

B&NES Voluntary Sector Mental Health Network



the care forum

Thursday 25 March, 10.00 – 12.00

St Luke's Church Hall, Wellsway, Bath (VENUE CHANGE!)

Mental Health Service User and Carer Involvement

- **Where do voluntary and community groups fit?**
- **What value can they add to service user and carer involvement?**

Over the past four years local voluntary and community groups have been working closely with service users and carers to make sure they know about local service developments and they have a say in changes. One of the ways service users and carers have given their views has been through stakeholder events and questionnaires run by The Care Forum, but there are many other examples of local engagement. This meeting is a chance to talk about the ways in which the sector can support service user and carer involvement. It is also an opportunity to share examples of good practice and to talk about how we might learn from each other.

We will be using the 'live' example of how we can engage mental health service users and carers in the current work on piloting the recovery model in B&NES. We will be reflecting on what has worked and what hasn't.

Fairer Contributions for Non-Residential Social Care Services

With more and more people receiving direct payments, and the introduction of personal budgets to support greater choice and control, there is a need to consider how an individual's contribution, if any, towards the cost of non-residential services might be worked out, and how this may be done fairly and consistently. New national guidance around fairer contributions for social care services has been set out by the government and councils must have Fairer Charging Policies in place by March this year. B&NES Council wants to make sure the way they charge for non-residential social care is fair and reasonable. Part of their commitment is to ensure the contributions people make to the cost of providing services are appropriate. We will be talking about the policy and the council's plans.

The meeting is open to any voluntary or community group with an involvement or interest in mental health and wellbeing services. There will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions and share information.

To book

Complete and return the booking form or email events@thecareforum.org.uk

For more information contact: Ronnie Wright, The Care Forum

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