](#) - PELT, Hoylake, Merseyside

Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th February 2009 - [Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards: A 2 day detailed examination](#) - King's Fund, London

Tuesday 10th March 2009 - [Mental health law for Local Authority Solicitors & AMHPs](#) - PELT, Hoylake, Merseyside

Monday 23rd March 2009 - [Supervised Community Treatment / CTOs](#) - King's Fund, London

Tuesday 24th March 2009 - [Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards](#) - King's Fund, London

## Next ADASS MH, D&A (national) meeting

22 January, 12.30 – 2.30 **PLEASE NOTE THE LOCATION OF THIS MEETING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO** The Kings Fund, 11-13 Cavendish Square, London.

*Regards*

Jenny Goodall, Richard Webb & Lucy Butler