

West Midlands Mental Health Commission Open Space Listening Event



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- Devolution is the handing down of powers and money from central government (Whitehall) to local authorities so they can make decisions and spend money for the benefit of the region, as they see fit.
- On the 17 November 2015 the Chancellor of the Exchequer agreed and signed a proposed devolution deal with the members of the West Midlands Combined Authority.





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Find out more at www.westmidlandscombinedauthority.org.uk

- Poor mental health and wellbeing is a significant driver of demand for public services and reduced productivity.
- A Mental Health Commission has been established to identify the contribution that devolution can make to addressing poor mental health and wellbeing.
- This is an important opportunity to transform mental health and wellbeing services across the area and to improve outcomes.



- The Commission is chaired by the Rt. Hon. Norman Lamb MP. Norman served as Minister of State for Care & Support at the Department of Health from 2012-2015.
- The other members of the Commission are:

Paul Anderson	Managing Director – Deutsche Bank
Prof. Dame Carol Black	Advisor to government on employment and health
Prof. Kevin Fenton	Director of Health & Wellbeing - Public Health England
Steve Gilbert	Expert by Experience
Craig Deardon-Philips MBE	Chief Executive - Stepping Out
Dr. Geraldine Strathdee	Former National Clinical Director Mental Health – NHS England
Steve Shrubbs	Former CEO of W. London Mental Health NHS Trust
Prof. Swaran Singh	Head of Mental Health - University of Warwick



- The Commission panel also has a representative of a local NHS provider Trust, a Clinical Commissioning Group, a Local Authority and West Midlands Police in attendance:

- Simon Gilby CEO Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- Dr. Paul Turner Mental Health lead – NHS X-Birmingham CCG
- Sarah Norman Chief Executive – Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
- Chief Inspector Sean Russell West Midlands Police Mental Health lead

Project leadership and Secretariat support is led by Steve Appleton of Contact Consulting.

A steering group comprised of people representing local organisations has been set up to assist the Commission panel. It is chaired by Sean Russell. It includes people from the local

- NHS
- Social care
- Voluntary sector agencies
- Police,
- Fire service
- Public health
- Housing associations



The Commission has the following aims

- To assess the scale of poor mental health and wellbeing across the combined authority area and its cost and impact on public sector services, the economy and communities.
- To review national and international research and best practice to establish what works best in addressing the impact that poor mental health and wellbeing has on public services, the economy and local communities.
- Establish the relative costs and benefits of the application of this evidence to the West Midlands
- To identify, and consider the outcome from, work currently under way and/ or being piloted in the West Midlands to improve mental health and wellbeing



It will make recommendations to both Government and the West Midlands Combined Authority on:

- How public services should be transformed to reduce the impact that poor mental health and wellbeing have on public services, the economy and communities in the West Midlands, within the current resource envelope.
- How resources currently spent on managing and treating mental ill health can be best used to measures that keep people mentally well and enable recovery.



The Commission has developed a set of key lines of enquiry (KLOE), they are:

- Employment
 - Housing
 - Early intervention principles
 - Criminal justice/troubled individuals
 - Role of employers
 - Primary care
 - Zero suicide
- Work is underway to gather evidence about what works in relation to these KLOE areas. Evidence is coming from experts across the UK and internationally. This will inform the Commission's thinking about its eventual recommendations



- The Commission is working with the Health Services Management Centre of the University of Birmingham, and the Centre for Mental Health to conduct a baseline assessment of the current position in relation to mental health and wellbeing in the area covered by the West Midlands Combined Authority.
- It is focused on:
 - Establishing and understanding the costs of poor mental health to the West Midlands.
 - An audit of current public sector (NHS/local authority) and voluntary sector mental health service provision in the West Midlands Combined Authority area
 - An audit of all current or planned initiatives relating to mental health whether public, private or voluntary sector



Alongside the research and evidence gathering the Commission is seeking to trial approaches to service delivery which focus on the KLOEs. These include:

- Developing Individual Place Support employment services across the region
- Working with employers to encourage the development of mental health awareness at work and mentally healthy workplaces
- Improved mental health screening in primary care (GP practices)
- The use of early intervention techniques across public services
- Appropriate alternatives to custody for those with mental health problems
- To reduce the number of suicides with a zero suicide ambition
- The use of new models of housing and support as alternatives to admission and to aid recovery



Engagement with the public and people who use mental health services is a key part of the Commission's work.

- A Citizen's Jury has been taking place which is considering the key principles that should underpin mental health and well-being services.
- Three Open Space listening events, including this one, are being held across the region.
- These events will enable the Commission to hear directly from local people about what they would like to see in terms of mental health and wellbeing service improvement



The Commission's work is well underway and it expects to publish its report in early September.

It will be supported by an implementation plan that will set out how the recommendations made will be delivered.



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This event is your
opportunity to give us your
views....



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