

Equality and Diversity Council Meeting Paper 20th October 2015 Inclusion Health Subgroup

Purpose and context

The subgroup has a vision to tackle health inequalities and advance equality for all. Its purpose is to assist the shaping of the future of the NHS from an equality, health inequalities and human rights perspective, working to improve equity of access to services and improved outcomes for the most disadvantaged groups, people with Lived Experience of stark inequalities and those with protected characteristics, by 2017. The establishment of the subgroup was proposed as part of the EDC Review in April 2015.

The subgroup will report to the EDC. A core membership has been identified and a wider virtual reference group is to be established. The chairs are NHS England, Ruth Passman, CQC Lucy Wilkinson and on a rotational basis, lived experience members of the subgroup. Draft terms of reference have been agreed.

Work programme

The group has established a work plan as agreed by EDC July 2015 comprising of the three key elements below. The group are now in the process of refining the detail actions and have commenced delivery also. The following are some of the 'quick win' suggestions that could be actioned quickly:

1. Ensuring people with lived experience have a voice throughout the Equality and Diversity Council and an influence in all its work.
Action:
 - Ask EDC to support the co-development (people of lived experience and professionals) and system-wide dissemination of patient-facing leaflets for all Inclusion Health groups commencing with refugees and asylum seekers.
2. Working to improve equity of access to services and improved outcomes for protected groups and people with lived experience of stark inequalities by 2017.
Action:
 - That the EDC data subgroup look at the Hidden Needs report (inclusion Health Board, to assess what work may be undertaken on recommendations for improved data collection.
3. Strengthen workforce and organisational capability for identifying and addressing Equality and Health Inequalities impacts across EDC member organisations.
Action:
 - Nationally influence organisational development and capability plans to communicate responsibilities to primary care practitioners, commencing with GP's and dentists.

Actions taken to date

- 1) NHS Expo: Worked with Pathway and Greater Manchester NHS Values Group and lived experience asylum seekers, refugees and ex-homeless people to:
 - Host two days at a stand exploring the impact of health inequalities on individuals and how by engaging, being aware and listening to people with lived experience care and outcomes can be improved. A snakes and ladders floor installation was used to facilitate conversations in a fun way.
 - Held two workshops on Inclusion Health and Lived Experience.
 - GM NHS Values Group and the Equalities and Health Inequalities Unit held two sessions at the Health and Social Care Devolution Greater Manchester stand - focussing on commissioning, engagement and reducing health inequalities and promoting equality for those with protected characteristics, Inclusion Health groups and those experiencing the starkest inequalities.
- 2) Held a workshop with asylum seekers and refugees to receive comments on the first draft of the Access to Healthcare Patient facing Leaflet (GP Registration).
- 3) Returned comments on the DH consultation Draft Statutory Guidelines multi-agency practice guidance on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) for frontline professionals in England and Wales.
- 4) In progress the detail of the work plan – quick wins deliverables as cited above.

Recommendation and action requested

EDC to note the activity undertaken by the group and agree to the actions outlined above.

Ruth Passman and Lucy Wilkinson
On behalf of the Inclusion Health Subgroup
October 2015

[Members of the Inclusion Health Subgroup are: Ruth Passman (NHS England) and Lucy Wilkinson (CQC) (co-chairs); Permjeet Dhoot (NHS England), Bernd Sass (Disability Rights UK), Stan Burrige (Pathways), Jabeer Butt (Race Equality Foundation), Amir Hannan (Haughton Thornley Medical Centres), Clenton Farquarson (Healthwatch), Alastair Lipp (NHS England), Gail Elkington (DH), and Lived Experience members David O'Brien, Stewart Moors, Lynn Berry, Elham Atashkar, Iman, Rafatmah]