

## Sussex Area Local Services Committee Meeting

### Chairperson Summary

17/07/18

#### Sub-committee activities:

I must apologise, as this is the first written report since LSC in May'18

*This committee is responsible and accountable for all PI/H&I and Outreach for Sussex Area of NA.*

**HMP Ford:** We now have 1 fully vetted member, enabling us to hold regular weekly NA H&I meetings at this prison. These are currently held on Saturday mornings. We are in discussions with the Prison to start an evening meeting here, either instead of, or as well as the Saturday morning meeting. The evenings would take place in the Chapel Building but be subject perhaps, to different set of security protocols. The Chapel would allow inmates more freedom to attend meetings. The committee are trying to get a number of NA members vetted for entry to Ford too. We need at least 4 more to be cleared to allow the meetings to function effectively. Working very hard to get everyone to complete initial contact with the prison vetting team asap, and all at the same time if possible. Also, anybody who would like to come and share at Ford, please let us know.

Pete, Rupert, Haley and Martin F attended the Offender roadshow at Ford on 14<sup>th</sup> June.

I attended a PI/H&I Workshop at the UK Convention, given by PHE and HMPPS about the prison vetting processes. Both ourselves and PHE etc., are more aware of how the vetting process is and isn't working. We were given some assurances that our concerns will be addressed. We learnt a lot through sharing experiences too.

**HMP Lewes:** Still struggling with finding a way forward. We need to get in contact with PHE, through UKPI, to get a comprehensive list of all contracted services operating in HMP Lewes. Information divulged during the convention workshop revealed the funding criteria for many of these services. Let see what gets revealed to us.

**Langford Centre, Bexhill.** Lately, it has become very difficult to meet this commitment on a regular basis. At best we can hope to continue to manage this on a monthly basis. 1 men's meeting, and 1 women's meeting a month. Alternatively, perhaps there might be an option to bring both together, making meetings available fortnightly. Langford staff would have to qualify, and risk assess any such proposal. A discussion with staff will be needed to work this out. (\*)

**Recovery Lighthouse, Worthing.** This Tuesday evening H&I meeting continues to thrive. Thanks to Ronnie EH and Brian B. Ronnie EH has texted a brief report.

**Stonepillow Hub, Chichester.** No NA presence here since end of May. This was a mutual arrangement due to some major changes to the Stonepillow organisation. Two brand new homelessness facilities have been created, in Bognor (used to be Ravenscourt) and the other in Chichester. Both are now open, both have separate meeting spaces for NA meetings. Peter and I went to the Bognor facility, 10<sup>th</sup> July, to engage with the staff. I have an opportunity to meet at the Hub with Alison Ruston later this week 19<sup>th</sup> July to arrange presentations to staff for the new Chichester Project sometime in early August.

**William Collier House, Brighton.** The current monthly arrangement working well. Table set up in the lobby two members willing to talk to residents and hand out NA leaflets. We go along on a Thursday evening 7:15 to 7:45. Will review after another few attendances.

**Reformed East Sussex: Eastbourne.** NA was approached by this organisation to give a presentation to staff. Nick S and myself went along on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 1:30pm. We gave a full presentation, which was very well received. We have yet to re-engage with them. They would like us to set up an evening NA meeting on their premises. We need to sound out whether local Eastbourne NA members might be willing to assist us with this and establish an NA meeting there.

**Important to mention:** *There might be other service providers in Eastbourne that we need to engage with too.*

**Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton.** Meeting going well. Building good relations with staff. Getting to speak with patients on several of the wards. NA "Name tags" are worn, clearly identifying who we are. I received a brief report from Mark K.

**Website:** Website migration to new server completed. Website is now GDPR compliant. New privacy and cookies policies posted to website. New Email accounts set up for Sussex NA sub-committees. 12 step lists need a revision to ask existing 12step members permissions to remain on that list. Neil P, Paul R and myself will tomorrow (Wednesday) to work on website updates etc.

**Upcoming presentations:**

19<sup>th</sup> July, Alison Ruston at Chichester Hub. To set dates for staff presentation at the new project.

7<sup>th</sup> August 12:30 BHT Move on services.

**Please remember:**

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August Brighton Pride, Preston Park.** We have 10 volunteers with full on-site access on the day.

I need one more person to help get NA event materials on site and secured on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August?

I also need help with filling the envelopes as last year.

Stuff for the future:

**Substance misuse in schools:** Many local Secondary Schools are becoming very aware of rising problematic substance misuse amongst students. Schools have been inviting parents along to "awareness" presentations. This needs to become a priority for us. To bring H&I/PI presentations into these schools over the upcoming 2018/2019 Academic year. Target groups would be years 10 and 11 students, and staff too. This problem needs to be addressed at 6<sup>th</sup> form colleges and the Universities too.

**Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath.**

**Conquest Hospital, Hastings.**

**Would anybody like to come to UKH&I meeting on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August in Pimlico, London?**

**Would you be happy for us to get some assistance from UKPI?**

(\*) Earlier today Neil and I took the men's meeting at Langford. Topped up the literature. Followed by a discussion with the Psychology staff, to work out the way forward.

In short: Would we be happy to run mixed meetings on a fortnightly basis?

**Ford Prison:**

Is there anyone who could take the meeting on Saturday July 28<sup>th</sup> please. This has been agreed on the basis of special gate pass.